

IASPM EC Minutes (Meeting III)

February 15, 2018

Meeting of the Executive Committee, February 15, 2018 (9pm ECT), held by videoconference (Skype)

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

1- TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

First of all, the doubt arose whether the approval of previous EC meetings should be part of the agenda. Marta observes that there is a page on the IASPM website where the minutes of previous EC meetings are published and can be downloaded. We agreed that the procedure to approve the minutes should be: the General Secretary writes a first draft and sends it to all EC members; amendments and comments will be made by e-mail; the General Secretary draws up a definitive version of the minutes and sends it to the rest of the EC; if there are no further amendments, the minutes are considered approved; and they will be published on the website.

2 - WEBSITE PROBLEMS

The website has been inaccessible for weeks due to a hacker attack. KK is trying to find a solution to unlock it. In the event this is not successful, a new website would have to be designed, and the contents of the damaged page should be transferred. MGQ says that there is enough money in the treasury to hire a professional to solve the problem. The EC considered that solving technical problems is not among the tasks of the webmaster. We agreed for KK to seek professional help to urgently solve the blocking of the website.

In order not to further delay the setting up of the conference website, we suggested that AVK should talk to the LOC and propose the creation of an independent website for the conference, one which could be linked to the main website once technical problems have been solved.

3 - IASPM 2019-CANBERRA CONFERENCE

Deadline

The deadlines we agreed upon at the previous meeting have become obsolete. As EC we are acting too slowly and the organization of the Canberra conference is therefore suffering. We proposed a new work schedule, with the following dates:

- First CFP: 15th MARCH
- First deadline for abstracts: June 1
- Extended deadline for abstracts: June 17, 2018
- Accepted proposals: end of September 2018

Conference Title

The conference title needed to be discussed and we accept AVK's idea, sent by email: "Multipolar studies of popular music". This was agreed by all, but it needs to be complemented with a subtitle. It is urgent to decide on a suitable subtitle and the possible streams. In order to collect ideas from the LOC chairs, AVK is in contact with Samantha and Catherine. We agreed to discuss this question by e-mail among the members of the EC, to include the ideas contributed by the LOC, and to close the debate on February 28 at the latest

Formats

Regarding conference formats, MGQ proposed discussing formats and alternative procedures, e.g. the possibility of sharing papers before the conference. AVK comments on a very successful model in which PhD students discuss presented papers. Another idea could be that senior scholars discuss the papers shared in advance. JM argues that having the papers ready, presentations become more agile and fresh. These ideas should be discussed with the LOC. We agree to offer diversified formats: single papers, posters, audiovisual sessions, panels, symposia.

Academic Committee

The most urgent task is to send invitation letters to candidates to the AC, a task that should be completed by the Chair. We agreed that JM should immediately send the invitation letter drafted by MGQ to all candidates. SM will help collect the e-mail addresses of all candidates to the AC, and send them to JM this same week. Regarding the composition of the AC, MGQ proposed the inclusion of Isabella Pek, Chair of the newly established Southeast Asian branch, instead of Hyunjoon Shin, from IASPM Korea, who was part of the AC of the Kassel conference. The proposal was approved.

4 - 2021 CONFERENCE PROPOSALS

JM explains that Goffredo Plastino forwarded to him a request from the University of Oslo, Norway, to organize the 2021 conference. At Kassel the option of Paris was also informally commented. We should write to those who made the Oslo proposal and notify them that the EC will announce a call for next conferences in September 2018. JM will do it in the coming weeks.

5- BEIJING-3rd ICTM JOINT FORUM

Due to the few proposals received, it was decided to extend the deadline from the end of January to February 15. We have received fewer proposals than expected: a total of 5 abstracts.

We agreed to constitute an evaluation committee formed by AVK, JM and SM. In the next 48 hours they will evaluate proposals and decide which of them to approve for presentation in the Forum. The moment the selection has been made, SM will immediately let ICTM organisers know the list of accepted participants.

In addition to the accepted participants, it was agreed that JM, as Chair, should attend the Forum as IASPM institutional representative.

6 - BANK ACCOUNT UPDATE

MGQ summarizes the outrageous situation that we have been experiencing with the name change for signatories of our Co-Operative Bank account. The original required documentation that the bank requested was sent, and several e-mail messages have been sent asking for confirmation of receipt, but without any response from the bank. We did not get confirmation of receipt of the documentation nor the procedure for changing signatures. MGQ has sent various e-mails and made phone calls calling for a solution. At a certain point the bank reported that the documentation sent had disappeared; a few days later they communicated that these very documents had been found; and they promised to process the change of signatories as soon as possible, etc. But to date, this still has not happened. Since the bank does not offer any guarantee or credibility, MGQ proposes closing this account and opening another one with a more reliable bank.

AVK suggested opening a new account in a Finnish bank. MGQ and AVK will communicate with each other after this meeting to study the possibilities and conditions for opening an account in Finland.

MGQ reported on continuing problems in managing our PayPal account, due to limitations imposed by PayPal. We can receive funds and check the extract and movements, but we cannot transfer the money deposited on it to our bank account, nor make any payments. The account is still linked to the name and data of the former treasurer Violeta Mayer, who MGQ has tried to contact through Laura Jordán, who served as former treasurer after Violeta, in order to recover the money deposited in PayPal. MGQ will continue working to solve this.

7 - NEW BRANCH "SOUTHEAST ASIA"

JC and MGQ reported the creation of a new IASPM branch, the "Southeast Asian branch" (SEA), chaired by Isabella Peck.