

EURYPAA Board Meeting
Copenhagen - 28 July 2012

Matt H. – led the meeting
Present: Niamh E. (Ireland)
Patrick R. (England)
Jimmy O. (Ireland)
Johanna R. (Stockholm)
Albert S. (Stockholm)
Peter S. (Sweden)
Frederik (Denmark)
Sandi A. (Bristol)
Jim W. (San Francisco) – acting secretary

Discussion with Frederik
re budgeting and finance (not reported)

Presentation from Vivian from Malta re invitation for EURYPAA 2013. Accommodations are relatively inexpensive and there are many low-cost airlines serving Malta, so it will probably be popular. Also no homestays/driving to speak of so it will make people commit to the hotel. Hotel wants 100-room commitment but if we commit to more we may get a better tariff. Malta GSO has the usual reservations about YP conferences and unity issues but Matt points out that there is a lot of precedence for support; UK and Ireland have the same problem.

Treasury matters: Niamh has heavy outlays on behalf of the Ireland conference and there is discussion of how she should be reimbursed. She has brought records of what she advanced for the conference. Frederik notes that we should at least break even on this year's conference and that any overages will be split 50-50 between Denmark AA and EURYPAA as a whole. There are no accounting numbers for Sweden EURYPAA so we have to go off this year and the last. Suggested that CPH continue to do events after the conference in order to build up funds for the conference as a whole. Niamh: had organized a committee and held a meeting, but there was a lot of resistance to people doing service work with EURYPAA so they resigned. Also difficult to do fundraising events because people in Ireland weren't doing anything with EURYPAA. They also had last-minute expenses for sound. There was about a 8,800 euro deficit; Niamh is owed money (6086.75 euro) and a company is owed 2725.39 euro as well; they've actually threatened collection action. Niamh offered the cups, t-shirts, lanyards to this year but Morten didn't want her to bring them, so most got given away.

Frederik and Matt urged making some sort of contribution at any level to the local AA structure in CPH, whatever the circumstances. Sandi expresses that the company must be paid because we pay our debts, and Niamh should not be stuck with such a huge deficit as well. Jimmy: saw EURYPAA t-shirts from Stockholm in Dublin, so should be allowed at each conference to sell any surplus from previous conferences. Matt thinks we should set aside some amount of operating reserve but get Niamh and our other debts paid off as much as we can. Albert: website is 40 a year; Frederik: banking is 50 a year. Printing costs were about 400 for 10,000 flyers and then they did another 10,000. We would need to support Malta more heavily since they have

little support and proficiency there. Matt: moves to pay the vendor assuming there's money available (seconded Patrick; **unanimous approval**). Frederik: we are sold out of t-shirts and the books are going short too. Matt: prudent budget for now and what is a suitable target for operating costs (website, etc.); how much should it be? Matt: moves to reimburse Niamh when we can; Frederik seconded; **unanimous approval**.

Main meeting: thank all attendees; thank host committee and CPH/DK region; introduction of new board members from DK; announcement of Malta's intent to host. Jimmy: Galway has 50 people here and would be willing as well. Michelle from Galway joins the meeting to discuss Galway's ability and willingness to host. Biggest problem is Ireland GSO not recognizing "specialty" conferences. Suggested that for now, we leave it open for the future so we let the conference develop.

Patrick: GSO is a real concern, and we should not go back to Ireland right yet. Should show that we have a second option anyway though. Niamh: Vivian was so prepared and came all the way from Malta, so we should consider him the first choice. He also came to other EURYPAA's. We would support him with fundraising and he doesn't have a GSO problem. Could also provide a boost to Malta's YP fellowship since it's generally an older community. Jimmy notes that there are few YPAAs there; mostly retirees. Lots going on in summer in Galway though, especially for YP. Niamh: Malta is very central and attractive to Europeans.

Matt suggests doing a round of ballots and if it's close, we draw from the hat. Straw vote is 6-1 in favour of Malta. Matt suggests that we announce that the board's choice is Malta but that we want to hear from the group anyway. Jimmy suggests having people move to one side of the room or the other to suggest which one they want. Niamh moves that we do so; Jimmy seconds; vote is 5-1 in favour of yes; **motion approved**. Announcement and crowd participation will be done by Jimmy.

Will meet again at 5:30 today until 7; dinner starts at 8. Will elect leadership positions then.

Facebook group issue: Albert: purportedly J started the new group because of the conference/convention issue (which really isn't an issue); J had invited people to the group and made Albert an administrator but now wants to close up the existing group. Niamh says the Ireland GSO never told her what J said; all they said was EURYPAA is not considered part of AA in Ireland. So, we called it a conference in Ireland, since "convention" is a known term for something else. Can preserve the content; main concern is preserving the membership. Albert points out that J can be removed as admin. Patrick moves to remove previous members of board as admins; second Albert; **unanimous approval**. Matt: when we respond to content, it should be without venting; talk to each other first.

5:30 reconvene: Morten has expressed interest in co-chair; Frederik as treasurer; Albert as tech chair; Peter as mailing chair; Johanna as outreach chair; Matt as chair. Matt re-reads the responsibilities of each officer position. The following were elected all by **unanimous 6-0 vote**:

Outreach: Johanna

Tech chair: Albert

Mailing chair: Peter
Secretary: Jimmy
Treasurer: Frederik
Co-chair: Morten
Chair: Matt (who opposed just for the record)

Upcoming board meetings: online post-conference meeting in next 30-45 days, including with Malta host committee. Updates will be given re financial information of CPH conference, budgeting, repayments as decided above, etc. Reminder not to mandate or direct host committee, just share experience in a spirit of assistance. Also be prepared to make a list of positive and negative things about the conference this year, so the next year's conference can learn from them. Make sure we have current contact info for each member of the board. Proposed to do meetings of the board on earlier days so we can take care of business up front and then enjoy more of the conference.

Matt reminds us to talk with Vivian and give him a lot of support; don't let him think he's completely alone, but show him that the strength of the conference and the board are behind him efforts.

Frederik found out that as far as proceeds go, 50% goes to Malta, 50% goes to the board. There might be additional support from Malta GSO. Can wait and see what Malta host committee's needs are, though; they are preregistering and might do well on that end.

Will have a brief meeting with the host committee to wrap up and thank them for a great conference. We will meet at 10:30 in one of the meeting rooms.

Meeting is adjourned at 18.30.