



Management Committee Meeting

Paris – 5th May 2013

MINUTES

Attendees

Members present:

Nicolas BERLAND
Joachim GASSEN
Begona GINER (President)
Toomas HALDMA
Thomas JEANJEAN
Ann JORISSEN (President-elect)
Martin MESSNER (Treasurer)
Hervé STOLOWY
Martin WALKER
Nicole COOPMAN (Executive Secretary)

Apologies from:

Araceli MORA

Guests:

Paul ANDRE
Bill REES
Keith ROBSON
Ian THOMSON
Wim VAN DER STEDE
Laurence VAN LENT

Apologies from:

Lisa EVANS
Gunnar RIMMEL
Peter WALTON

Agenda

1. Welcome, apologies and adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the minutes of the MC meeting – February 2013 – Brussels
3. Matters arising

ITEMS FOR REPORTING/NOTING

4. Congress updates
 - 4.1 Report on the EAA Congress 2013
 - 4.2 Update on preparations for the EAA Congress 2014
 - 4.3 Report on preparations for the EAA Congress 2015
 - 4.4 Future EAA conference venues
5. Scientific Committee update
 - 5.1 Report of the EAA Standing Scientific Committee
6. Doctoral Colloquium update
 - 6.1 Report on the EAA Doctoral Colloquium 2013
7. Publications Committee update (including Newsletter & Book Reviews)
 - 7.1 EAR Editor's Report
 - 7.2 AinE Editors' Report
8. EAA Financial Reporting Standards Committee report
9. Administrative issues
 - 9.1 Membership statistics

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

10. Election/nomination processes and outcomes: MC Members, SSC Members
11. Doctoral student and research training
 - 11.1 Report on EAA PhD Forum @ EAA 2013
 - 11.2 Progress report on EAA Task Force on Doctoral Accounting Education in Europe
 - 11.3 Progress report on EAA funded PhD related activities
12. EAA on social media (*Begoña*)
13. Administrative and Financial issues
 - 13.1 Approval of EAA accounts 2012 and Auditor's report
 - 13.2 Approval of Committee Budgets 2014
 - 13.3 Savings strategy
 - 13.4 Posting of minutes on website
14. Any other business

Minutes

1. Welcome, apologies and adoption of the agenda

The President, Begoña Giner (BG), welcomed all Members and Guests present and in particular the new members Ian Thomson, the Chair of the EAA Annual Congress 2015, and Paul André, the AinE Editor-elect. She then conveyed the apologies of Araceli Mora, Lisa Evans, Gunnar Rimmel and Peter Walton, and mentioned that the Co-Chairs of the Doctoral Colloquium, Bill Rees and Keith Robson, as well as Wim Van Der Stede, PC Chair and DC faculty, would arrive later.

2. Approval of the minutes of the MC meeting February 2013 – Brussels

In the absence of any remarks, the minutes of the MC meeting February 2013 were approved.

3. Matters arising

No new matters, that were not mentioned in the agenda, were raised for discussion at this point.

ITEMS FOR REPORTING/NOTING

4. Congress updates

4.1. Report on the Congress 2013

Nicolas Berland (NB), the Chair of the EAA Congress 2013, welcomed the MC in Paris and apologised for not being able to attend the whole meeting. He was happy to announce that there were more participants, more sponsors and more exhibitors than expected, which allowed him to present a budget showing a considerably higher surplus than forecasted.

The President congratulated him and wished him well for the next two days.

4.2. Update on preparations for the Congress 2014

Toomas Haldma (TH), the Chair of the Congress 2014, reported on the ongoing preparations with a Powerpoint presentation and in particular on:

- Host
- Congress dates
- Local Organising Committee
- Deadlines of paper submission and review
- General programme outline
- Venues and facilities
- Hotel accommodation
- DC potential venues

He mentioned that he had also produced a flyer.

TH was looking for advice regarding the location of the EAA Doctoral Colloquium 2014. He was hoping to come to an agreement in Paris with the DC Co-chairs, who found that Tartu was too distant from the congress city Tallinn and difficult to reach. After having exposed the advantages of Tartu (nice convention centre, easy and comfortable transport) and having compared it with similar previous locations (Rome/Siena or Ljubljana/Bled), TH explained that the Tartu University being the host of the congress, which could not be organised in Tartu, wanted to host at least the colloquium. Moreover, the condition to get funding from the Tartu City Council was that it would be organised in their city.

BG committed on the basis of TH's information to discuss the matter with the DC Co-chairs in Paris, in the presence of the President-elect.

Next TH presented his latest budget mentioning that the limit of participants was set up by the meeting room and gala dinner capacities, not by the Tallinn hotel capacity.

4.3. Update on preparations for the Congress 2015

Ian Thompson (IT), the Chair of the Congress 2015, reported that the congress would be held in the SECC, the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre of Glasgow, from 27 to 29 April.

Further, IT reported that:

- there was no limit on attendance (the main congress hall can take up to 3.000 participants);
- they blocked a series of hotel rooms;
- they had been offered some support from the City Council;
- they had appointed a PCO;
- they were working on the budget using the CC template.

Regarding the EAA Doctoral Colloquium, he had already talked to Co-chair Bill Rees and was in contact with the University of St Andrews, located at +/- 1h10 by bus from Glasgow, as a possible host.

4.4. Future EAA congress venues

In the absence of Gunnar Rimmel, the EAA Conference Committee Chair, the President reported that after Glasgow in 2015, no further location had been confirmed yet. A new expression of interest had been received for 2016 while negotiations were going on with another possible host for 2017.

5. Scientific Committee update

5.1. Report of the EAA Standing Scientific Committee

Hervé Stolowy (HS), the EAA Scientific Committee Chair, referred to his detailed report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting outlining:

- the composition of the Paris Scientific Committee comprising 133 members including the 6 SSC members;
- the review process for a total of 1.236 submitted papers of which 83,3% had been accepted;
- the parallel sessions with discussants (26 sessions with 52 papers)
HS pointed out that it had been once more difficult to find discussants.
- the reactions of authors about the review process:
HS reported that the SSC had been impressed by the quantity and quality of comments.
- the papers made available online;
- the changes in the submission structure and the classification of papers;
- the election of new SSC members;
- the deadlines for the Tallinn congress.

The President thanked the SSC members for the good work they had done, with a special recognition of the two members who leave this year, Marleen Willekens (MW) and HS. In particular, she thanked HS for the tremendous job done during his termship as Chair of the SSC.

6. Doctoral Colloquium update

6.1. Report on the EAA Doctoral Colloquium 2012

Keith Robson (KR), one of the two co-chairs of the Doctoral Colloquium, reported that the EAA doctoral colloquium, held in Saclay near Paris from 2-5 May went fine.

Applications had been received from 144 PhD students, i.e. a significant increase compared to 2011 with 117 applications, coming from 26 countries with 22 from Germany, 38 from the UK, 7 from France and Portugal, and 4 or more from Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, Spain and Sweden.

The selected students came from Germany 7, UK 3, Denmark 3, Netherlands 3, Spain 3, Austria 2, Finland 2, France 2, Ireland 2, Switzerland 2, Australia 1, Belgium 1, Italy 1, Portugal 1, Romania 1, Sweden 1 and USA 1. The Australian and American delegates represent appointees from their own accounting associations.

Two students had been selected to go to the Australian and American doctoral colloquia: Lisa Baudot (ESSEC, Paris, France), who will go to Perth and Jonas Heese (Maastricht University, Netherlands) who will go to Lake Tahoe.

This year's faculty consisted of:

Prof. William Rees (Co-Chair), University Of Edinburgh, UK
Prof. Keith Robson, (Co-Chair), Cardiff Business School, UK
Prof. Beatriz Garcia Osma, Universidad Autonoma De Madrid, Spain
Prof. Joachim Gassen, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany
Prof. Eva Labro, University Of North Carolina, Kenan-Flagler Business School, USA
Prof. Wayne Landsman, University Of North Carolina, Kenan-Flagler Business School, USA

Prof. Jan Mouritsen, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark
Prof. Fabrizio Panozzo, Venice University, Italy
Prof. Cathy Shakespeare, University Of Michigan, Stephen M.Ross School of Business, USA
Prof. Michael Shields, Michigan State University, Eli Broad Graduate School of Management, USA
Prof. Wim Van Der Stede, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK
Prof. Ane Tamayo, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

KR mentioned that based on the students' feedback, the doctoral colloquium had been extremely successful and much appreciated. The success of the colloquium is largely measured by the exciting discussions that developed, the helpful comments exchanged and the continuing dialogue among PhD students and faculty.

Feedback from the faculty, many of whom have been associated with the programme for many years, indicated continuing advances in the standard of the students, perhaps this year most notably in the Management Accounting Research track.

The President thanked the DC faculty, and in particular the DC Co-chairs, Bill Rees and Keith Robson, for their hard work and commitment.

7. Publications Committee update

Wim van der Stede (WvdS), the Publications Committee Chair, presented his report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

He pointed out that next year a new Editor for the Newsletter was to be found, and was confident that this would be processed without any difficulties. When setting up the criteria for the new Editor, the capability of following up on blogs would be requested as they can affect the good running of the newsletter. As to the EAR Editor, the selection process for the next Editor should already be launched next year as well.

WvdS reported that he had discussed the T&F publication contracts during the Summer 2012 with the T&F representatives. The contracts will enter the rolling one-year phase from 2014 on, ending in 2016, at which point a new agreement (with T&F or others) will have to be discussed. Terminating the contract is subject to a 1-year notification. At present, Wim saw no reason to terminate the contract.

Without going into the intricate detail of Open Access (OA), which is currently still up for debate (and lobbying) and subject to variation geographically (e.g. EU, UK) and by subject area (e.g. the hard v social sciences) as to the preferred modes of OA, Wim mentioned the currently two main OA publishing routes (Green and Gold) and how T&F had made it possible going forward on an opt-in basis for authors in EAR or AinE to comply with Gold Route OA (which is the most "open" of the two) when this is required by the funders of their research and which involves the payment of an Article Publication Charge (APC) by the authors.

Finally WvdS mentioned that the EAA Book Review Editor, Saverio Bozzolan, had a nice pipeline of books cutting across areas and geography as well as a good set of reviewers.

7.1. EAR Editor's Report

Laurence van Lent (LvL), the EAR Editor, presented his report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. He reported that 2012 had been another good year for EAR and pointed out:

- the number of submissions received (279) including 22 for a special issue and 75 for the Young Scholars Track;
- the number of articles published (26)
- the continuous good journal visibility and impact
- the good turnaround time for authors partly thanks to the online submission platform;
- the constructive, insightful and timely reports written by the reviewers.

LvL also mentioned that he had commissioned two new special issues, of which one is showcased during the EAA congress 2013 in Paris by means of a dedicated symposium, and that EAR had inaugurated an appeals procedure in 2012.

He closed his report by announcing that the first issue 2013 will show the new cover, but not yet the new size which the publisher had forgotten to implement.

7.2. AinE Editor's Report

Paul André (PA), the AinE Editor-elect, referred to the report Lisa Evans (LE), the current AinE Editor, had prepared, which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The journal continues to focus on papers relevant to European accounting, and to both academic and practitioner audiences. While the number of submissions was slightly increasing, it was becoming challenging to find reviewers.

PA reported that he was planning to discuss with the Publisher the move to an electronic submission platform for AinE; AinE's ongoing bid for SSCI inclusion; and a better lead time for special issues. He added that he was considering initiatives to attract papers in other areas, eg, auditing, and that he would expand the Editorial Board.

8. EAA Financial Reporting Standards Committee

In the absence of the FRSC Chair Peter Walton (PW), the President referred to Peter's report circulated prior to the meeting and in particular to

- the set-up of a FRSC conceptual framework working group under the chairmanship of John Christensen;
- the set-up of a FRSC disclosure working group under the chairmanship of Richard Barker;
- the participation of Ann Gaeremynck in the EFRAG working group on disclosure;
- the EAA representation in a number of key areas in policy-making: Begoña Giner on the IFRS Advisory Council, Araceli Mora on the EFRAG Technical Expert Group, Günther Gebhardt on the IASB working group on financial instruments and Stefano Zambon on the EFRAG working group on the business model in accounting;
- the new composition of the committee.

9. Administrative issues

9.1. Membership statistics

The President reported that the membership statistics, circulated prior to the meeting, showed an increasing membership with Germany at the top with 271 members, followed by U.K. (239), U.S.A. (182), Australia (163), Italy (153), Spain (137), France (120), Canada (93), Japan (83) and Finland (69). She pointed out that close to 25% of EAA's membership were non Europeans.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

10. Election/nomination processes and outcomes

On the basis of the document prepared, the President reported on the outcome of the past elections.

Regarding the MC, BG

- acknowledged and thanked Joachim Gassen and Thomas Jeanjean for their valuable contribution to the MC during the past 3 years;
- congratulated Philip Joos and Thorsten Sellhorn as the two new Members elected.

Regarding the Board, BG

- thanked the outgoing Members, i.e. Carsten Rohde, Martin Quinn, Karin Jonnergaard and Frank Hartmann;
- congratulated the re-elected Members, i.e. Ignace De Beelde, Frode Mellemvik, Dumitru Matis and Daniel Oyon;
- and welcomed the new Members, i.e. Kim Petterson, Domenico Campa, Thomas Carrington and Ann Vanstraelen.

Regarding the SSC, Hervé Stolowy (HS) explained that he had contacted a few candidates to replace Aljosa Valentincic, as he was becoming the SSC Chair, and Marleen Willekens who finished her term of office. He invited the MC to approve Helena Isidro's and Ann Vanstraelen's election as new SSC members → the MC approved unanimously.

11. Doctoral student and research training

11.1. Progress report on EAA PhD Forum@EAA 2013

Thomas Jeanjean (TJ) reported that 105 students from 25 countries had registered to the PhD Forum, which was going to take place the day after. In order to better organize the event, they had been asked to respond to 6 questions showing the following attendees' profile:

- Mostly 3rd year students and above
- Between 25 and 30 years old
- 55% women versus 45% men
- Seem to be more interested in broad transversal topics (job market / linkage between theory and practice) rather than in focused topics
- Have a mixed interest for social media (60% vs 40%)

TJ briefly reminded the set up of the programme:

- Plenary session (C. Chapman / H. Stolowy)
- 5 breakout sessions:
 - Job market in Europe (A. Tahoun; S. Bar-Yossef)
 - Linking Theory and empirics (S. Carmona)
 - Economics of Auditing (M. Willekens)
 - Conservatism (J.M. Garcia-Lara)
 - Matching procedures (M. Clatworthy)

11.2. Progress report on EAA Task Force on Doctoral Accounting Education in Europe

Thomas Jeanjean (TJ) reported the following on the outcome of the call for participants to the Task Force:

- 36 responses, mostly from academics affiliated with institutions conferring a PhD in Accounting and representing 17 countries;
- showing elements of diversity:
 - in terms of fields and methodologies covered,
 - in terms of format of the PhD (monograph versus articles)
- presenting common points:
 - A PhD last 3 years, students are usually funded
 - to 8 students are recruited per year, with a Master level from Europe and Asia
 - “Open perspective”: use of English language is dominant, expectation of international placement
 - “Research perspective”: students have a specific research budgets and are expected to participate to major conferences and to work in the academia.

TJ listed the key elements of the proposals made:

- Major issue for the development of “PhD”
 - Funding constraint
- We feel the need for more PhD courses on specialized topics and quantitative methods. Writing and networking workshops just follow.
 - Our students seems to prefer networking and “broad scope” themes over topical seminars...
- Link
 - To provide regular updates on “hot topics” of interest for PhD students (like registration for EAA DC, workshops, etc.)
 - Newsletter for PhD students
 - Promoting a “Facebook-like” tool to link PhD Students.
- Network
 - To create a register of PhD programs in Accounting in Europe
 - To list existing workshops opened to PhD Students
 - To Facilitate short term exchanges of Professors and PhD students
- Funding
 - To provide subsidies directly to students
 - To further reduce the cost of the EAA congress for PhD students
- Standard / certification
 - Promotion of a code of conduct for PhD students
 - To set benchmark / guidelines for “good practice”
 - Counselling for institutions willing to create a PhD programme
- Courses
 - Creation of shared PhD courses in Accounting (as webinars and / or courses opened to other PhD programs)
 - Creation of EAA courses

The feedback would be analysed and discussed at the meeting scheduled during the congress, further to which the Task Force would come up with proposals.

11.3. Progress report on EAA funded PhD related activities

The President reported that the project was still in an early process as out of the 6 doctoral seminars and 4 EDENs, which had been allocated EAA funding, only one had taken place so far.

12. EAA on social media

The President referred to her report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, and summarised her talk with Melinda Ratkai, a student at the University of Huelva recommended by one of her colleagues.

She explained that Melinda proposed two alternative strategies that could be followed after having developed the social media channels:

1. Either run a trial period of the various channels and see what happens;
2. Or focus upfront on community building.

In order to choose the proper strategy, BG reminded that the MC should identify:

- What are EAA's objectives for being on social media: increasing their overall network (especially the younger set), promoting events, receiving feedback and suggestions for changes/improvements of their events ...?

and

- What type of information does EAA want to post: announcements of events, deadline reminders... but also ...?

It was suggested that there could be a link to the Editor of the Newsletter. It was therefore agreed to inform WvdS, especially when thinking of the criteria needed to select the next Editor of the Newsletter.

13. Administrative and financial issues

13.1. Approval of EAA accounts 2012 and Auditor's Report

Martin Messner (MM), the Treasurer, reported on the results 2012, which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

He explained that the deficit was partly due to a smaller congress (Ljubljana) than usual and to the funding of various doctoral activities.

No questions or comments were made. The accounts 2012 were unanimously approved.

13.2. Approval of committee budgets 2014

MM reported that the budgets 2014 had been established partly on the basis of the input of the Committee Chairs and partly on his own assumptions and those of the President. The figures are comparable to 2012 as the Tallinn congress is expected to be similar to the Ljubljana congress.

He pointed out that no surplus from the Paris congress had been included. If the surplus announced earlier in the meeting by Nicolas Berland would be confirmed, the EAA would breakeven in 2013.

BG added that the budgets had been reduced compared with the proposals made by the Chairs, and in particular there was a big reduction in the funding for doctoral initiatives, as the EAA could not afford such a big deficit year after year.

BG pointed out that if the EAA wanted to survive without external funding, it was necessary to think of what should be done in the future:

- Cut expenses, as already done in the budget;
- Increase the membership fee, at least to cover the VAT. She remembered that when VAT was introduced, it was not passed to the members but absorbed by EAA. The proposal was to increase it to 50€ excluding VAT.
- Find ways of generating new income;
- Organise the congress in large attractive cities rather than in small cities.

The MC approved to submit the membership fee increase to the approval of the Board and the General Assembly for implementation as of 2014.

No further questions or comments were made. The budgets 2014 showing reducing amounts were unanimously approved.

The President thanked MM for his excellent and detailed preparation of the EAA accounts.

13.3. Savings strategy

MM reported that the savings had not changed since the last MC meeting. Hence there was no reason for changing the strategy approved during that meeting which consisted in buying government bonds, rather than risky corporate bonds.

13.4. Posting of minutes on website

The President reported that further to the email she had sent after the February 2013 MC meeting, the MC unanimously approved that, in order to increase transparency, all the minutes of the MC and the Board would be published after their approval in the members' section of the EAA website from the beginning of 2013 onwards.

14. Any Other Business

It was decided that the **next interim meeting** of the MC would take place in Brussels in the Fall 2013.
