

International Students of History Association International Board 2006/2007	
	13-04-2007

**Minutes of the
General Assembly, Turku, 13 April 2007**

Presence:

Members:

Belgrade (Serbia)
Berlin (Germany)
Fribourg (Switzerland)
Heidelberg (Germany)
Helsinki (Finland)
Ljubljana (Slovenia)
Marburg (Germany)
Nijmegen (Netherlands)
Pula (Croatia)
Turku (Finland)
Utrecht (Netherlands)
Zagreb (Croatia)

Observers:

Canada
Coimbra (Portugal)

International Board:

Branimir Bekavac (President), Jasmina Skočilić (Secretary)

Council:

Janne Kirjasniemi, Jeroen Merks

Treasury Committee:

Eelco Jansen, Matt Knaus

1) Opening

President Branimir Bekavac opens the General Assembly at 14:15 h.

2) Appointment of the Keeper of the Minutes

Jasmina Skočilić was appointed to keep the minutes.

3) Appointment of the Speaker

Nobody opposed appointing Branimir Bekavac as Speaker.

4) Taking down attendance

Cf. above

5) Agenda:

The following agenda was proposed and accepted without objection:

- 1) Opening

- 2) Appointment of the Keeper of the Minutes
- 3) Appointment of the Speaker
- 4) Taking down attendance
- 5) Approval of the Pula GA minutes
- 6) State of affairs
- 7) Upcoming events
- 8) Cooperation with other organisations
- 9) Web site
- 10) ISHA Alumni
- 11) Archives in Belgium
- 12) Altering the Statues
- 13) Merchandising
- 14) Elections
- 15) Break
- 16) Questions & closing

6) Approval of the Pula GA minutes

As Branimir stated, the minutes were posted on the ISHA site and have been accessible to anyone for several months. They were approved without objections.

7) State of affairs

Sections (listed clockwise according to seating order)

- Switzerland (Members): Matt Knaus represented both sections Fribourg and Zürich. Fribourg seems to be down to one member, but Matt is working on member drafting. The Zürich section got some new members. They have regular meetings and are currently working on the Zürich seminar journal.
- Coimbra (Observer): Germana Torres, originally from Coimbra University, is at present doing her Master's at Turku University. She will start advertising ISHA at her Faculty in Portugal, as well as at the Universities of Coimbra partner group.
- Canada (Observer): Kitty Lam is currently studying in Helsinki and she will continue her studies in Michigan, where an ISHA section might be founded in the near future. Kitty has already made some contacts there and mentioned the funding possibilities available for travel expenses which are so vital for participating in ISHA events.
- Turku (Member): This has been the busiest year for this section. Organising the Annual Conference has taken a lot of time and effort. Approx. 50 people were included in the preparation of this event. This resulted in a lot of new members and people interested in ISHA.
- Helsinki (Member): Recently, a new board was elected and there are lots of new members. They focused on targeting international students like Kitty Lam, hoping to make contacts in other countries and possibly even establish new sections.
- Utrecht (Member): This section has ten official members and a few new ones. ISHA Utrecht is actually part of a local students' organisation.
- Marburg (Member): At the moment down to three members, but they are trying to advertise and attract some members. Some of the old ones have left abruptly.
- Ljubljana (Member): Officially there are 12 members. They are trying to build a higher profile at their Faculty, and have plans for aggressive propaganda. Also, Ljubljana section is publishing a

local newspaper, organising lectures, trips, etc. Marko Močnik states that their biggest accomplishment is the presence of two Slovenian female members at the conference. And they will try to organise the Autumn Seminar in 2008.

- Berlin (Member): So far they have been busy organising the upcoming Summer Seminar for which they have gathered enough financial recourse. Sophia Freund has brought flyers with her. The exact date of the seminar is 6-11 August 2007. It seems that the organisation of this event has resulted in a substantial increase of members, including some that came to this conference.

- Nijmegen (Member): Nijmegen does not seem to have any problems with new members. They wanted to organise the 2008 Annual Conference but met too many obstacles in the process, mainly involving accommodation. They are thinking of organising a smaller event like, a seminar.

- Heidelberg (Member): Alan Götz stresses that their members lack interest for international affairs and focus mainly on local affairs. Most of the old ones have gone abroad due to student exchange. Hopefully, they might achieve some results (ISHA-wise) in their new universities. The Heidelberg section wanted to publish their Autumn Seminar's journal, but has had no success so far.

- Pula (Member): The new president is Saša Ergotić. They managed to attract new members, who represented them at the Conference. Also published a new issue of their magazine, *Epsilon*.

- Zagreb (Member): A new board has been elected, meetings are held weekly, and a bunch of new members have arrived to the conference. Successful advertising has been done via student parties. The section is starting a new project - Movie Nights. Zagreb is planning to organise the next New Year's Seminar in Osijek. More information will be available soon. For a while, the board dwelled on a possibility of organising the next Annual Conference, but the members refused the idea in a vote.

- Belgrade (Member): Veljko Stanić is still working on the launch of the Novi Sad section. Leonida Matajis is not familiar with the details. The section looks healthy and has recovered from the New Year's Seminar.

International Board:

Branimir Bekavac (President)

- Is still working on the joining and consolidation of ISHA France. The FFAEH has faced some financial difficulties, and was forced to cancel their annual meeting which Branimir was supposed to attend.
- Branimir also tried to clear up the situation with the European Commission's letter but got no response from them.

Jasmina Skočilić (Secretary)

- Mainly tried to coordinate the inner communication of Council members and the Board.
- Also, she has organised the production and transport of the new ISHA mugs.
- Contacted ESSA people from Bulgaria, one answered back and promised to help with ISHA advertising at Sofia University.
- Got an e-mail from a local History student organization in Cluj, Romania, where there might be a potential new section. Also, the possibility that a National Romanian Students of History and Archaeology might be founded was announced.
- There has also been correspondence with a local history student's organisation in Niger.

Iva Žutić (Treasurer) was not present, but Branimir read out her financial report, to no objections.

Council

1) Louise Hoevenaars (*not present, report read by Eelco Jansen*) participated in the *Training and Information Day on Funding for International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations* in Brussels, Belgium (Friday, 17 November 2006). These are her conclusions:

- There is money provided by the European Council, but because we are a Swiss-based organisation, ISHA International cannot receive grants from the EU
- It is possible for single sections (from within the EU) to ask for project-based funding, but the amounts are considerably smaller. Nonetheless, this should definitely be tried in the future.
- In the near future, ISHA should keep track of similar workshops, because they provide very valuable information.

2) Jeroen Merks contacted a local history magazine, ETVT, published at the University of Nijmegen, but got no answer. Also, Jeroen was busy e-mailing Giacomo in Bologna, without any progress.

3) Janne Kirjasniemi is currently compiling a list of universities with international programs.

4) Marie-Christine Wenske (*not present, therefore ISHA Marburg asked to comment*) has completely disappeared from the radar. All attempts at communication have gone unanswered.

5) Maartje Vermeulen (*not present*) has given Jasmina some handy funding tips.

Carnival 2004/05

The edition for 2004/2005 by Ivan Dujmić has finally been published and is being distributed.

Carnival 2006/07

The 2006/2007 editor Mladen Majušević is still working on his issue. So far he received some six articles and will probably be finished on time.

Eelco Jansen proposes combining Carnival and event journals to speed up publishing and improve quality by adding more readily available content.

8) Upcoming events

Summer Seminar 2007, Berlin, 6-11 August:

“Thinking Europe. Self-perception of Europe in History”

Comment. The preparations are running smoothly. Approx. 15 organisers are involved at the moment.

Autumn Seminar 2007, Blois (France) [tbc]:

Comment: This event remains uncertain. ISHA France has not been officially launched yet, and considering that none of them have showed up at ISHA events besides Fédération Française d'étudiants d'Histoire President Pierre-Marie Brou in Belgrade, the question has been raised whether they will be able to organise one. John Blake, who has participated in FFAEH events before, states that their format is almost identical to ISHA events and believes this not to be a

critical issue. Contact with France is still not completely problem-free, but the IB will work to rectify the situation in time.

New Year's Seminar 2007/08, Osijek (Croatia) [date & topic tba]:

ISHA Zagreb plans to organise an external seminar in Osijek. They have been trying to establish contact with the local Faculty and students. At the moment exploring the possibilities for accommodation. Already got some funding.

Annual Conference 2008:

Comment: No volunteers so far. Matt reminds everyone that there isn't a big difference between organising a conference and seminar. Alan mentions the upcoming manual. John encourages external venues. Unfortunately, no one is swayed by the repeated pleas, but the IB has hope in diplomacy.

Summer Seminar 2008, Nijmegen [date & topic tba]:

Comment: ISHA Nijmegen, following the cancellation of their ideas for the 2008 conference, are planning to organise a Summer Seminar that year. More information will be available soon.

Autumn Seminar 2008, Ljubljana [tbc]:

Comment: ISHA Ljubljana seems to be on the rise and they are pondering the organisation of an Autumn Seminar in 2008. Attempts to persuade them to organise the Annual Conference instead have not been fruitful so far, but the activity is still met enthusiastically.

9) Cooperation with other organisations

- The IB has received an email from *Erasmus*, which is organising a rather vague meeting. The IB will keep everyone posted about the details and developments.
- Several former members of *CLIOHnet's* failed student association have been contacted, without concrete results (apart from a student from Galway, Ireland, who displayed some interest in ISHA).
- Cooperation with *ESSA* might still yield some results.

10) Web site

Christian Schlag has constructed a new ISHA International site using Plone CMS. The members, however, are not completely pleased with it, due to issues with browser compatibility and general aesthetics. It is proposed that Dominic Tegelbeckers gloss it over a bit (if he can be persuaded – it is noted that he has already done a tremendous amount of work for ISHA and is probably growing slightly tired). There is agreement that a switch to CMS is necessary to facilitate updating, but a new administrator still has to be found quickly.

11) ISHA Alumni

Astrid Buys and John Blake have proposed the creation of “ISHA Alumni – Friends of ISHA”. They plan to organise old members of ISHA who are no longer active, but still take interest in the organisation. John suggests the creation of a mailing list that would keep them informed. The advantages of such a branch within ISHA are numerous: the experience of the “oldies” can be called upon in an advisory fashion, some of them might be helpful with funding, or it might turn out to be a new source of *Carnival* contributors... Eelco Jansen thinks that ISHA Alumni should be mentioned in the Statutes or Standing Orders, while Matt Knaus suggests that the Statutes

should only regulate the manner of communication between the IB and ISHA Alumni. Astrid Buys will initially be in charge and will start working right away.

12) Archives in Belgium

One of the former chairmen of ISHA- International Jan Verbrugghe contacted John Blake regarding the old ISHA Archives, which were so far stored at his house until recently, when he contacted the organization saying that he could not keep them any longer. Jan suggested that either someone from ISHA take the Archives, or Jan will deposit them at the *Leuven University Archives*. According to general opinion, the latter option seems better. Unfortunately, there has been no more contact with Jan, so John doesn't know whether the Archives are still in Jan Verbrugghe's house or if he has actually already taken them to the *Leuven University Public Archive*. John will try to contact Jan again and there are plans for a scouting trip to Leuven by members of ISHA Nijmegen who could examine what exactly is in the archives. Alan Götz asked if the newer ISHA archives would be sent there too. Since the new stuff isn't connected to Leuven anymore the answer is negative. Roman Büttner suggests that old issues of *Carnival* should be sent to the *Herder Institute* from where they could be accessible to the whole world. Astrid pointed out that one person should be assigned with catalogisation of all ISHA Archives from different sections or members.

13) Altering the Statues

Since the proposal for altering the Statues was not delivered to the sections within the mandatory six weeks prior to the GA, the voting will have to be put off until the next GA, most probably at the Summer Seminar in Berlin.

14) Merchandising

This issue was already discussed at the State of Affairs Meeting two days previously and nothing new was added.

15) Elections

Candidates:

International Board

- President: Leonie Huijs (ISHA Nijmegen)
- Secretary: - Roman Büttner (ISHA Marburg)
 - Sophia Freund (ISHA Berlin)
- Treasurer: Irene Croonen (ISHA Nijmegen)

Council

- 1) Eelco Jansen (ISHA Nijmegen)
- 2) Laura Mäntylä (ISHA Turku)
- 3) Jure Marinović (ISHA Zagreb)
- 4) Veljko Stanić (ISHA Beograd)
- 5) Jeske van der Velden (ISHA Nijmegen)

Treasury Committee

Stefan Vuurens (ISHA Utrecht)

Frerik Kampman (ISHA Utrecht)

Carnival Editor

Minna Uusivirta (ISHA Turku)

- Break -

After a short break, paying member sections were supplied with voting ballots. All present member sections had the right to vote, as regulated by the Statutes. The results of the vote are:

International Board

- President: Leonie Huijs (ISHA Nijmegen) - 12/12 votes

- Secretary: Sophia Freund (ISHA Berlin) - 9/12 votes

[As opposed to Roman Büttner (ISHA Marburg) – 3/12 votes]

- Treasurer: Irene Croonen (ISHA Nijmegen) - 12/12 votes

Council

1) Eelco Jansen (ISHA Nijmegen) - 12/12 votes

2) Laura Mäntylä (ISHA Turku) - 12/12 votes

3) Jure Marinović (ISHA Zagreb) - 11/12 votes

4) Veljko Stanić (ISHA Beograd) - 12/12 votes

5) Jeske van der Velden (ISHA Nijmegen) - 12/12 votes

Treasury Committee

Stefan Vuurens (ISHA Utrecht) - 12/12 votes

Frerik Kampman (ISHA Utrecht) - 12/12 votes

Carnival Editor

Minna Uusivirta (ISHA Turku) - 12/12 votes

16) Questions & Closing

Matt Knaus just wanted to encourage new members to join the forum and the online ISHA community.

The General Assembly was closed at 16:48