

## **Minutes of the DHST Council meeting**

### **Paris, December 11, 2011**

Venue: Université Paris Diderot

Present: Liu Dun (President), Ronald Numbers (Past President), Paolo Brenni (1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President), Michael Osborne (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President), Efthymios Nicolaidis (Secretary General), Catherine Jami (Treasurer), Karine Chemla (Assistant Secretary General), Frank James (Member), Pablo Lorenzano (Member), Alexey Postnikov (Member), Annette Vogt (Member), Michio Yano (Member) Fabio Bevilacqua (Webmaster), Peter Bowler (Chair of the Manchester Congress Programme Committee).

IUHSP/DHST President Liu Dun 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).

The report was unanimously approved.

#### **3. Treasurer's report**

(See document attached).

Catherine Jami presented the accounts of 2010 and the budget for 2011. The balance shows an expected surplus of \$ 56,358 for the end of 2012.

The report was unanimously approved.

Some important countries with a strong presence in DHST have not paid their dues and it was decided that initiative should be taken by the Treasurer and the Secretary General.

Due to the present financial situation of many countries it has been decided to be flexible in paying fees in case of serious difficulties. The Council welcomes sponsorship for needed countries but only representatives of the National Committees of these countries have the right to vote at the General Assembly.

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

The Council discussed financial requests from the Commissions for 2012 and evaluated the reports of activity the commissions have sent and also the financial accounting of grants issued to Commissions in 2011 (see documents attached).

11 Commissions sent report and 13 have asked for a grant. It has been decided to ask for the report of the other two Commissions in order their request for a grant be accepted.

As decided last year, due to the good financial situation of DHST, the Secretary General has informed the Commissions that they could apply for a higher grant for a Conference than the 1,000 US\$ which was the maximum allowed grant since now. Reviewing the Commissions requests, the Council followed 2010 Council decision that for 2012 the maximum amount will be 2,000 US\$. The maximum amount will depend each year on DHST balance.

The Council has renewed his decision of last year to follow the activities of all the Commissions in order to inform the General Assembly in Manchester which Commissions are functional.

### **5 Relations with DLMPS, joint agreement and new inter-division commission (teaching commission)**

Due to amendments asked by DLMPS to the memorandum prepared last year, the agreement has not yet been approved. It has been decided that Past President Ronald Numbers will discuss the final text with the new DLMPS President.

At DLMPS General Assembly in Nancy, July 2011, DHST Council member Pablo Lorenzano has been elected member of DLMPS Council. Therefore, Pablo Lorenzano will act as a representative of DLMPS to DHST Council meetings and vice-versa.

President Liu Dun has informed DHST provides financial support to DLMPS representatives in order to attend its Congresses (for ex. Beijing and Budapest) and that DLMPS should act accordingly.

The Council welcomed DLMPS decision that DHST Teaching Commission becomes also a DLMPS Commission. It is the first inter-division commission ever created.

The Council congratulates Imre Hronszky for his successful organization of joint Commission symposium in Nancy. Next joint Commission symposium will be organized in Manchester by a colleague to be appointed by DHST.

### **6. Relations with ICSU and CIPSH.**

The contact person for ICSU affairs and DHST representative to ICSU, Assistant Secretary General Karine Chemla, reported on DHST relations with ICSU (see document attached).

The Secretary General has sent to all DHST Commissions information about application for ICSU grant in the frame of ICSU plan but no Commission has applied.

The problem of IUHPS nominations to ICSU offices has been discussed. Only one nomination from IUHPS should be sent to ICSU and that means that the two divisions should agree to a common candidate. This year, DHST accepted to withdraw its candidate in favour of DLMPS candidate, Carla Galavotti, who has been elected. New nomination will be for urban planning and medicine. It has been decided that DHST Council members sent by end December their proposals and a vote will be organised by Karine Chemla on the web. The candidate will be proposed to DLMPS as IUHPS common candidate.

## **7 Briefing of the 30th General Assembly of ICSU**

DHST President Liu Dun has represented DHST to the General Assembly of ICSU held in Rome, November 2011. IUHPS official representative was W. Hodges, DLMPS President till January 1, 2012. After that date, IUHPS will be represented by DHST President.

(see report)

## **8. Relations with the International Academy of History of Science**

Both Prof Eberhard Knobloch, President of the IAHS and Robert Halleux, Permanent secretary were not able to attend DHST Council. The IAHS was represented by Jan Vandersmissen (representing the permanent secretary of the IAHS). Dr Vandersmissen read a message to DHST Council from the Academy (see document attached). The activities of the Academy at Manchester Congress were discussed (plenary lecture by Julio Samsó, Koyré medal, Young Scholars Prize, General Assembly and banquet of the Academy). Dr Vandersmissen informed the Council about the next elections for Academy membership in January 2012 and asked for proposals.

## **9. Report on the new Vade Mecum**

Past President Ronald Numbers and second Vice-President Michael Osborne are preparing the final version of the new Vade Mecum to be presented at the G.A. in Manchester.

## **10 Preparations of Manchester Congress and Programme Committee**

Professors Frank James and Peter Bowler presented a report on the advancements for the organization of the Congress (see document attached about schedule).

The LOC and Programme Committee president are working together. The fee of the Congress will be low (about 150 Euros). The Symposia size will be kept reasonable (not huge Symposia of many sessions). A pdf format of the circulars will be available online.

The Council congratulated the LOC for the work already done.

## **11 Nomination of the Chair and the members of the Nominating Committee**

It has been decided that the nominating committee will have a reduced size: the Chair and six members.

The members of the Council proposed names and decided to make additional proposals until the end of December. A vote will be organized by Karine Chemla on the web.

The names proposed so far were: Lesley Cormack, John Brook, Eberhard Knobloch, Jean Gayon, Giuliano Pancaldi, Kim Yung Sik, Olival Freire, Sergei Demidov, Silvia Figueira, Pablo Mericonda, Marcos Cueto, Danielle Jacquart, Dhruv Reine.

It has been asked to the members wishing to propose a colleague, to give, except the name, the country and if possible the website of the candidate.

## **12 DHST website and new brochure**

It has been decided that the brochure will be only in English (as the last one). The brochure will be printed but it will be also available on the web and send by e-mail.

The texts will be prepared by the secretary general and will circulate among the members for amendments and corrections. Then, together with illustrations they send to Ron Numbers for the layout design. A locked pdf file will be received by Liu Dun in order to print the brochure in China.

The Council once again thanked Prf Fabio Bevilacqua and his assistant Lidia Falomo for hosting and updating the site. Prof. Bevilacqua proposed that a more permanent solution should be found. The Council agreed to propose to Manchester General Assembly the creation of the new Council office of Webmaster.

## **13 Rules for the running of DHST Commissions**

The committee composed by Michael Osborne, Catherine Jami and Karine Chemla and chaired by Paolo Brenni made its report. A questionnaire has been send to the Commissions. Most of them have replied and the Committee was able to have an overview of the present fonctionning.

It has been decide that the new rules will include:

- That all Commissions should have an updated website (at least twice a year)
- If a Commission does not appear in two consecutive congresses, it will be dismissed.
- There will be a template for reports (activity and financial). This template will be ready for September 2012 in order to be followed by Commissions next year.
- The structure of DHST will be simplified. Three sorts of Commissions will exist: DHST Commissions, Inter-division Commissions and Inter-Union Commissions (scientific sections will be named commissions).

## **14 Procedure for 2013 DHST Prize for Young Scholars**

The President will continue to handle the Prize. Its scope will be simplified. The dissertations must be “on the history of science and technology” in general and not for specific fields as until now.

It has been decided that DHST will cover the travel expenses of the Prize winners and the cost of the certificates and that the LOC will waive their fee.

## **15 Next Council meeting venue**

Next Council will be held in Manchester, December 8 and 9, 2012

The President Liu Dun, warmly thanked the organizers of the meeting, Professors Catherine Jami and Karine Chemla. He also congratulated them for the International Workshop “How to make the peripheral “mainstream”: recent developments in the historiography of science” they have organized the following days of the meeting. The workshop will be attended by most of the members of the Council.

The President and declared the meeting closed.