

Minutes of the DHST Council meeting
Barcelona, November 21, 2010

Venue: Institut d'Estudis Catalans

Present: Paolo Brenni (1st Vice-President), Michael Osborne (2nd Vice-President), Efthymios Nicolaidis (Secretary General), Catherine Jami (Treasurer), Karine Chemla (Assistant Secretary General), Anna Barahona (Member), Frank James (Member), Annette Vogt (Member), Fabio Bevilacqua (Webmaster)..

The President Liu Dun and Past President Ronald Numbers send their excuses to not be able to attend the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Paolo Brenni, 1st Vice-President.

Paolo Brenni welcomed the participants and opened the session.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved.

2. Secretary General's report

(See document attached).

E. Nicolaidis read his report.

Following last years DHST policy to bring together history of science societies from as many countries as possible, a lunch has been organized with representatives of the societies who attended the European Society for the History of Science (ESHS) conference, November 2010, in Barcelona. Were present at the lunch:

Helge Kragh (Denmark), Bettina Waring (Germany), Monica Rius (Spain-Catalogna), Sally Horrocks (UK), Aleksandar Petrovic (Serbia), Peter Schuster (Austria), Emilia Calvo (Spain), Lodewijk Palm (Netherlands), Heloisa Bertol Domingues (Brazil), Romualdas Sviedrys (Baltic States), Fabio Bevilacqua (Italy) and the members of the Council Michael Osborne (USA), Ana Barahona (Mexico), Catherine Jami (France), Karine Chemla (France) and Efthymios Nicolaidis (Greece).

Discussing the secretary general's report, the Council pointed out that all Commissions should have an updated website.

Fabio Bevilacqua remarked that all Commissions should have a website giving room for members' activities. For example, Teaching Commission which is very active and has a worldwide network should be encouraged to provide information about what happens on this field.

3. Treasurer's report

(See document attached).

Catherine Jami explained that DHST has now an account in Paris and presented the accounts of 2010 and the budget for 2011. The balance shows an expected surplus of \$ 72,464.00 for the end of 2011.

4 Financial requests for 2011 and reports for 2010 of DHST Commissions.

The Council discussed the financial requests of the Commissions for 2011, in relation with the reports of activity the commissions have sent and also the financial reports for the spending of 2010 grants (see documents attached)

14 Commissions have sent a report, some of them very detailed. These 14 Commissions have also applied for a grant. All requests have been accepted. The total amount allocated for 2011 is \$20,900 (see document attached).

It has been decided that the secretary general will ask INHIGEO to itemise their application for funds. He will also ask a financial report to ICH Mathematics for the money spent in 2010.

It has been also decided that the secretary general asks news from commissions that have not sent a report for two consecutive years.

In order to save money, due to transfer expenses, the Treasurer will ask the National Committees of the Euro zone to send their fee in Euro currency.

Concerning the members who had asked last year to postpone the higher due decided by the General Assembly in Budapest, it has been decided that the treasurer will inform them that they should form now on follow the new rules.

C. Jami informed the Council that CIPSH has requested a fee that is 7% of DHST budget. This will increase our subscription to CIPSH from 600 Euros to about 2,000. It has been pointed out by the Council that DHST is the sole organisation belonging at the same time to ICSU and CIPSH and therefore DHST pays two subscriptions to UNESCO institutions. For that reason, it has been decided that the secretary general negotiates with CIPSH a special fee during CIPSH General Assembly in Nagoya, Japan, December 2010. The secretary general will inform by e-mail the members of the Council who will decide in consequence.

5 Use of financial surplus

Concerning the important surplus of the DHST, the Council decided the following:

The rules concerning the maximum money allocated to the commissions will be revised annually depending on the financial situation of the DHST.

For the grants to be allocated for 2012, it has been decided that:

- The maximum amount for organisation of conferences, symposia or workshops will be increased from \$ 1,000 to \$ 2,000. This money will be allocated to colleagues in order than they attend the conferences organised by the commissions. These colleagues can be either early career scholars (pre or post-doctoral researchers) or

colleagues from countries belonging to the bottom of the U.N. Human Development Index.

- The amount given to the Young Scholars prize to be raised. The new amount will be decided next year, depending on DHST balance.

It has been asked to the secretary general to inquire about donors willing to give a supplementary grant for the DHST Young Scholars Prize.

6 Relations with DLMPS and new Joint agreement

The Council discussed the memorandum presented by the secretary general and finalised the text attached. The text will be sent for approval to the DLPMS Council.

7 Relations with ICSU and CIPSH.

The contact person for ICSU affairs and DHST representative to ICSU, Assistant Secretary General Karine Chemla gave a report on the relations with ICSU.

ICSU will integrate energy in its 2011-2017 plan (DHST has provided a document to support this, written by Fabio Bevilacqua, see attached).

It has been decided that the DHST prepares an application for a grant in the frame of this new plan, the deadline being probably December 2011.

It has been also decided that the Secretary General asks the Pacific and the East Asia Commissions to take contact with ICSU regional Asia-Pacific office and the Mexican NC with the Caribbean regional Office.

Concerning the CIPSH, E. Nicolaidis will make a report after its General Assembly in which he will participate in December 2010. He reported that he participated to the nominating committee of the CIPSH. This committee was founded during last CIPSH G.A in 2008, following a proposal by E. Nicolaidis in order the CIPSH follows more institutionalised procedures for elections. The Committee was chaired by Prof. Madeline Caviness.

8 Report on the new Vade Mecum

It has been decided that Efthymios Nicolaidis prepares all documents (the changes as have been voted by the G.A and the Council, and prepared by Ronald Numbers, Efthymios Nicolaidis and Robert Halleux last year) and send them to Michael Osborne and Frank James to be edited. Catherine Jami will then prepare the French version. The new Vade Mecum will be available on the website of DHST and also in printed form. DHST President Liu Dun has offered to print it in China.

9 Preparations of the Manchester Congress

Frank James reported on the preparations of Manchester Congress.

A logo has been created and the website of the Congress is functioning at the address <https://www.meeting.co.uk/conference/ichst2013/>.

Time schedule with the key dates has been determined and can be found on the website of the Congress. Preparations go smoothly. Because the congress is hosted by Manchester colleagues in collaboration with the BSHS, a LOC and a National Committee have both been created. Dr Jeff Hughes chairs the LOC and Prof. Frank James chairs the National Committee

The Congress has been named “24th International Congress of History of Science, Technology and Medicine”. This was decided after consultation of the members of the Council. Adding explicitly the field of Medicine will facilitate funding raising.

The Council warmly thanked Frank James and all our British colleagues involved in the preparation of the Congress for their huge effort and Britain efficiency.

10 Nomination of the members of the Programme Committee.

After resignation of Ronald Numbers to chair the Programme Committee, Professor Peter Bowler from Ireland has been proposed by the LOC in collaboration with the DHST Council. Prof Peter Bowler accepted to chair the Committee.

According DHST rules, 1/3 of the 30 members of the Programme Committee are nominated by the Council, 1/3 by the LOC and 1/3 by the Chairman. It has been decided that all members will be nominated by a common consensus. Frank James presented a proposal taking into account geographical representation. It has been decided to take also into account field and period of research and gender balance. Council members will make proposals to be circulated by e-mail and a final list will be defined in collaboration with our British colleagues and the Chairman. Names will be sent by December 15 to Frank James. The final list will be determined by e-mail consultation. It has been decided to not include Council members in the list.

11 DHST website and new brochure

DHST webmaster Fabio Bevilacqua presented a brief report on the website: if DHST is content with the actual website, which provides updated information of the DHST, its history and structure, its National committees and Commissions, journals and societies of history of science, the main events such as the International Congress, and the DHST documents such as minutes of the Council meetings and the General Assemblies, accounts and related documents concerning DHST life and activities, there is not need to financing the maintenance of the site. Lidia Falomo, who assists Prof. Bevilacqua, has offered to maintain the site for free. The site is hosted by Google and the money paid each year is only about 20 Euros for the address name. Fabio Bevilacqua believes that we should not go for the moment to an interactive site with web 2.0 facilities. Such an experience has not worked, historians of science having not responded to the challenge. If DHST feels such a need in the future, then we should discuss the upgrading of the website.

The Council warmly thanked F. Bevilacqua and Lidia Falomo. It has been decided to send to Lidia Falomo a certificate of acknowledgment.

Fabio Bevilacqua recommends that Commissions should use Google for hosting their site in order to not have to pay.

Concerning the new updated brochure, it has been decided that Anette Vogt will do the update. Liu Dun has renewed his offer to print for free in China.

Following Catherine Jami's proposal, it has been decided to make a draft of an amendment to the statutes in order to integrate a Webmaster in the Council, without increasing the number of the members. The draft will be approved by next Council meeting and proposed for voting at the General Assembly in 2013.

12 Rules for the running of DHST Commissions

Paolo Brenni made a report on the work done by the Committee, comprising Michael Osborne, Catherine Jami and Karine Chemla, in order to establish rules for the running of DHST Commissions.

The Committee believes that rules should be simple and minimum in order to not add bureaucracy in Commissions running. It has been decided to demand the Commissions to have an updated site.

Paolo Brenni will schematize a small document which, after consultation with the other members of the Commission, will be presented for approval to next Council meeting. The aim is to produce a small document to be submitted for approval by the General Assembly of 2013.

13 Procedure for the 2013 DHST Prize for Young Scholars

The Council decided to advertise as widely as possible the 2013 Prize. The call will be sent by Frank James to the Congress mailing list. It has been also decided to append to the call the list of the previous winners with some basic details, such as the title of their thesis. This document will also appear on the website of DHST.

14 Venue of next Council

DHST President Liu Dun has renewed his invitation to hold next Council meeting, December 2011, at Beijing.

Due to the high cost of travel expenses to China, it has been decided to investigate if the meeting could take place in Paris. Catherine Jami and Karine Chemla will have more news about June 2013. Depending on these, the Council venue will then be decided by e-mail consultation.

The Chair of the meeting, 1st Vice-President Paolo Brenni, thanked the members of the DHST Council for their participation. He also thanked them for having attended the meeting with their own charge, and declared the meeting closed.

All the decisions were taken unanimously.