

## **Report of the IASPM Executive Committee in preparation of the General Meeting in Gijón (27 June 2013)**

Dear IASPM members,

As the IASPM biennial conference in Gijón, Spain is approaching, I am pleased to report that the Executive Committee has had a very productive two years. While the General Assembly will have the opportunity to evaluate the work done and discuss the interventions necessary to ensure further development and improvement of the Association, we would like to outline for our fellow members major goals achieved and problematic areas identified. I also take this chance to announce that, for the sake of transparency, the minutes of the meetings of the Executive are available at this URL:

<http://www.iaspm.net/executive/>

### **Web and Publications**

Firstly, I would like to thank the rest of the executive committee for their support and guidance over the past two years, my first term as Web/Publications Officer for the International branch. I would particularly like to acknowledge the time and effort Carlo Nardi has devoted to assisting with several web-related issues and activity. In regard to this, some of the things we have successfully completed over the past two years include the online publication of the Liverpool and Grahamstown conference proceedings (the former edited by Geoff Stahl and the latter co-edited by Carlo and I) - a task that was enhanced by the excellent layout work and assistance of Jacopo Tomatis. We also thank David Cashman for his assistance in the formatting of the Liverpool proceedings.

An issue that needs resolving relates to the current server that IASPM uses for its online presence (website, journal, conference proceedings). Our current arrangements provide us with only a certain amount of space, and this is resulting in slow response times for some users when attempting to access the website and the journal. Some users of the journal have reported delays when trying to download files, and this is causing issues for the editorial team, delaying the editorial process in some cases.

To solve this, we need a faster server. Initial discussion on this topic has explored the possibility of getting an institution to host the journal (and possibly the website as well). Any expressions of interest and offers of assistance from members are welcomed.

Another solution would be to pay for a dedicated server on our web host, which would amount to around \$1000 a year.

This issue needs to be addressed as soon as possible by the incoming executive committee.

Having received many hours of guidance from Carlo in regard to the systems he implemented for IASPM's web presence, I feel that it would be a waste of the time both of us have invested for me to move on from my role on the exec after only two years. This is why I have put myself forward for a second term, and if successful in being elected, I look forward to working with the next exec. I also believe my continuation will help to ensure a smooth transition between the current exec and the new exec.

*Ed Montano, IASPM Web/Publications Officer*

## **IASPM 2011 Proceedings**

Ed Montano and Carlo Nardi edited the Grahamstown Proceedings and Jacopo Tomatis, as Layout Editor, has assisted throughout. As compared to previous conferences and in relation to the number of delegates (104), we received a significant number of contributions (42). We also included five papers from previous conferences that were left out by mistake. On the suggestion of Martha Ulh a, we used Open Conference System, a free publishing tool that has actually been conceived for conferences but that we adapted for the purpose of editing the proceedings. Possibly, this has been a crucial factor leading to this positive result, together with the ISSN registration for IASPM Proceedings, the registration of DOIs for each single item and the care in verifying that each delegate was invited to submit his or her paper.

However, there have been some complications, including proofreading of English language for non-native speakers, sharing of editing tasks (unfortunately, not every author has been collaborative enough in this regard) and peer-review. It is worth noting that Jacopo has worked tirelessly on the layout, smoothing out any incongruence in the referencing style, and Ed has been encumbered with the additional task of proofreading. For the future, we need to find a more efficient way to work, as the editors should not be charged with the entire formatting and spelling work.

Regarding peer review, we have implemented a two-step, open peer-review process. The limited resources available (the two editors were also the only reviewers) and the impossibility to adopt a double-blind reviewing process (conference papers are public anyway), thwarted our effort, at least up to a point. In fact, most academic audit procedures do not recognise this kind of reviewing process. Nevertheless, we still hope that the adoption of a scrupulous, albeit rudimentary process of review has been instrumental in ensuring a high level of quality.

## **Book Prize**

The IASPM 2013 Book Prize committee, chaired by Franco Fabbri, has been established (thanks Franco for all the work). There were five nominations for the English-language category and two for the non-English one (in French and Portuguese). Considering the number of books and the need to have a solid and diverse body of evaluators, a jury of eight members was composed. Authors were asked to request their publishers to send books in digital format (PDF) to all jurors, and one physical copy to Gij n (to be exhibited at the conference and later donated to the Universidad de Oviedo, IASPM 17th Conference Host). A full report will be presented by IASPM 2013 Book Prize chair, Franco Fabbri, at the GM in Gij n.

## **IASPM Branches**

During the two-year period of this executive, a German-speaking branch of IASPM (IASPM D-A-CH) was formed in 2012, the abbreviation D-A-CH representing the countries Germany (D), Austria (A) and Switzerland (CH). IASPM D-A-CH acts as a bridge between German- and non-German speaking scholars within the field of popular music. A cornerstone in the branch's activities is to facilitate international and interdisciplinary networking among German- and non-German speaking scholars within the field of popular music.

The officers of IASPM D-A-CH are:

- Chair: Susanne Binas-Preisend rfer

- General Secretary: Oliver Seibt
- Membership Secretary / Treasurer: Kerstin Klenke
- Web / Publications: David-Emil Wickström
- National Representative, Germany: Maria Hanáček
- National Representative, Austria: Anja Brunner
- National Representative, Switzerland: Thomas Burkhalter
- Conference Coordinator: Immanuel Brockhaus
- Advisory board: Jan Hemming, Christoph Jacke, Julio Mendívil, Jens Gerrit Papenburg, Sandra Passaro.

The Executive warmly welcomes the new Branch to the community!

Unfortunately, the branches from Portugal and Bulgaria were dissolved; some members have adopted individual membership or have joined other IASPM branches.

### **Copyright Committee**

Over the past few years several contributions and insights have been collected in order to establish IASPM's position on issues concerning the problematic relationship between copyright and academic work. Although a commission has yet to be formed, Héctor Fouce, IASPM Member at Large, will present a report to the General Assembly to highlight the main points for a general discussion. After that, the GM will decide the next steps and working guidelines.

### **IASPM 2013 Conference in Gijón, Spain, 24-28 June 2013**

IASPM 2013 conference used OCS (Open Conference System) to publicise the CFP and to submit, organise and review the abstracts. This system worked quite well at this stage, but it caused several problems in the communication with participants. In fact, many of the emails sent through the system did not arrive correctly, mostly due to strict firewall barriers in the participants' email servers. Also, several applicants registered with accounts that they use very infrequently, which contributed further to the poor communication.

The conference budget included travel and accommodation expenses of the IASPM executive and keynote speakers. Thus, IASPM was able to allocate more money for funding partners' expenses, offering twenty-four grants out of fifty applications.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Executive Committee, Martha Ulhôa, Carlo Nardi, Héctor Fouce, Laura Jordán and Ed Montano, convenors of the five streams of the conference, who have done a great work structuring the topics of the conference and dealing with the more than 500 submissions we received. Unfortunately, there have been also several withdrawals, most of which are due to financial problems (I guess the international crisis has had something to do with this).

I would also like to thank the members of the Scientific Committee, Celsa Alonso, Shelley Brunt, Claire Levy, Rubén López Cano, Alejandro L. Madrid, Robert Strachan and Nabeel Zuberi, who have helped the Executive Committee in the reviewing process. And, of course, the support of the members of the Spanish branch of IASPM, SIBE - Sociedad de Etnomusicología, the collaboration of Espora SL (conference management), Gijón council and the members of the organization committee, all of them PhDs from the Department of Musicology at the University of Oviedo, for their commitment with the conference from the very beginning and for their excellent work.

*Eduardo Viñuela, Conference Host*

## **Bids for the Next IASPM Conference**

Currently the Executive Committee has received one bid for the IASPM 2015 Conference from UNICAMP, the Universidade de Campinas (Campinas, São Paulo state, Brazil). It is being mediated by IASPM AL longstanding member, Eduardo Paiva. At the GM other bids may be put forward.

On behalf of IASPM - branche francophone d'Europe, Catherine Rudent of the Université de Paris-Sorbonne contacted Martha Ulhôa, IASPM chair, showing their desire that Paris could be the location for one of the next international IASPM conferences. Further contact clarified that this could be in 2017, since, by tradition, IASPM 2015 should be held somewhere outside of Europe.

## **Nominations for the IASPM Executive Committee**

We have received one or more nominations for each position, as listed below. Current nominees (in alphabetical order) are:

### Chair

- Franco Fabbri (nominated by Vincenzo Perna and Goffredo Plastino)
- Philip Tagg (nominated by Christopher Ballantine, Jacopo Conti and Franco Fabbri)
- Goffredo Plastino (nominated by Philip Tagg and Jacopo Tomatis)

### General Secretary

- Sue Miller (nominated by Julio Mendivil and Philip Tagg)
- Goffredo Plastino (nominated by Tōru Mitsui, Dafni Tragaki and Sílvia Martínez)

### Treasurer

- Laura Francisca Jordán González (nominated by Michael Drewett and Geoff Stahl)

### Membership Secretary

- Alejandro Madrid (nominated by María Mercedes Liska and Herom Vargas Silva)

### Web/Publications Officer

- Ed Montano (nominated by Shelley Brunt and Ian Rogers)

### Member at Large

- Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa (nominated by Alessandro Bratus and Hillegonda C. Rietveld)
- Sara Jansson (nominated by Anahid Kassabian and Nick Prior)

Four members of the current Executive Committee are prepared to stand for re-election. Of these, Laura Francisca Jordán González is willing to commit her time and experience gained as Membership Secretary for a new mandate as Treasurer. Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa and Ed Montano are also willing to renew their efforts and enthusiasm to ensure continuity in the activities of IASPM, as Member at Large and Web/Publications Officer, respectively. Sara Jansson has given her availability to serve as Member at Large without Executive duties for another term in response to the requirement that at least one member of the executive committee be resident in Sweden.

On the other hand, Héctor Fouce would like to step down and, nonetheless, carry on the work for the Copyright Committee. Violeta Mayer, after two terms which have proven extremely beneficial for the Association thanks to her expertise in organisational and financial matters, is also stepping down.

After six memorable years, in which I (Carlo Nardi) have become somewhat

accustomed to the most disparate matters—from fixing obscure database errors to enjoying the hospitality of IASPMites around the globe—I will step down, too. I would like to thank IASPM members for allowing me to serve first in the role as Web/Publications Officer and then as General Secretary and the current and previous executive members for their guidance and support.

Given the fact that Philip Tagg and Franco Fabbri have declined their nomination as IASPM Chair, and that Goffredo Plastino was pleased to accept the nomination as Chair, the current Executive Committee advances the following nominations for the next Executive Committee:

#### Chair

- Goffredo Plastino (nominated by Philip Tagg and Jacopo Tomatis)

#### General Secretary

- Sue Miller (nominated by Julio Mendívil and Philip Tagg)

#### Treasurer

- Laura Francisca Jordán González (nominated by Michael Drewett and Geoff Stahl)

#### Membership Secretary

- Alejandro Madrid (nominated by María Mercedes Liska and Herom Vargas Silva)

#### Web/Publications Officer

- Ed Montano (nominated by Shelley Brunt and Ian Rogers)

#### Member at Large

- Martha Tupinambá de Ulhôa (nominated by Alessandro Bratus and Hillegonda C. Rietveld)
- Sara Jansson (nominated by Anahid Kassabian and Nick Prior)

I remind our members that the voting procedure is described in the Rules of Procedure page of the IASPM website:

<http://www.iaspm.net/rules/>

### **Motions to Change the Statutes and Rules of Procedure**

Mostly in the light of ongoing transformation in technology and the media industry, Philip Tagg proposes the following changes to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure:

- Statutes §3.3 [content issue]

“disseminating information about popular music studies through the publication of a bulletin and by other means;”

*should read:*

“disseminating information about popular music studies;”

- Statutes §9.3.1 [typo]

“the Executive Committee admits new members, accredits Branch Committees, and between General Meetings, controls the execution of programmes;”

*contains a misplaced comma and should read:*

“the Executive Committee admits new members, accredits Branch Committees and, between General Meetings, controls the execution of programmes;”

- Statutes §10. [content issue]

§10.1 In order to support the administration of the association, the Executive Committee can propose to the General Meeting:

- a. to establish an office; or
- b. to come to an agreement with another institution for IASPM's administration.

*This entire section should be deleted.*

- Rules of Procedure §2.1.1 - §2.1.2 [content issue]

§2.1.2 "Supporting members may be present at the General Meeting in a non-voting, advisory capacity."

*should be deleted and §2.1.1 should read:*

"Members of the Association may vote at the General Meeting. Each is entitled to one vote. Those unable to attend may vote by proxy."

*§2.1.3, 2.1.4., 2.1.5 should be renumbered §2.1.2, 2.1.3., 2.1.4.*

- Rules of Procedure §6. [content issue]

"One copy of every branch publication should automatically forwarded, without charge, to the current holder of the international IASPM archives period. Minimally, these should include newsletters, conference programmes, abstract books, and proceedings period."

*should read:*

"It is the responsibility of each branch organisation to provide the current holder of the international IASPM archives with any document relating directly to the branch's activities. Such documents include newsletters and calls for papers, as well as conference programmes, abstracts and proceedings. If any such document is published in hard copy, one such copy should be forwarded, without charge, to the current holder of the international IASPM archives."

We look forward to seeing you in Gijón.

Best regards,

Carlo Nardi, IASPM General Secretary (14 June 2013)