

## **Executive Committee Meeting, Badia Fiesolana, 2 February 2004**

EC members present: Annette Bongardt; Carlo Spagnolo; Francisco Torres; Milica Uvalić.

Observers: Co-Treasurer: Brigitte Schwab; EUI Alumni Officer: Valérie Coppini. Venue: Badia Fiesolana, Sala Seminario 1. Absence justified of Amy Verdun in Canada, with whom the EC was in touch via the speaker phone. The EC met from 10.00 to 17.00.

1. Letter of condolences signed for Leo Schulte Nordholt for the passing away of his wife, fellow alumna Anna Papaioannou. The EC empowered the Secretary and the Alumni Officer to write and sign a letter of condolence in order to react promptly to any similar, unfortunate events; the Treasurer was given a mandate to pay for flowers in these cases without having to ask for a previous authorization by the EC.
2. 2003 budget and Treasurer issues. The EC approved the Co-Treasurer's proposal to adopt simple forms for mission requests by EC members, explaining in advance purpose, dates and place of mission. This procedure conforms to standard EUI rules and increases transparency. The EC welcomed the Treasurer report on the accomplished procedures for her empowerment with respect to the EC banking account. The Treasurer reimbursed expenditures incurred by EC members in the year 2003. The Treasurer informed then the EC on the final budget for the year 2003 and 2004, which will be soon sent to the EUI Administration together with the Annual report on activities.
3. Discussion of e-voting in the EC on the basis of the Secretary's memorandum. E-voting was definitely approved. Small changes may be undertaken after some experience in its operation;
4. Alumni prize to interdisciplinary and comparative theses: The EC discussed at length the criteria for appointing a scientific Jury. The Jury will be composed of five persons, four of whom represent a discipline each of one of the EUI Departments while the fifth will be the Chairman. The Chairman must be an outstanding scholar with recognized interdisciplinary experience. The EC will appoint the Jury, which will be independent in its judgement. The Jury will scrutinize two to three theses per department, submitted by the EUI departments. It remained open whether they should be selected among those of the past two or four years. The prize will be about 3.000 Euros. The EC estimates an additional cost of about 2000 Euros for the Jury, with a fee of about 400 Euro per jury member. It was left unclear whether this sum should cover also meetings and trips or whether additional financing should be considered. The EC should start thinking of possible names for the Jury: candidates should anyway be outside the present teaching staff of the EUI and be excellent scholars of their field;
5. Next meeting: to be convened in late June, for convocation of next General Assembly (3 months before) and preparation of the presentation of AA conference proceedings and other on-going alumni affairs;
6. News about conference proceedings: the publication of 200 copies of the proceedings for internal distribution was approved. A commercial publishing house has been contacted by the editors;
7. Other possible meetings: social events may be promoted in June and October. The EC will discuss this issue further via email and in the next meeting;
8. EUI AA magnetic cards and alumni accounts. The first cards will be ready by mid-February (they need a decision on the AA logo and await for some missing photos) this information shall be advertised in the Alumni Web pages;
9. Housing Exchange – The EC approved in principle the expense of \$150 to set up an external service for Housing exchange. An inquiry has been conducted by Robert Danziger to find a convenient and professional service. Additional current annual expenses include \$300 for

- managing the service and \$15 for individual subscriptions; the extent to which they will be supported by the AA shall be further discussed by the EC per e-mail;
10. EUI on-line community – The EC took note of the progress done in this area and of the good collaboration between the AA and the on-line community (the AA housing exchange programme to be open to all EUI on-line community members);
  11. EC archive. The EC agreed to set up an internal archive of the AA. There should be an historical archive and a current one including e-mails. The Secretary has been asked to find an archivist in Florence able to set it up and reorder the old papers of the Association. A sum of 700 Euros has been estimated for the job (20 Euro/hour x 35 hours). It was also decided to have a list of all past AA Presidents as well as of all past EC members; a first draft – to be completed ASAP - was made during the meeting with the help of Brigitte Schwab.
  12. Decision on the AA Logo. The opinions expressed by AA members via Web have been taken into account. The EC has decided to ask for some changes in one of the proposed logos in order to decide definitely by speedily (for the cards and EUI book cover to have green light);
  13. Statute revision. The Vice President and the Secretary sent a letter to previous EC members asking for their proposals, experience and advice on Statute reform.
  14. 16:15 – 16:30 h.: Amy Verdun was called on the phone and informed about the meeting. She gave her assent to the decisions taken;
  15. The EC decided to ask President Mény for considering an increase of the annual contribution.

#### Other Meetings:

- 1) President Yves Mény, h. 17.30-18.00 – The EC exposed its future programmes to Prof. Mény who gave his advice on the set up of the Alumni prize in particular, suggesting to award it only to theses of the last two years. After EC request, President Mény agreed that the EUI annual contribution was over the last years actually reduced by the loss of the Alumni Shop revenues and by inflation. Considering positively the EC efforts since 2002, President Mény decided to double the EUI annual contribution to the AA. Prof. Mény also informed the EC on possible future initiatives for job placement of EUI Alumni. Finally he suggested that some social and scientific initiative of the AA might coincide with the next Conferring Ceremony, for which a large audience is expected;
- 2) Brigitte Schwab – Alumni prize, treasurer matters, EUI review.