

**IASPM GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES
UNIVERSIDAD IBEROAMERICANA, MEXICO CITY
28 JUNE 2007**

Introduction

The 2007 General Assembly was convened by the current Executive Committee elected at the General Assembly held in Rome, 29 July 2005:

Chair: Franco Fabbri

General Secretary: Shane Homan

Membership Secretary/Treasurer: Michael Drewett

Web: Geoff Stahl

Member at Large: Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at 5.35 p.m.

(a) Election of Meeting Chair

Franco Fabbri was elected to chair the meeting as proposed by Juul Mulder and seconded by Anahid Kassabian.

(b) Approval of Agenda

Motti Regev proposed that the agenda be formally adopted. The proposal was seconded by Anahid Kassabian.

(c) Approval of 2005 Minutes (Rome)

It was noted that within section C of the Rome minutes that the prior General Assembly was held in 2003 and not 2001 as indicated. The General Secretary noted that the Minutes would be amended accordingly.

Tony Mitchell proposed that the Minutes be formally adopted. The proposal was seconded by David Emil Wickstrom.

(d) Election of Auditors

Peter Schoonderwoerd and Juul Mulder were elected as auditors of the Treasurer's report.

(e) Election of Electoral Officers

Freya Jarman-Ivens and Jean Dickson were elected as electoral officers and ballot counters.

2. Reports

(a) Chair's Report

Franco Fabbri noted the Executive's proposal to formally introduce a subset of Robert's Rules Of Order within the IASPM Rules of Procedure (explicit rules of order must be introduced as Robert's Rules of Order are not universally known); and the proposed clarification of rules by which voting by proxy can occur. The Chair briefly outlined branch membership levels and emphasised that no 'international' memberships should be calculated or available within local branch memberships as according to the Statutes, branches are created on the basis of existing international members, and not vice-versa. He then outlined the bibliographic database being hosted by the Istituto Interculturale di Studi Musicali Comparati della Fondazione Cini (directed by Giovanni Giuriati) and maintained by Giorgio Ercole in Italy.

The Chair's report was tabled with developments in Rules of Procedure, membership and databases proposed for action later in the meeting.

(b) Membership/Treasurer's Report

Michael Drewett outlined the state of IASPM's two bank accounts, and the problems in securing bank statements and cash transfers from the Liverpool-based bank as a Treasurer based in South Africa. The Treasurer proposed that the Executive investigate transferring the IASPM accounts to a bank better suited to its needs; and to also investigate a centralised membership payment system for all branches.

Anahid Kassabian noted from the floor that such proposals were listed for debate and voting later in the agenda and could not be voted on at this time.

A question arose as to whether a member could join two branches. The Chair stated that this was possible.

Julia Palacios inquired about the possibility of a member joining the Latin American branch and subsequently being eligible to be on all member lists. Franco Fabbri stated that this was

possible for an additional fee, as local or regional members lists are amongst the services provided by branches on the basis of an extra fee, which is customarily added to the standard IASPM membership subscription.

In auditing the Treasurer's report, Pieter Schoonderwoerd and Juul Mulder noted that there appeared to be an additional four members than those listed; and that the final bank balance in the sterling account was in error by thirteen pence. It was noted that this discrepancy could be due to different currency conversions; and has been rectified in the account statements (attached).

Emilio Mendoza asked how low and middle class income nations were defined. Geoff Stahl stated that IASPM used UN classifications to determine this.

Steve Waksman proposed that the report be formally accepted and this was seconded by Anahid Kassabian.

(c) General Secretary's Report

Shane Homan reiterated the Chair's assertion that the category of 'international member' should not be available at local branch levels. He then noted the proposal to formally include conference assistance within IASPM statutes.

Dan Bendrups proposed that the report be formally accepted and this was seconded by Jan Fairley.

(d) Web Report

Geoff Stahl noted the problems experienced with the internet site service provider, and the Executive's proposal for Carlo Nardi to be elected as the new Web officer in keeping with the intention to upgrade and improve the web site.

Carlos Icaza Perez proposed that the report be formally accepted and this was seconded by Tony Mitchell.

(e) IASPM Publications

© Conference Proceedings

Geoff Stahl apologised for the lengthy delay in the publication of both Montreal and Rome conference proceedings and cited ill health and the sheer size of the publications as the main reasons for the delay. He stated that the Executive proposes to seek editorial assistance from

within and outside the Executive to ensure both proceedings are published in the short term. Geoff briefly outlined a proposal from Cambridge Scholars to publish the Mexico City proceedings and stated that the Executive would investigate this further.

© Bibliographic Database

Franco Fabbri proposed a motion that the Executive be given a mandate from the membership to devote funds to updating information within the bibliographic database.

Claire A. Thornley proposed that the motion be accepted and this was seconded by Yrjo Heinonen.

© Online IASPM Journal

Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa outlined the Executive's proposal for the establishment of an online IASPM journal that would serve as a viable alternative to high priced academic journals, and as a truly international forum for members. Geoff Stahl stated that the Executive would function as the initial editorial board for the journal, with editorial work distributed to regional executive members who could then seek relevant expertise.

Tony Mitchell and Christopher Jones stated their support for the journal. Jan Fairley stated the need for representatives from different membership groups in order to deal with different languages. Geoff Stahl stated that the refereeing process would incorporate participants from different regions. Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa stated that online processes can allow the setting of faster deadlines for editors and writers. Rupert Till argued that the journal should encompass different disciplines and that a pool of editors was required for this. Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa stated that the Executive could utilise the membership database to cover different kinds of expertise. Anti-Ville Karja stated that all reviewers should be IASPM members.

The Chair proposed a motion that the Executive form an online journal editorial committee for that reflects the diversity of languages, regions, gender and disciplines within IASPM.

Motti Regev proposed that the motion be accepted and this was seconded by Tony Mitchell.

David Emil Wickstrom proposed that the Publications Report be accepted and this was seconded by Megan Evans.

3. Rules of Procedure

© Proxy Voting procedures

The Chair proposed two amendments to the Rules of Procedure, to include that stated in bold:

2.1.1 Individual and institutional members may vote at the General Meeting. Each is entitled to one vote. Those unable to attend may vote by proxy (see **paragraphs 2.1.3** and 2.1.4).

The Chair further proposed that the inclusion of the following in bold:

2.1.3 Institutional members shall be represented by delegates of their own choice, including delegates attending in their capacity as individual members. Individual members may be represented by other members of the Association if this representative produces a written and signed mandate before the electoral or voting procedure. **Each member attending the General Meeting cannot represent more than one institutional member and/or two non-attending members.**

Anahid Kassabian argued that the final sentence in relation to 2.1.3 should include “and” or “or”, but not both. It was agreed to simply go with “or.”

The Chair proposed a motion that the amendments to proxy voting procedures be approved.

Anti-Ville Karja proposed that the motion be accepted and this was seconded by Violeta Mayer.

⊙ Rules of Order

Having discussed Robert’s Rules earlier in the meeting, the Chair proposed a motion that the amendments to Rules of Order be approved.

David Emil Wickstrom proposed that the motion be accepted and this was seconded by Koos Zwaan.

⊙ Conference Assistance

The General Secretary outlined the Executive’s belief that assistance for conference attendance be formalised within the IASPM statutes.

Emilio Mendoza stated that section 3.9 privileging low and middle income countries in relation to conference funding assistance should be deleted, as this was a vague means of measuring need, and further discerned between poor and rich nations. Jan Fairley also queried the use of income levels as a measurement. Steve Waksman argued the need to retain section 3.9 as a means to cover regional differences. Anahid Kassabian stated that members in

low and middle income countries do not have the same access to employment and travel. Jan Fairley argued that difficulties may arise in measuring need. Christopher Jones argued that without formal rules, the Executive is left with too much guesswork, and that judgment can be made on an individual basis. The General Secretary stated that section 3.9 remained the best means of formalising assistance that was in the spirit of IASPM's desire to encourage participation from all regions. Emilio Mendoza restated his opposition to section 3.9.

The Chair proposed a vote in relation to section 3.9 being retained within the new amendments outlining conference assistance. The vote was carried in favour of retaining section 3.9, with 25 votes for and 11 votes against.

4. Book Award

The Chair reminded members of the tragic death of Vanessa Knights. In honour of Vanessa, the Chair proposed a motion that the IASPM award for Spanish books be named as the Vanessa Knights Book Award.

The motion was approved by an overwhelming majority of the floor and met with applause.

The Chair stated that the winners of the 2007 book award were:

- © Anne Danielson – *Presence & Pleasure: The Funk Grooves of James Brown and Parliament*. Middletown (CT): Wesleyan, 2006 (English award)
- © Manuel Monestel Ramirez – *Ritmo, canción e identidad: Una historia sociocultural del calypso limonense*. San José: EUNED/Editorial Universidad Estatal a Distancia, 2005 (Spanish award)

The Chair noted that the judges made special mention of:

- *Lee Marshall: Bootlegging: Copyright and Romanticism in the Music Industry* (Sage 2005)
- *Wendy Fonarow: Empire of Dirt: Aesthetics & Rituals of British Indie Music* (Wesleyan 2006)

The Chair thanked Juan Pablo González and Vincenzo Perna for their duties in relation to the book awards.

5. Next Conference Site

The Chair stated that the IPM staff in Liverpool had expressed an interest in hosting the 2009 conference.

Freya Jarman-Ivens spoke to the Liverpool bid on behalf of IPM. Freya outlined the transport logistics (John Lennon Airport and trains from London) and that accommodation was available close to the university and in the city centre. Freya also noted that Marion Leonard was working on a museum exhibition on music in Liverpool that would coincide with the conference. The date proposed for the conference was early July.

It was suggested that the conference could be held slightly earlier. Geoff King stated that July was a good time for Australian and New Zealand members.

The Chair proposed a motion that Liverpool be adopted as the site for the 2009 conference. The motion was carried by the majority, with one vote against.

6. Election of Executive

The Chair noted his intention to step down from the next Executive. Hillevi Ganetz stated that another woman was needed on the Executive to ensure greater gender balance. Jan Fairley inquired as to whether Vanessa Knights was a Member at Large; Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa stated that this position was filled by her after a vote at the last General Assembly. Jan Fairley stated that the current Executive were predominantly white, English speaking and male.

Steve Waksman stated that members did not receive the call for nominations and queried the benefit of three of the five Executive members as 'repeat nominees'. The Chair stated that a call for nominations did not occur as it should have and argued that continuity was required for executive positions, in particular the Treasurer position.

The Chair proposed a motion that the nominees for the new Executive Committee be accepted. Anahid Kassabian proposed that the motion be accepted and this was seconded by Koos Zwaan.

The following members were elected to the Executive Committee:

Chair: Geoff Stahl

General Secretary: Shane Homan

Membership Secretary/Treasurer: Michael Drewett

Web: Carlo Nardi

Member at Large: Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa

Franco Fabbri stepped down from the Chair position; Geoff Stahl took over as Chair of the meeting.

7. Motions Arising from Executive Report

⊙ Centralisation of payments

The Treasurer reinforced the need for a central payment system utilising credit cards.

The Chair proposed a motion that the Executive explore options to introduce a centralised payment system for membership fees. The vote was carried.

⊙ Bank options

The Treasurer restated his belief that the UK bank used by IASPM was not 'user friendly' for an organisation that changes the Treasurer role every few years, and among different regions. He also outlined the extra costs associated with contacting the bank from his location in South Africa

The Chair proposed a motion that the Executive explore options for the organisation to seek a bank better suited to its needs, incorporating ethical issues. The vote was carried.

⊙ Centralisation of database

The Chair noted ongoing issues with online registration and the previous discussion about the need to centralise information about branch numbers, membership and members' expertise.

The Chair proposed a motion that the Executive explore options to centralise database information. The vote was carried.

⊙ Membership fee changes

The Treasurer restated the current membership payment system: \$10 for low and middle income countries; \$20 for high income countries; and \$10 for unwaged members and student members.

The Treasurer argued that the unwaged should not have to pay a membership fee; and that a fee of \$20 applies to all other members.

The Chair proposed a motion that all waged members pay a fee of \$20; and that the membership fee for unwaged members be dropped. The vote was carried.

8. Other Business

Ales Opkar thanked the outgoing Executive Committee for their efforts.

The Chair suggested that all members be subscribed to an email list. Julia Palacios stated that if one was an international member, then they belonged to a list; if a member wished to join two branches, would they have to pay two sets of fees, and remain on two email lists? Franco Fabbri stated that members don't pay twice; that the local fee should incorporate the international fee subscription.

Julia Palacios stated that was some unwaged Latin American members might wish to be an IASPM individual member and be part of the IASPM list. The Chair suggested that in this case they are entitled to join the IASPM list only. The Treasurer noted confusion about membership rules, and that people had been turned down as members because they weren't from a particular region. He restated that it was up to individuals to choose their membership branch.

Franco Fabbri thanked Julia Palacios and the Universidad Iberoamericana collaborators represented by Guadalupe Sánchez for hosting the conference and her work with the Executive. Julia thanked all members for attending and received a round of applause from the floor.

The new Chair closed the meeting at 7.50 p.m.

Shane Homan
General Secretary

IASPM Treasurer/Membership Secretary Report 2005-2007

Prepared by Michael Drewett June 2007

Financial Report

Notes

1. The period covered in this report is from 31 May 2005 – 31 May 2007. The last treasurer's report covered the period up to 31 May 2005.
2. IASPM runs two accounts – a main US dollar account and a subsidiary sterling account. The maintenance of the sterling account is a requirement of the dollar account but, as pointed out by the previous treasurer, has proved useful for the payment of IASPM Office expenses, although now that RPM is no longer being printed, this is no longer a serious factor. The dollar account and sterling accounts are presented separately. Branch subscriptions are requested in US dollars with the exception of the UK and Ireland branch subscription which is paid in pounds sterling.
3. The handing over of the treasurer's position from a UK-based treasurer to one based in South Africa resulted in a number of difficulties which in some instances took approximately 22 months to sort out. Although Michael Drewett visited the Co-Op Bank in Liverpool to personally oversee the change over, the bank needed the change of signatory form to be signed by existing signatories, the new treasurer and the branch Chair, which involved posting the form around the globe before the bank would accept it. Even then the bank delayed the process by over six months with requests for additional information and clarification. At one point the executive questioned whether we should remain with the Co-Op bank, given that, as a small national bank, it does not have the necessary resources to enable effortless international banking. However, the bank's ethical policy is extremely sound, which is a relevant factor. Furthermore, although cumbersome, we now have established a system which allows for fairly speedy international banking, albeit frustrating at times. An important note for future executives: if we are adding new signatories, or removing previous ones, we need to organise this at the IASPM conference with the members present. This will involve completing the necessary change of signatory form in person at the conference.
4. The present executive would like to acknowledge Marion Leonard's efforts in assisting with this very frustrating process. As a result of the delay, Marion ended up acting as a co-treasurer well into the new treasurer's term. This involved a certain amount of self-sacrifice for which we are very appreciative.

5. Branch subscriptions are paid for the previous calendar year. Subscription requests are sent out in the second quarter but can take several months (and even longer) to arrive from some branches. The figures in this report relate to payments for subscriptions covering payments for 2004 and 2005 (by those branches who made them).

US Dollar Account		Sterling Account	
Opening balance	\$12,598-	Opening balance	£1,311-07
44		(31 May 2005)	
(31 May 2005)			
Income		Income	
Branch subscriptions	\$13,358-	Branch subscriptions	£1,901-
92		65	
Subscriptions by individuals	\$ 155-	Subscriptions from individuals	£ 54-
41		89	
Interest	\$ 1,118-82	Interest and credits	£ 167-
		12	
Total Income	\$14,633-15	Total Income	£2,123-66
Expenditure		Expenditure	
EC Travel Expenses	\$13308-72	RPM Printing	£
Bank charges	\$ 582-54	475-00	
		Postage	£ 15-80
		EC Travel Expenses	£ 570-00
Total Expenditure	\$13891-26	Total Expenditure	£1,060-80
Income – Expenditure	+ \$ 741-	Income – Expenditure	+ £1,062-86
89			
Closing balance	\$13,340-33	Closing balance	£2,373-93
(31 May 2007)		(31 May 2007)	

Expenses to come include about half of conference travel and accommodation costs for the executive committee. No branches have paid their 2006 subscriptions and some branches still need to pay subscriptions for 2005.

IASPM Membership Details 2007

Branch subscriptions and membership lists are requested in the second quarter each year. The figures below are taken from the latest available membership lists. Not every branch has forwarded updated membership details and so the figures should therefore be seen as approximate. In fact IASPM needs to improve the system of recording membership so that it is done centrally. The present system does not allow for current membership numbers to be calculated.

Australia and New Zealand	42
Benelux	24
Canada	64
Francophone	23
Italy	34
Japan	63
Korea	15
Latin America	274
Norden	28
South Africa	7
Spain	30
UK and Ireland	91
United States	340
Individual members	70
Total	1101

Branches

A complete lack of correspondence over the past two years (and lack of payments) seems to suggest that the Bulgarian, Slovenian and Turkish branches are no longer operating. Since the last conference a South African branch has been started, although it is in its very embryonic stages.

Individual Members

There are approximately 70 individual members from countries where no IASPM branch exists. Not all of these members are currently paid up, which is why the number is only an

approximate. The cost of transferring money by individual members is expensive, so members are encouraged to take out a two-year subscription to IASPM and if payment is made at the conference, costs can be further reduced. We now have individual members in countries including Bahrain, China, Croatia, Czech republic, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Iran, Israel, Kenya, Lithuania, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Uganda and Yugoslavia.

Recommendations

- We urgently need to set up a centralised system of membership whereby individuals enter their membership details and pay via credit card on the homepage and on completion of the transaction their membership details are immediately entered onto the IASPM data base and their membership of the IASPM list is confirmed. At present most of this is done manually and is not practical or efficient. Sometimes individual requests for membership slip between the cracks if e-mails are mislaid or are not delivered. It is also problematic that people who are not paid up members continue to access the IASPM list. Members should also be provided with a user name and password which allows them access to an electronic version of RPM.
- The option of renewing membership for longer periods than a year in order to reduce credit card costs should be allowed.
- To encourage membership only members of IASPM should be allowed to present papers at the IASPM conference.