



Management Committee Meeting

Brussels – 21st February 2013

MINUTES

Attendees

Members present:

Nicolas BERLAND
Joachim GASSEN
Begona GINER (President)
Toomas HALDMA
Thomas JEANJEAN
Ann JORISSEN
Martin MESSNER
Araceli MORA (via Skype)
Hervé STOLWY
Martin WALKER
Nicole COOPMAN (Executive Secretary)

Apologies from:

Wim VAN DER STEDE (Guest)

Agenda

1. Welcome, apologies and adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the minutes of the MC meeting – October 2012 – Paris
3. Matters arising

ITEMS FOR REPORTING/NOTING

4. President's update
5. Treasurer's update
 - 5.1 Preliminary EAA Accounts 2012
 - 5.2 Savings investment proposal

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

6. Congress issues
 - 6.1 Final budget for EAA Congress 2013
 - 6.2 Global summit

7. Committee issues
 - 7.1 Scientific Committee issues
 - Access to papers submitted and presented at EAA congresses
 - Editors' Panel @ EAA Annual Congress 2013
 - 7.2 Publications Committee issues
 - Changes in EAR's review policy

8. Governance issues (*Begoña*)
 - 8.1 Nominations: MC Members (2013-2016), SSC Chair (2013-2016), SSC Member (2013-2016), DC co-chair (2013-2016), FRSC Chair (2013-2016), FRSC Members (2013-2016)

9. Doctoral student and research training
 - 9.1 Progress report on EAA PhD Forum @ EAA 2013
 - 9.2 Progress report on EAA funded PhD related activities
 - 9.3 Define process and criteria for 2014 funding

10. Other discussion items
 - 10.1 Awards and Fellows
 - 10.2 Posting of minutes
 - 10.3 Social media

11. Any other business

Minutes

1. Welcome, apologies and adoption of the agenda

The President, Begoña Giner (BG), welcomed all Members present and conveyed the apologies of Araceli Mora, who could not attend in person, due to an accident not permitting her to travel. Nevertheless Araceli would attend the meeting via Skype. The PC Chair, Wim van der Stede, who had been invited as a guest, had also conveyed his apologies and sent a detailed report on the PC matters.

The proposed agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the minutes of the MC meeting October 2012 – Paris

The MC Members were asked if they had any changes or comments to make to the final draft of the minutes of the last MC meeting.

In the absence of any remarks, the minutes were approved.

3. Matters arising

No new matters, that would not be discussed in the President's update, were raised at this point of the meeting.

ITEMS FOR REPORTING/NOTING

4. President's update

The President first briefly reported on the **meetings** she had attended to represent EAA:

- A workshop at IASB on Policy Relevant Research in December 2012;
This meeting focused on how academic research could be linked with the standard setting process of the IASB.
- The 18th Workshop on Accounting and Management Congrol – Raymond Konopka Memorial in January 2013;
She had been invited as the EAA President for the opening session.

The President reported that she had received from the DC Co-Chairs the names of the proposed **Faculty Members for the 2013 DC**. The team consisted of Beatriz Garcia Osma, Joachim Gassen, Eva Labro, Wayne Landsman, Jan Mouritsen, Fabrizio Panozzo, Cathy Shakespeare, Mike Shields, Ane Tamayo and Wim van der Stede.

The President mentioned that she had received a **request from the Irish Accounting and Finance Association (IAFA)** to benefit from the same deal as the AAA and AFAANZ, i.e. to offer a place at the IAFA doctoral colloquium free of charge to an EAA nominee and an Irish nominee could attend the EAA doctoral colloquium in a reciprocal arrangement.

The DC Co-Chairs, to whom the President had forwarded the message conveying the message that she was not convinced, advised not to follow that route. The MC Members unanimously approved the President's and the DC Co-Chairs' view.

Next the President reported that she had received from a retired Professor, with no formal University position and no formal travel budget from any source, the request to benefit from a **reduced conference fee for retirees** as it was the case in other accounting associations.

The MC discussed the request, but decided to keep the same fee for all participants to the congress.

Finally the President mentioned that the IFRS Interpretations Committee had launched a request for suggesting names of representatives. Peter Walton, on behalf of the FRSC, suggested Christopher Nobes. The MC unanimously approved this nomination.

5. Treasurer's update

5.1. Preliminary EAA Accounts 2012

Martin Messner (MM), the Treasurer, mentioned that the Accounts 2012, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, were still provisional figures up to 95%.

Looking at the Income & Expenditure Statement, MM explained that the negative result was mainly due to the spending for doctoral activities.

In terms of revenue, the variances between the budgets and the actuals were showing more revenue than announced in the budgets.

In terms of costs, they were lower by 20.000€ than the announced budgets.

It was followed by a discussion about the size of the loss that EAA could allow itself. The capital was needed for self insurance. Currently some reserves were used for doctoral activities. It was suggested to target an amount to spend that should not be exceeded and/or to define the core reserve that should be kept.

The President thanked MM for the overall professional presentation of the EAA accounts, as well as for the useful analysis per activity.

5.2. Savings investment proposal

MM explained that most of the EAA savings were deposited in different bank accounts in order to benefit from the state guarantee. When asking the advice of the MC whether the EAA should continue buying government bonds or consider buying corporate bonds, it was recommended to continue buying government bonds, rather than risky corporate bonds.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

6. Congress issues

6.1. Final budget for EAA Congress 2013

Nicolas Berland (NB), the Congress Chair, presented an updated budget, which had been circulated prior the meeting.

NB also briefly commented on the symposia programme, which had also been circulated prior to the meeting.

6.2. Global summit

The President reminded that in 2012 she had been asked whether the **Global Summit**, organized twice by the AAA, could be organized by EAA in Paris, immediately after the congress. After some enquiries it had been found out that the AAA was planning to hold the summit once more after the AAA meeting in August 2013. Consequently there were no reasons to have a similar event only a few months in advance.

She proposed to cancel the Global Summit idea, and this was unanimously approved by the MC.

7. Committee issues

7.1. Scientific Committee issues

Hervé Stolowy (HS), the EAA Standing Scientific Committee Chair, reported the following on the **paper submission for the Paris Congress**

- the number of papers submitted is the highest ever: 1.236 papers
- the number of reviewers is also the highest ever: 133 reviewers
- the rejection rate is in line with the previous years: 16,7%
- the number of papers accepted is also the highest ever: 1.029 papers

HS mentioned that some complaints had been received from authors whose papers had been rejected, as well as from authors whose papers had been accepted for a Research Forum (RF). He suggested that in the future it should be better explained that a RF paper is not a second class paper. Prominent scholars happen to present in RF and doctoral students in PS (parallel session). He would convey the message to his successor.

Access to papers submitted and presented at EAA congresses

HS reminded the MC of the current procedure: The full papers are accessible online as of two weeks prior to the congress until two weeks after the congress, but only to the delegates who attended the congress where these papers were presented.

He suggested to have the abstracts available online for ever in public domain, as of the Paris congress. This was unanimously approved by the MC.

Editors' Panel @ EAA Annual Congress 2013

HS reported that the Editor's Panel had been organised for the past two years and exactly in the same way as it was going to be organised this year in Paris.

As it had been the case in Rome and Ljubljana, the Paris Local Organising Committee organised it after having discussed it with the Standing Scientific Committee Chair, but differently to prior years a Call for Questions was sent to all EAA Members.

Further to that call, six complaints had been received from editors not invited on the panel, including AinE.

Being an EAA journal, it was agreed to re-invite the AinE Editor to join this year's panel, although it was acknowledged that when first invited, Lisa Evans, the AinE Editor, had replied that it was too late for her and too soon for her successor to be on that panel.

The President closed the discussion by agreeing with the proposal of having only one panel, on which the EAR and AinE as well as one non European journal should be invited each year; and leaving the final decision to the SSC and the LOC.

7.2. Publications Committee issues

In the absence of Wim van der Stede (WvdS) who had been invited to this meeting as a guest, but could not attend it, the President recalled and updated the MC on the issue related to the changes in EAR's review policy.

The MC agreed unanimously to follow the PC's advice, i.e.:

- Have a transition period during which all submitting authors should be given the choice to opt for a two-reviewer system. Although it is understood that the last decision belongs to the Editor.
- Provide effective communication to clarify how the "one-reviewer" system operates.
- Require that the appeals system operates without restrictions.
- Collect data during the transition period to be able to ascertain the impact of the changes, and discuss them in the future to make further decisions.

8. Governance issues

MC Members 2013-2016

The President referred to her note (which had been circulated prior to the meeting), in which she explained the formal process, including the criteria, that she will follow for producing the shortlist to be proposed to the Board for voting the new MC Members.

Despite narrowing a list down is always a complex and delicate thing to do, the MC unanimously agreed not to change the current system for now.

SSC Chair 2013-2016

The President reported that two names had been put forward to replace the SSC Chair. She added that both knew that there are two candidates for the position and that both agreed to serve if chosen.

As none of the two candidates came out spontaneously as the preferred one, it was decided to go for voting. Aljosa Valentincic was chosen.

SSC Members 2013-2016

The SSC Chair mentioned that two SSC Members were up to replacement. He will consult with his successor to find two candidates, one in AU and one in FR, to be approved in the next MC meeting.

DC co-chair (2013-2016)

The MC unanimously approved Bill Rees' re-election as DC Co-Chair.

FRSC Chair 2013-2016

The MC unanimously approved Peter Walton's re-election as FRSC Chair.

FRSC Members 2013-2016

The MC was happy to confirm Peter Walton's suggestions to maintain Axel Haller and Chris Nobes, and to include Richard Barker and Filippo Polli as the new members.

9. Doctoral student and research training

9.1. Progress report on EAA PhD Forum@EAA 2013

Thomas Jeanjean (TJ) reported that the team including Hervé Stolowy, Bill Rees, Ann Jorissen, Gunnar Rimmel and himself had come up with a plan and potential names for the first PhD Forum.

It was decided that all the students who had applied to attend the EAA DC 2013 should be invited to attend the PhD Forum, both those who had been accepted as well as those rejected.

The MC approved the intention to create a dedicated Task Force, whose aim should be to promote collaboration, share ideas and identify best practices for doctoral education in accounting across Europe (while respecting national cultures and institutional infrastructures). Ultimately, this Task force would formulate recommendations and insights to the MC about actions to promote PhD Education in Accounting.

TJ and Joachim Gassen (JG) proposed to organize a first meeting with the volunteers to be part of this Task Force during the EAA congress in Paris to organize the next steps.

9.2. Progress report on EAA funded PhD related activities

The President reported that it was too early for a progress report as all activities had yet to take place.

9.3. Define process and criteria for 2014 funding

The President mentioned that eventually defining new criteria could only be done after the 2013 activities had taken place. The subject would be put on the agenda of the Fall 2013 Interim MC meeting.

10. Other discussion items

10.1. Awards and Fellows

10.2. Posting of minutes

Due to lack of time, the President proposed to ask for the MC feedback on these two items via email after this meeting.

10.3. Social media

Martin Walker (MW) presented the Ning website he had created.

He suggested the EAA to create an EAA PhD community. To do so, he suggested to approach universities who had EAA Members and ask them to tell their students to login on this website. Anyone signing up can create his/her own personal page.

The MC liked the idea and agreed that there was a need for such a platform, but was not 100% sure that this was the right one. Having a Facebook site was also considered important in order to increase the EAA visibility, to which MW replied that there should be a link between his proposed type of platform and other social sites.

It was agreed that the first thing to do was to find a motivated person who was willing to be the moderator, and in the future the EAA Social Network Editor. The search for this person would be done in an informal way. If needed, Board Members could be asked to help out.

11. Any Other Business

No other question or remark was made. The President thanked all attendees and adjourned the meeting.
