

**Minutes of the DHST Council Meeting
5 December 2020 (6 am-10 am CET) and
6 December 2020 (3 pm-6:15 pm CET)
via Zoom**

Present: Mike Osborne (President); Marcos Cueto (President Elect); Angela Creager (First Vice-President); Luiz Carlos Soares (Second Vice-President); Catherine Jami (Secretary General); Milada Sekyrkova (Treasurer), Takehiko Hashimoto (Assistant Secretary General); Greg Good, Krishnamurthi Ramasubramanian, Maria Rentetzi, Sergey Shalimov (Assessors); Benedikt Loewe (DLMPST and IUHPST Secretary General).

Apologies: Gavan McCarthy, Liba Taub (Assessors).

1. Approval of the agenda

The Agenda was approved unanimously.

2. Secretary General's report

The Secretary General read her report, which was approved unanimously.

3. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer read her report and presented the budget 2021. This was discussed, leading to a number of changes to it, and the taking into account of the approved grants to commissions and sections for 2021 (see item 4 below); the vote of approval was then unanimous.

4. DHST Commissions: reports for 2020 and financial requests for 2021

The Council examined the reports submitted by 23 of the 24 DHST Commissions and Sections (the missing reports is that of the Commission on the History of Soil Sciences). Grants were allocated as indicated in the table appended to the present minutes.

In some cases they will be paid subject to the Commissions and Sections providing all the receipts for their expenses in 2020; in some other cases they will be asked for more information concerning the early career scholars for whose support a grant has been requested.

For reasons of equity, the Council decided not to allocate any grants to support travel. Council members agreed that international travel is unlikely to be equally possible for historians of science and technology working in *all* countries in the coming months. The Council looks forward to supporting early career scholars' in person attendance to conferences and workshops when the world health situation makes it possible again whatever country they work in.

Moreover, according to articles 9, 10 and 11 of the DHST Statutes, Commissions are financially dependent on DHST. Therefore the Council also decided to ask Commissions who did not spend their 2020 grant as they had budgeted it, and those who have accumulated significant savings from DHST grants over the last few years to use their unspent funds for the activities mentioned in their grant requests.

Following IDTC officers' withdrawal of their symposium at the 16th ICLMPST (Prague, August 2019), DLMPST has decided to withhold funding to this Commission while the present officers are in charge. The DHST Council decided to align their policy with that of DLMPST, and therefore did not award funds to IDTC for 2021. The President, the President-Elect and the Secretary General of DLMPST will follow up on matters regarding this Inter-Division Commission.

The President will write to the officers of Commissions and Sections to inform them of the Council's decisions on funding.

5. DHST Membership

The President Elect presented the application of the Colombian Social Studies of Infrastructure and Technology Research Group for associate membership to DHST. Given that contact with ACCEFYN, which formerly paid Colombia's Ordinary Membership dues to DHST, has been lost for several years, the Council unanimously approved this application, with a view to propose to the DHST General Assembly that the status of Ordinary Member should be granted to the Colombian Social Studies of Infrastructure and Technology Research Group next July.

The Council noted with pleasure that China, which had been declared to belong to category E at the Rio General Assembly, has paid its dues accordingly for 2019 and 2020.

Assessor Sergey Shalimov reported on the progress of his liaising activity with colleagues and institutions in several countries on behalf of DHST. The Council thanked him for his work.

6. Preparation for the Prague Congress

The Treasurer presented the progress of preparations for the 26th ICHST. In October 2020, the LOC decided to hold all the scientific events of the Congress via the Zoom platform, and revised the registration fees accordingly. The Council reiterated its support to the LOC on this decision, which offers the only possible and safe way to hold the 26th ICHST. It also emphasised the need for GUARANT International spol. s r. o., who is running the Congress website, to inform via email all persons registered on that website that the Congress will be held in virtual. Earlier, the Secretary General informed DHST Commissions, Sections, and selected professional lists that the Congress will be in virtual format. The LOC will provide the Council with the figures of accepted symposium papers and submitted stand-alone talks in January. At present, a little more than 1000 persons have proposed contributions.

In view of the fact that the Covid-19 pandemic has placed a number of early career scholars in very difficult situations, the Council decided that reduced registration fees to the Congress should apply to unemployed colleagues as well as to students.

The LOC proposes to record the proceedings of the Congress and to make available online or participants for some length of time. Since permission must be sought from

each participant for a film recording them to be available online, the Council advised that this permission should be requested from participants at the time of online registration. A minimal possibility would be to put online solely the presentations of the participants who give a paper and who have given permission, rather than complete sessions with discussions.

7. The Standing Committee for Gender Equality in Science and DHST Good Behaviour Policy

The First Vice-president presented the Good Behavior policy statement prepared by herself, the President, the President-elect, and Assessor Maria Rentetzi. This statement is inspired from the one issued recently by the History of Science Society (with their permission). It entails the nomination of an Ombudperson, who should not be a member of the Council. After discussion during which some revisions were agreed upon, this statement was adopted, with the proviso that it concerns only the Congress itself and not at this time the DHST General Assembly.

The Secretary General reported on her joint work with representatives of IMU, IUPAC, IUPAP, IUBS and ACM to draft the Memorandum of Understanding creating the [Standing Committee for Gender Equality in Science](#) (SCGES). She was appointed representative of IUHPST by the Executive Board; Delia Kesner is Deputy representative. During the first meeting of SCGES, which took place online on 12 September 2020, she was elected Chair of SCGES for two years. She has also undertaken to broaden the partnership of SCGES by liaising with a number of scientific unions who are members of ISC. SCGES has also issued a statement entitled '[Standing for Gender Equality in Science in times of Covid-19](#)', which contains some recommendation. This statement has been the first opportunity for cooperation with ISC, which has undertaken to publish the statement on its media.

The Council unanimously approved the following addition to article 20 of the DHST Statutes:

“The Council shall appoint among its members a Gender Champion, who shall work on promoting gender equality and overseeing the implementation of best practices in DHST.”

8. Preparation for the DHST General Assembly

The Council made the following decisions:

- The General Assembly will convene in two sessions within the Congress as usual, which means that delegates must register for the Congress to attend the General Assembly.
- As regards voting, the Council will explore possibilities and select an effective and safe system of online voting that can be used during the General Assembly, especially for the elections for the next DHST Council.
- To make the Zoom meeting manageable, only one delegate out of the three per Ordinary Member, Commission or Section will be given the possibility to speak; the delegates can communicate among themselves via the Zoom 'Chat'. The Council also considered how geographical constraints (e.g. divergent time zones for Ordinary Members) might impact the voting and discussion.
- Candidates for the Council Election and Associate Members will also be invited as observers. The candidates for the Council Election will be asked to record a short self-presentation in advance. These will be broadcast to the General Assembly just before the election takes place. The time allocated to each of them will be the same as at the previous General Assembly in Rio: candidates for the post of President-Elect: 5 minutes;

candidates for the posts of 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary General, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary General: 2 minutes; candidates for the posts of assessors: 1 minute.

9. Nominations for the next DHST Council

Efthymios Nicolaidis, Chair of the Nominations Committee for the next DHST Council, and the other members of that committee (June Barrow-Green, UK; Silvia Figueirõa, Brazil; Donald Opitz, USA; Shi Yunli (China)) have circulated a first call for nominations, which closed on 15 November. By this date, eight Ordinary members have sent nominations: China, the Czech Republic, Germany, France, Japan, Portugal, Russia, and the UK. Altogether nine nominations have been received. The second round of nominations is open until 15 March 2021. During this round, DHST Commissions and Sections have been invited to make suggestions to Ordinary Members for further nominations. After 15 March 2021, the Secretary General will circulate the list of nominations. Further nominations can be sent to her until ‘forty-eight hours before the midnight which commences the day on which the election is to take place’ (article 22 of DHST Statutes). Here the Council specified that this deadline is to be understood as in Central European Summer Time. The Council reiterated the desirability of having at least 2 candidates per post, and a good balance among candidates in terms of gender, regional diversity and fields of research.

10. Updating the IUHPST Statutes

The Council unanimously approved the proposal put forward by the Secretary General of DLMPST, the President-Elect and the Secretary General of DHST to update articles 7 and 8 of the IUHPST statutes, according to Document 1 attached to the present minutes. It was noted that these updates must be approved by the DHST General Assembly in 2021 and by the DLMPST General Assembly in 2023 in order to become effective.

11. IUHPST Essay Prize and DHST Dissertation Prize, 2021 edition

It was reminded that the closing date for the [IUHPST Essay Prize](#) is 15 January 2021. The theme for the Prize is “What can history and philosophy of science, technology and medicine contribute to our current global challenges?” The judging panel consists of seven members: Joe Martin, Benedikt Loewe, Rachel Ankeny, Agnes Bolinska, Helen Longino, Dirk Schlimm, and Hasok Chang.

The president reported on the process of assessment of the 39 dissertations submitted for the 2021 edition of the DHST Dissertation Prize. The Council decided that up to 4 Prizes and 4 honourable mentions could be awarded for 2021, so that the success rate should be comparable to that of the 2019 edition.

12. The International Year for Basic Science for Sustainable Development

The founding partners of the [International Year for Basic Science for Sustainable Development](#) are to meet soon to sign the Memorandum of Understanding concerning the organisation of the events. It was reminded that DHST and DLMPST will each contribute Eur.1,000 on behalf of IUHPST which is among the founding partners.

13. CIPSH

The Secretary General of DHST will attend the CIPSH online General Assembly, which will convene on 14-15 December 2020. She has been nominated by DHST for one of the two posts of Vice-President of CIPSH.

14. News from the International Academy of History of Science

The International Academy of History of Science is expected to hold its General Assembly and its usual events online during the 26th ICHST.

15. DHST website

The Secretary General will continue to run the DHST website until the 26th ICHST. Meanwhile, the President Elect and Assessor Krisnamurthi Ramasubramanian are continuing to work on a new website.

16. Calendar of DHST Council tasks 2021

The Secretary General listed the tasks to be carried out before the opening of the 26th ICHT, with the following deadlines:

- 10 January 2021: Minutes of the present meeting to be circulated to all DHST members, commissions and sections.
- 31 January 2021: The President to write to all officers of Commissions and Sections concerning the 2021 grants.
- 28 February 2021: A proposal to be made to the Council by the President and Secretary General for a secure online voting system to be used during the General Assembly
- 15 March 2021: The Secretary General will receive the final report of the Nominations Committee.
- 31 March 2021: The Secretary General will circulate this report and call to Ordinary Members for more nominations.
- 25 April 2021: The date and time of the July 2021 Session of the General Assembly, with its full agenda, to be communicated by the Secretary General of the DHST to all Ordinary Members, Sections, Commissions and members of the Council. This agenda will include the proposed addition to article 20 of the DHST Statutes mentioned in point 7 above, the proposed update of the IUHPST statutes mentioned above in point 11, and the Respectful Behavior Policy.

17. Other matters

It was reminded that the DHST Council will meet online just before the 26th ICHST opens, and that there will be a joint online meeting of the old and new Councils just after the closing of the 26th ICHST.

Documents attached:

1. Grants to Commissions for 2021
2. Proposal for updating of IUHPST Statutes

DHST Commissions Sections
Applications and Grant Allocations for 2021

	Commissions	News/Webs	Running Costs	Conference	Total requested	Approved	Note	2020 Grant
1	Anc-Med Astronomy CHAMA	400,00	300,00	900,00	1600,00	700,00		2160,00
2	Bibliography	600,00	300,00	1500,00	2400,00	900,00		2160,00
3	Islamic Societies (CHOSTIS)	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00		0,00
4	Meteorology (ICHM)	60,00	190,00	1080,00	1330,00	1330,00		0,00
5	Modern Chemistry & Molecular Sc.	100,00	300,00	0,00	400,00	400,00		1710,00
6	History of Physics	600,00	300,00	600,00	1500,00	0,00		1350,00
7	Oceanography ICHO	140,00	300,00	1060,00	1500,00	700,00		1350,00
8	Pacific Circle				0,00	0,00		2160,00
9	Scientific Instruments SIC	400,00	300,00	800,00	1500,00	300,00		1845,00
10	Science and Empire	1200,00	300,00	0,00	1500,00	0,00		2160,00
11	Women in Science	100,00	0,00	1100,00	1200,00	0,00		1350,00
12	Science and Literature	300,00	200,00	1500,00	2000,00	0,00		1980,00
13	Science, Technology and Diplomacy	100,00	300,00	600,00	1000,00	0,00		2160,00
	Inter-Union Commissions							
14	History of Astronomy (with IAU)	0,00	300,00	1200,00	1500,00	300,00	Pending explanation of 2020 expenses	1620,00
15	History of Geography (with IGU)	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00		0,00
16	INHIGEO, Geology (with IUGS)	600,00	800,00	2000,00	3400,00	1500,00	Pending list of ESC at 26th ICHST & Plane ticket for professor NOT OK	2160,00
17	ICH Mathematics (with IMU)	0,00	100,00	1065,00	1165,00	0,00		1620,00
18	Soil Science (with IUSS) no report				0,00	0,00		0,00
	Inter-Division Commissions							
19	Joint DHST-DLMPST Commission	0,00	0,00	1660,00	1660,00	1660,00	Grant every other year	0,00
20	Teaching Commission IDTC	800,00	0,00	400,00	1200,00	0,00		0,00
21	HaPoC	200,00	300,00	1500,00	2000,00	0,00		1800,00
	Scientific Sections							
22	ICOHTEC	1200,00	300,00	0,00	1500,00	1500,00		2160,00
23	ISHEASTM	0,00	300,00	1200,00	1500,00	1500,00	Pending list of ESC at 26th ICHST	2160,00
24	IASCUD	300,00	300,00	900,00	1500,00	1500,00	Pending clarification (bill dated 2019 to justify 2020 expenditures)	2400,00
	Total for 2021 (USD)				31355,00	12290,00		32145,00
					Requested	Approved		Allocated for 2020

Proposed changes to the IUHPST statutes

Marcos Cueto, Catherine Jami (DHST)
Benedikt Löwe (DLMPST)
original version: 28 February 2020
updated 4 December 2020 & 6 December 2020

Background. The current IUHPST statutes stipulate a Union Board with four members filled by a rotation system from the Executive Committees of the two Divisions with changes every two years. Depending on the position in the rotation cycle, one of the Divisions provides three of the four Board members and the other provides only one. In particular, the Secretary General of the underrepresented Division is not on the Union Board. The Statutes require that all decisions have votes from both Divisions, in effect giving the single Board member from the underrepresented Division a *veto* right.

It was proposed to change Articles 7 and 8 of the Statutes in order to give both Divisions equal representation in the Union Board. We use this opportunity to correct references to “ICSU” to “ISC”, add a statement about the appointment of a Gender Champion, and change the text of Article 8 which represents past practices of voting in the Board based on physical Board meetings to reflect the modern practice of e-mail votes (where proxy votes are not necessary).

The original text of the Statutes.

Article 7

1. The Board of the Union consists of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary General, and the Treasurer. The offices of the Board are filled on a four-year cycle described in Article 7.3 and 7.4, starting on 1 January 2016.
2. In addition to the officers of the Board, each of the two divisions can appoint a member of their council as the official ICSU contact person.
3. During the first two calendar years of the cycle (i.e., every year divisible by four and the immediately following year), the president, secretary general and treasurer of the DHST are President, Secretary General and Treasurer of the Union, respectively. The president of the DLMPST is Vice President of the Union.
4. During the third and fourth calendar years of the cycle (i.e., every even year not divisible by four and the immediately following year), the president, secretary and treasurer of the DLMPST are President, Secretary General and Treasurer of the Union, respectively. The president of the DHST is Vice President of the Union.
5. The division whose treasurer is the Treasurer of the Union in any given calendar year acts as the treasurer of the Union with respect to the ICSU fees.

Article 8

All decisions made by the Board of the Union require the agreement of the majority of its officers, including at least one from each division. During meetings of the Board each member may cast her or his own vote, even if she or he chairs, as well as the vote of any absent member who has given her or him a proxy. Absent members' votes sent in writing (or the electronic equivalent) and concerning proposals received in advance shall be counted. In this case, the ballot of the absent member on a given proposal excludes the possibility for any member present to represent the absent member to vote on this proposal. The President of the Union may, with the approval of the Vice President and the assistance of the secretaries general of the two Divisions, call for a vote, typically in electronic form, on any question.

Proposed changes. We propose the following changes:

ARTICLE 7, 1., first sentence.

Was: “The Board of the Union consists of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary General, and the Treasurer.”

Becomes: “The Board of the Union consists of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, and two additional members.”

Article 7, 2.

Change “ICSU” to “ISC”.

We also propose to include a sentence about the appointment of a Gender Champion: “The Board appoints a Gender Champion, who is in charge of the promotion of gender equality and of the oversight of the implementation of related best practices for the Union. The Gender Champion is invited to all Board meetings and discussions.”

Article 7, 3.

Add as final sentence: “The secretary general and the treasurer of DLMPST are the additional two members of the Board of the Union mentioned in Article 7.1.”

Article 7, 4.

Add as final sentence: “The secretary general and the treasurer of DHST are the additional two members of the Board of the Union mentioned in Article 7.1.”

Article 7, 5.

Change “ICSU” to “ISC”.

Article 8, second to fourth sentence.

Change “officers” to “members”, since there are now members of the Board who are not officers.

Delete the following sentences: “During meetings of the Board each member may cast her or his own vote, even if she or he chairs, as well as the vote of any absent member who has given her or him a proxy. Absent members’ votes sent in writing (or the electronic equivalent) and concerning proposals received in advance shall be counted. In this case, the ballot of the absent member on a given proposal excludes the possibility for any member present to represent the absent member to vote on this proposal.”

Proposed new text:

Article 7

1. The Board of the Union consists of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, and two additional members. The offices of the Board are filled on a four-year cycle described in Article 7.3 and 7.4, starting on 1 January 2016.
2. In addition to the officers of the Board, each of the two divisions can appoint a member of their council as the official ISC contact person. The Board appoints a Gender Champion, who is in charge of the promotion of gender equality and of the oversight of the implementation of related best practices for the Union. The Gender Champion is invited to all Board meetings and discussions.
3. During the first two calendar years of the cycle (i.e., every year divisible by four and the immediately following year), the president, secretary general and treasurer of the DHST are President, Secretary General and Treasurer of the Union, respectively. The president of the DLMPST is Vice President of the Union. The secretary general and the treasurer of DLMPST are the additional two members of the Board of the Union mentioned in Article 7.1.
4. During the third and fourth calendar years of the cycle (i.e., every even year not divisible by four and the immediately following year), the president, secretary and treasurer of the DLMPST are President, Secretary General and Treasurer of the Union, respectively. The president of the DHST is Vice President of the Union. The secretary general and the treasurer of DHST are the additional two members of the Board of the Union mentioned in Article 7.1.
5. The division whose treasurer is the Treasurer of the Union in any given calendar year acts as the treasurer of the Union with respect to the ISC fees.

Article 8

All decisions made by the Board of the Union require the agreement of the majority of its members, including at least one from each division. The President of the Union may, with the approval of the Vice President and the assistance of the secretaries general of the two Divisions, call for a vote, typically in electronic form, on any question.