

## **IASPM Executive Committee Skype meeting**

**20<sup>th</sup> of September 2015**

### **Present:**

**Goffredo Plastino (Chair) GP**

**Ann Werner (Member at-large) AW**

**Ed Montano (Webmaster) EM**

**Jacopo Conti (Membership secretary) JC**

**Emilia Barna (Treasurer) EB**

**Sue Miller (Secretary) SM**

### **Absent:**

**Julio Mendivil**

Committee members each gave individual reports as follows:

#### **1. AW**

She is the new member at-large from the Swedish branch of IASPM and has taken over from Sara Jansson to ensure that IASPM conforms to Swedish IRS regarding tax and registration of IASPM as an NGO (exempt from tax). She contacted the Swedish IRS to inform them of the change of contact information. Tax exemption remains in place until 2017. She has sent in papers confirming her election onto the Executive a month ago, following to phone conversations with them. She provided proof of identity and election by printed screenshot, together with documentation and proof of her ID, and has not heard anything further: however, everything seems to be fine, at the moment.

#### **2. EB**

Emilia has sent documents signed in Campinas to the bank and has not heard back anything indicating all has been sorted. She has been liaising with Laura Jordán and Violeta Mayer: LJ will forward any bank documents sent to her. The contact address and change of signatory to Emilia has been undertaken.

One issue is that of the refund of conference expenses, to be received from the organising committee of the Campinas conference: this payment is still outstanding but EB thinks this issue will be resolved soon.

GP asked EB to forward any formation on the outstanding payment and then he will write to the former organising committee.

EB also highlighted an issue with the IASPM Turkish branch. They have traditionally collected their membership fees every two years. At the end of 2013 the branch had 10 members but only eight in 2014: we then have two years membership fees from eight members as a result.

GP and EB will email a request that the branch pays every year in future, to avoid such anomalies.

### 3. Jacopo Conti (JC)

JC reported no problems. He has been in touch with Laura Jordán and started working on the list serve and mailing list, unsubscribing those whose memberships have lapsed since 2012. He now has full access to the list and has been checking defunct email addresses and removing them. Issues with the New Zealand and Italian lists have now been resolved and LJ has been liaising with him to help with this.

He is now in full control of the list and will continue to update it, but has not heard from Liverpool (Rob Strachan) regarding the list maintenance.

GP asked the EC for ideas as to how to improve the membership subscription process. Could subscribing and unsubscribing be made less cumbersome?

SM noted that some suggestions at the Campinas Chairs meeting and AGM were put forward, including one suggestion for membership page that had links to local branches and also to the Treasurer and Chair of each branch. EM observed that these links went out of date very quickly. GP said that after circulating the Chairs and AGM minutes action will be taken on this issue.

### 4. Ed Montano

EM stated that the website hosting was due for renewal soon and that it will need to be paid by PayPal - a simple transaction needed in four weeks time to be actioned by EB.

### 5. Sue Miller

SM stated that the minutes from the four hour Campinas AGM would need a few revisions particularly in terms of names of IASPM members from the audience (as not all respondents gave their names and some got lost in the acoustics of the room and of the PA monitors). The minutes will be circulated soon by GP for any amendments from the old and new EC.

### 6. Goffredo Plastino

GP said he would ask Jan Hemming for conference dates soon as other internal and external deadlines are dependent on them. Regarding Kassel 2017, the academic committee will need to be set up, with no members of the EC directly involved in it. He asked EC members to put forward names, bearing in mind an equal distribution of gender and branches, along with the suggestion for an AC chair. Conference theme; this has to be decided within the Executive Committee, considering all suggestions.

GP asked EM about the use of the open conference system used in Spain for submission of abstracts, and how it compares to this year's conference of emailed abstracts and dropbox access to the academic committee. EM stated that the open conference system was very cumbersome but had the advantage of being stepped one the publication of online proceedings. However many members were confused by the OC system and had problems uploading abstracts. In Gijon 2013 abstracts accepted for the conference were then copied and pasted into a Word document and sent to the local organising committee. GP commented that this was therefore not at all a time-saving endeavour. SM asked if there were any better online conference systems; if not abstracts should be sent from the AC to the local OC and then from then on the OC should decide how to organise any online systems for conference management.

GP reported that he had not heard back from Liverpool regarding issues related to the list management, and to the IPM. Questions about the IPM were raised at the Campinas AGM, including the issue of whether the EC should intervene when IASPM members or institutions are experiencing difficulties. He noted the need for background information before starting any official correspondence on such issues.

EB stated that confidentiality or diplomacy may be the reason GP has not heard back as yet from any academic staff who are IASPM members in Liverpool. They may also just be busy at present.

GP stated that there were also other issues being discussed in the Italian branch of IASPM, but that he was awaiting to be involved formally as IASPM Chair.

AOB: none