

IASPM EC Minutes (Meeting VI)

August 28, 2018

Meeting of the Executive Committee, August 28, 2018 (3pm ECT), held by videoconference (Skype)

Present: Jacopo Conti (JC), Kimi Kärki (KK), Marta Garcia Quiñones (MGQ), Sílvia Martínez (SM), Antti-Ville Kärjä (AVK), Ann Werner (AW), Franco Fabbri (FF)

1- IASPM 2019-CANBERRA CONFERENCES UPDATES

AVK informs the meeting about some confusion involving LOC, AC, and EC in relation to the preparation and organisation of plenary sessions and key-notes at the Canberra conference. AVK is in contact with Samantha and Catherine to clarify that the EC has no responsibility for sessions other than the GM. He will also establish how many applications have been received.

Marta informs the meeting that applications for travel grants will be open shortly after letters of acceptance/rejection have been sent to authors, as it was announced. The deadline for sending these letters is 15 October.

2 - Call launch for coming conferences

The Kassel GM saw approval for the call for upcoming conferences to be launched by the EC. At the GM, two proposals were mentioned: Oslo and Paris. Some months ago, Goffredo Plastino forwarded an email to Julio Mendivil relating to initial contact made with Oslo. AVK comments that some discussion was held on this issue during the IASPM-Norden Branch meeting, but he is unsure if the chair, Hans T. Zeiner-Henriksen, is the person in charge. FF will try to approach some IASPM members from Oslo at the Huddersfield conference he is to attend shortly.

We note that this seems to be the first time a call for pending conferences is launched. MGQ and SM volunteer to check the Kassel GM minutes and draft a proposal to be checked by the entire EC before it goes out on the mailing list in September. We all agree.

3 - Swedish P.O. Box

AW summarises the information exchanged by email in recent weeks about the P.O.Box. The advantages of securing a P.O. Box have been well discussed: issues related to the tax office, banking requirements, PayPal account contact, etc. Additional problems are also mentioned: changes to be made every two years (with the renewal of the EC), and the need to always have an EC member in Sweden to periodically open the P.O. Box.

FF asks if a Swedish bank would accept a P.O. Box as an official address. This is important because it is very urgent that we open a new account outside Great Britain before Brexit devalues the money placed in the current British account.

MGQ requests the cost of opening the P.O. Box, and of forwarding the post to a physical address (or having someone pick up the mail).

AW summarises the questions to be addressed to the Swedish Post Service and will circulate the answers received by mail. MGQ will finish putting together a portfolio to present to a Swedish bank in order to open a new account in accordance with the Kassel GA instruction.

4 - International mailing list

JC summarises the problems involving the international mailing list: the server is based in Liverpool but no official statement of this status has been found in IASPM archives and GA minutes. In the last couple of years someone from Liverpool has been adding and removing members to and from the list without the knowledge or permission of the Membership Secretary. In addition, no mail sent about this issue to Robert Strachan, the person in charge of list management in Liverpool, has been answered.

As the EC, we agree that the name of the person in charge of the list must be written down in order to fulfil the new European data protection requirements. And an official statement should be noted, one defining who at the University of Liverpool is in charge of management of the list, as well as the movements of members that he or she can make with the agreement of the Membership Secretary. MGQ adds that every branch should have made a written record of permission by new members to share their data with the managers of the international list based in Liverpool. SM suggests that for the future we consider having an elected member at large on the EC to handle issues related to the mailing list, someone who could possibly be physically based in Liverpool.

MGQ recalls that the EC has a mandate from the GA to find a solution to the official management of the Liverpool-based mailing list, or to explore options to move the list to some other server. KK expresses concerns about the mailing list server being changed because the Liverpool server seems to be technically very reliable and we do not have any guarantee that we might find another server as reliable. AVK suggests proposing Sara Cohen as the sole Liverpool-based mailing list manager, and asks that she maintains fluent contact with the EC to solve all list-related issues. FF suggests that JC could explore options for new mailing list providers. JC and KK will check for alternative options. JC will also try to contact Goffredo Plastino and to collect past emails on this issue and forward them to FF. FF will call Sara Cohen and will update the rest of the EC in the next Skype meeting.

5 - IASPM Book Prize: team and schedule

As agreed at a previous meeting, SM explored some options to build a two-person team in charge of co-ordinating the next IASPM Book Prize. She talked to Felipe Trotta, and it is proposed that Felipe Trotta and she take charge of the 2019 edition. As a general proposal, we agree that two coordinators participate in each edition of the prize: one would remain as co-manager for the ensuing edition, joined by a new coordinator. Thus, we can benefit from accumulating experience,

while at the same time the persons in charge will be periodically renewed. We agree on this point.

FF underlines that the 2019 award call should be launched urgently because all book nominations must arrive before November 10. The schedule proposed is: at the end of November, to announce the nominations received and accepted; immediately afterwards, to decide on the members of the jury; and (no later than January 31) to distribute the books to the jury in electronic format as soon as they arrive. SM will send the EC a draft of the call for the 2019 IASPM Book Prize, and it will be launched through mailing list in September.

6 - Annual report

SM is working on this, following the arrival of all contributions by JC, AVK, MGQ. Still pending is a short report by AW on tax issues. AW will send this in a few days and SM will complete a first draft of the Annual Report to be reviewed by all EC members before it is made public.

SM asked if any previous EC Annual Report is in existence. She also asks if this is a mandatory document or if it would be enough just to upload the minutes of EC meetings' as testimony of the work carried out. Ann says that she only remembers a general report coming out of the previous EC, one written following the 2-year mandate. FF could not recall any Annual Report being issued during his years as an EC member. AVK argues that minutes and reports are two different kinds of document, and that a proper report is a better testimony of the EC's work. Franco and Marta agree. SM will complete a draft of the Annual Report over the following weeks and send it to the other EC members.

In addition, all EC minutes have to be uploaded to the website. KK will upload them asap.

FF asks if, as the EC, we could find a way to communicate more often with IASPM members, not just to inform about bureaucratic issues, but also because it is a very important communication vehicle; i.e. messages inform on important issues related to popular music studies shared through local branch mailing lists. This item remains to be discussed at ensuing meetings.

FF requests approval of the minutes of the 5th meeting. We approve these.