

Minutes of the DHST Council meeting
Manchester, December 8, 2012

Venue: University of Manchester

Present: Liu Dun (President), Paolo Brenni (1st Vice-President), Michael Osborne (2nd Vice-President), Efthymios Nicolaidis (Secretary General), Karine Chemla (Assistant Secretary General), Frank James (Member and President of UK LOC for the Congress), Pablo Lorenzano (Member), Annette Vogt (Member), Michio Yano (Member), James Summer (member of the LOC) and Benedikt Loewe (DLMPS representative). Jeff Hughes, President of Manchester LOC, attended the part of the meeting concerning the Congress. The treasurer Catherine Jami participated in the meeting through Skype connection.

IUHSP/DHST President Liu Dun welcomed the participants, thanked our British colleagues for their hospitality 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 2012 and the budget for 2013. The balance shows an expected surplus of \$ 56,723 for the end of 2013.

The report was unanimously approved.

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

The Council discussed financial requests from the Commissions for 2013 and evaluated the reports of activity the commissions have sent and also the financial accounting of grants issued to Commissions in 2012 (see documents attached).

16 Commissions filed reports and 15 applied for a grant.

Due to the wealthy financial situation of DHST it has been decided to rise the maximum amount allocated for Conference up to 1,500\$ and in consequence to fix the maximum grant to 2,400\$. The Council decided to allocate to Commissions the total amount of 29983\$ (see document attached).

Following to the recommendations of the last two Councils, it has been decided that in order than the Commissions receive the grant, they should have a website. Out of the 15 Commissions having applied for a grant, only the Pacific Circle Commission does not yet has a website (although it publishes a newsletter). It has been decided that in order the grant will be sent by the treasurer, Oceanography Commission should establish its website.

The Council also renewed its decision of the two last meetings to examine the activities of all Commissions in order to determine which Commissions, if any, are not functioning. This matter will also be discussed in the point of the agenda concerning the rules for the Commissions.

5. Preparations of Manchester Congress

Frank James presented the present situation:

1100 Symposia papers and 600 individual papers are pre-accepted. If these figures are confirmed, the Congress will be the largest ever held by DHST.

There will be 20 to 25 parallel sessions.

Only two plenary lectures will take place (the one of Julio Samsó of the International Academy of History of Science and the other to be defined by the Programme Committee).

A social programme is been organised.

The early fee is fixed to 205 Pounds. The LOC is discussing of the possibility of a reduced one-day fee. Other solution is that needed colleagues apply for a reduced fee or a grant.

The schedule concerning DHST Council and GA is as follows:

Council members will come on Sunday 21st July. A brief Council meeting will take place the 21st afternoon. The first GA will take place the 24th and the second the 26th July. The 27th will be held the meeting of the old and new Council.

After the discussion of the preparations, the members of the Council were guided by Jeff Hughes to the Congress venue. Most of the sessions will take place at the same venue and the others will take place at a nearby building. The Council congratulated the representatives of the LOC and expressed its confidence that the Congress will be a very successful one.

6. Relations with DLMPS.

A joint agreement text was sent to the DHST secretary general by the President of the DLMPS Eliot Sober. This text was prepared by Ronald Numbers and send to E. Sober for amendments. The main difficulty is to define the shifting of the representation of the two divisions to ICSU because of the difference of calendars of the DHST and DLMPS Councils (DHST Council is replaced immediately after its GA the vote of the GA and DLMPS Council is replaced the 1st January of the year following DLMPS GA).

It has been decided that a final text will be prepared by Efthymios Nicolaidis and Benedikt Loewe in the next few days and approved by e-mail by the DHST and

DLMPS Councils in order to be integrated in the new DHST Vade Mecum (see below).

7. Relations with ICSU, CIPSH. and IAHS

The contact person for ICSU affairs and DHST representative to ICSU, Assistant Secretary General Karine Chemla, reported on DHST relations with ICSU. According to the decision of the 2011 Council, *** has been presented as a joint candidate DHST-DLMPS for urban planning and medicine

April 29 2013 will be held in Paris the ICSU Unions meeting. Neither Liu Dun nor Karine Chemla can attend and the Council asked Catherine Jami to represent IUHPS.

The situation of the CIPSH was presented by the secretary general (cut of UNESCO funds, difficulties in organising its GA in 2013). The Council observed that the statute Humanities is in decay in the international bodies and in the scientific policies of the countries. History of Science, which was related to sciences (for ex. The affiliation of IUHPS to ICSU) is less and less considered as a part of science and in consequence its statute is related to this of humanities. Countries and international bodies are less willing to support the history of science than in the past. The Council decided to make a strong statement on that situation presenting the importance of the history of science. This statement will be called "Manchester Manifesto". Michael Osborne will be in charge of producing a text after consultation with the other Council members who are requested to send to the 2nd Vice-President their ideas on the Manifesto at latest end March.

The secretary general presented a briefing of the planned activities of the IAHS in the Congress of Manchester as they have been communicated to him by Jan Vandersmissen, collaborator of the Permanent Secretary of the Academy.

8. Report on the new Vade Mecum

Michael Osborne presented the advancement of the Vade Mecum. As the old edition was not available in digitised form, he has digitised it and he is making the necessary changes of the statutes and the bylaws as they have been voted by the Council and the GA since 2005.

The old edition is not presented in its totality on DHST website (only the statutes and bylaws are on the site). M. Osborne will send to Fabio Bevilacqua the entire digitized book to be presented on the site. The new edition, which will be presented for final approval to the Manchester GA will be ready end March. Annette Vogt offered to help M. Osborne for organising the new bylaws.

In order to complement the new Vade Mecum, it has been decided that Efthymios Nicolaidis will complete the list of DHST past Officers of the old Vade Mecum. All new information must be sent to M. Osborne at latest end January 2013.

9. DHST Website

Professor Fabio Bevilacqua who was in charge of the website and maintained it by his own means have asked to withdraw after his retreat in March. The Council presents

its gratitude to Fabio Bevilacqua for his very important contribution to the DHST more than 15 years.

In order to find a successor to Fabio Bevilacqua it has been decided to try to find an institution willing to maintain the site. The site has been transferred by F. Bevilacqua on google and as a consequence there is not any need to change the server. Paolo Brenni has offered to contact the Florence Museum. In case of acceptance, the Museum will be permitted to have its logo on the DHST site. In case that the Museum accepts and a technician will be in charge of the maintenance, he will not assist to the Council meetings, as it was decided for Fabio Bevilacqua.

10. Rules for the running of DHST Commissions

Paolo Brenni, chair of the committee composed by Michael Osborne, Catherine Jami and Karine Chemla made his report. It is as follows:

GUIDELINES FOR THE COMMISSIONS OF THE IUHPST/DHST

The Council of the IUHPST/DHST recently made a survey in order to better understand the functioning and the organisation of the various commissions. Due to the different histories and tradition the Council agreed to leave a maximum freedom in the management and in the organisation (officers, membership, activities, etc.) of the Commissions.

Nevertheless, the Council decided to establish a few fundamental and common rules which should be respected by every Commission. Such rules the evaluation of their activities and will facilitate the work of the Council and.

- 1) The commissions can structure their boards and define the conditions of their membership as they prefer. However their presidents (or their secretaries) must be the unique referents to the Council.
- 2) The presidents can retain their position for a maximum of 2 terms (8 years). The transition between a new and a past-president has to be announced at the Council and becomes effective only in occasion of the general assembly held during the IHUPST congresses.
- 3) Every year the commissions must present their activity reports to the Council. The activity report is always necessary also if a commission do not ask for any grant.
- 4) Every year the commissions must present a clear financial report. In it all the expenditures made as well as the grants received have to be clearly listed. It is important to keep all the documents (bills, invoices, receipts, etc.) related to the financial management of the commissions. These documents must be available in case of a possible financial review.
- 5) The commissions must have a website reporting their most important activities (symposia, workshops, congresses, etc.) as well as a bibliography including the publications emanating directly from the commission themselves (edited works, special publications, proceedings, etc.). The website has to be regularly updated (one or twice a year).

- 6) The participation of the commissions to the IUHST congresses is highly desirable. If a commission does not do any activity or is absent from the congresses for two terms (8 years), the Council will consider the possibility of abolish it.

It has been also decided to abolish the category “Scientific sections”. History of Metrology and IACSUD become Commissions and ICOHTEC “Associated Institution”. Associated Institutions are requested to send a report only in case they ask for DHST grant.

11. 2013 DHST Prize for Young Scholars

The President has organised the selection of the 2013 Young Scholar Prizes. The Council thanked warmly Liu Dun and his collaborators for his efforts and observed that the Prize is becoming more and more popular. This year more than 60 applications were made from all over the world.

In case that the Prize Committee will give, in addition to the Prizes, mentions to other applicants, these applicants will be recommended to the LOC for a grant for Manchester Congress.

12. Bibliography Commission George Sarton Prize.

The Council decided to ask the Commission to change the name of the Prize in order to not be confused with the prestigious George Sarton medal.

It has been decided that the 500\$ the winner receives will be included to the Commission grant given by the DHST the year of the Congress. The DHST will also recommend the winner to the LOC for a grant.

13 New Commission on Science and Literature

The Council has been informed about the request to create a new commission on Science and Literature. It welcomed the initiative and recommends the following:

The decision of creating a new Commission is taken by the GA. In last GA in Budapest, a Commission on the history of computing has been proposed. The GA took the decision that a exploratory period of four years (until the next GA) is necessary in order to be sure that the commission works. In the case of the Commission on the history of computing, this later had not any activity and in consequence it will not be recognise. The Council will recommend the GA to propose the same exploratory period to the new commission on science and literature.

14 2017 International Congress of DHST proposals

Two proposals to hold 2017 DHST Congress have been sent to DHST President from the NC of Argentina and Brazil. These proposals will be presented for vote to the GA in Manchester.

Other matters.

Mike Osborne gave information on the US fee problem. The situation is not yet clear, but HSS is trying to find a solution.

The President thanked the participants and the meeting was closed.