



# International Union of the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology

## Division for the History of Science and Technology

**In-between Council meeting  
June 22 13h-15h UTC**

### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Janet Browne (President-Elect), Hasok Chang (Second Vice-President), Marcos Cueto (President), Liesbeth De Mol (Secretary-General), Thomás Haddad (Assistant Secretary-General), Michela Malpangotto (Assessor), Takehiko Hashimoto (First Vice-President), Xingbo Luo (Assessor), Milada Sekyrkova (Treasurer), Sergey Shalimov (Assessor), Hamish Spencer (Assessor)

**Excused:** Maria Rentetzi, Jahnvy Phalkey

**Invited:** Benedikt Loewe (secretary-general DLMPST)

## Table of Contents

1. Welcoming words by the president and approval of minutes and agenda, p. 2
2. Preparation in-between conference (HST Festival) and involvement of the council, p. 2
3. Preparation of an extraordinary General Assembly, p. 3
4. Preparations for the New Zealand conference, p. 4
5. Respectful Behavior Policy, p. 5
6. Establishment of a new commission, p. 5
7. Varia, p. 5

### 1. Welcoming words by the president and approval of minutes and agenda

Marcos Cueto, our president, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He thanked the Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General for their work to prepare the council meeting. The [minutes](#) of the previous council meeting were approved. The agenda was approved.

### 2. Preparation in-between conference (HST Festival) and involvement of the council

On September 29, 00h01 UTC time the first HST festival will start. Thomás Haddad gave an update to the council of the current preparations for the festival.

- **A [website](#) has now been created.** We already received quite some subscriptions to the Newsletter the first of which will be sent out end of June, start of July.

- Thomás Haddad organized a Jotform and invited all nominated speakers to send in a title and indicate their preferred timeslot. He provided an overview to council of the number of confirmed nominations, the commissions and members who have not sent in a nomination and the number of pending confirmations. In particular we have:

- 18 confirmed nominations from commissions, with 7 pending confirmation; ; 2 commissions (Physics and Geography) have not sent in a nomination
- 25 confirmed nominations from members, with 9 pending, 11 members did not send a nomination

This means that some commissions and, in particular, Members have not sent in a nomination. Council members will help Thomás in approaching several of these members to encourage them to nominate someone. In particular:

- Marcos Cueto will help with India, Greece and Mexico
- Hasok Chang will help with South-Korea
- Xingbo Luo will help with China
- Milada Sekyrkova will go through the list with Thomás and check it against her list of contacts
- Sergey Shalimov will help with Azerbedjan
- Liesbeth De Mol will help with Italy
- Hamish Spencer will help with New-Zealand

Overall it is expected that **we will have total number of speakers between 50 and 54.**

- The organization of the on-line festival is a complex task. As was explained by Thomás Haddad, we have now **received the generous support of Sam Robinson and the BSHS**. They have already a strong experience with organizing online events and council was very happy to hear about this essential support to the event. The event will be relying on a broadcasting software that has already been tested and used in the BSHS online events.

- During the Festival, there will be some empty slots. These will be used to organize **listening sessions with the commissions and members** to give feedback and comments on the drafts of the

- amended Respectful Behavior Policy
- the revised Nominations Policy
- the proposal for the creation of a new Communications Officer in council.

A vote on the new drafts, integrating the feedback from the listening sessions, will be put to vote during an EGA (see Item 3, p. 3)

- The council was also asked for their help during the event and in particular with the chairing of sessions. Marcos Cueto, our president agreed to open the Festival and will chair some sessions. Other council members will add their names later.

- Thomas Haddad and Liesbeth De Mol prepared a first draft of a statement intended as a **statement from council to be read and distributed during the Festival**. The draft was made available to council. Council members will now work on the draft by adding their comments and suggestions.

### **3. Preparation of an extraordinary General Assembly**

Liesbeth De Mol first gave an update on where we are with the preparations for the EGA.

As soon as the new council started its work, Marcos Cueto asked for the possibility of organizing an EGA to approve the amended Respectful Behavior Policy and a revised nominations policy.

As statutes specify, an EGA can be held if there is a 1/3 majority petition from the Ordinary Members. Such a petition was organized and, in the meantime, 24 members have signed the petition. This means that **the president should now convene the assembly within the next six months**.

A first subitem discussed concerned the **agenda for the EGA**.

Council agreed on the following provisional agenda:

1. approval vote on the new presidents of commissions
2. vote on the creation of a new Communication Officer
3. vote on the amended version of the Respectful Behavior Policy (see Item 5, p. 5)
4. vote on a revised Nominations Policy
5. approval vote of a steering committee preparing the proposal of a new Commission on Science and Education to become an inter-division commission (see Item 6, p. 5)

A number of different council members will now work on finalizing the drafts to be presented to the members and commissions during the listening sessions. In particular:

- Marcos Cueto will work on the proposal of the creation of a new officer, based on the current draft.

- Liesbeth De Mol and Thomás Haddad will work on the draft of a revised Nominations Policy
- Janet Browne will continue to work on a draft for the amended RBP (see item 5, p. 5)

- Organizing an EGA involves a lot of work. Moreover, council agreed that Members and Commissions should be given the opportunity to give feedback on the first drafts of the proposals to be made, in particular for Items 2-4 on the provisional EGA agenda. As explained under Item 2, to this end, we will organize a number of **listening sessions during the HST Festival**. It was thus decided by council that the EGA will not be held in the wake of the HST festival but some weeks later. It was proposed to set a date in **the last week of November 2023**.

A next subitem discussed concerned the **election software** to be used. Milada Sekyrkova will inquire with Guarant, the professional organizer of the Prague congress, about the software they used and the potential costs for using it.

A final subitem concerned the legality of an on-line assembly given that our statutes do not explicitly allow for the organization of an on-line GA. Liesbeth De Mol and Micheala Malpangotti will explore further in how far this is allowed under French Law. It was pointed out by Benedikt Loewe that the matter of legality of the (online) vote is particularly problematic when voting results have to be communicated to or recorded by external legal institutions (such as a Notary public); as long as the result of the votes is a matter of internal consensus, the legality of the vote is only problematic when some member or commission challenges the outcome. The proposed votes are all of the latter type. Council agreed with this reasoning and interpretation.

#### **4. Preparations for the New Zealand conference**

Hamish Spencer gave council an update on the current preparations for the New-Zealand conference.

First of all, he presented the logo that was prepared and which will be printed on T-shirt, cups, etc. The council very much approved of that **logo** and was excited to see it. He also showed us the **postcards** that have been designed as promotional material to be used at other conferences. These have already been distributed at a number of different conferences and have now also been translated to Spanish (thanks to Marcos Cueto) and to Chinese (thanks to Xingbo Luo). It was decided that if other people in council are planning to attend a relevant conference in the next months, they can contact Hamish Spencer to receive a number of postcards to be distributed to maximize promotion. Marcos Cueto will also make sure that the postcards will be distributed during the forthcoming CLMPST conference in Buenos Aires and organized by our sister division DLMPST.

Hamish Spencer also presented the website: <https://www.ichst2025.org/> **Anyone interested can register on that site to receive regular updates.**

Finally, it was also mentioned that the IPC is now almost complete and that the two IPC chairs (Ana Simões and Sue Lederer) are doing a wonderful work already. The council is very happy with the progress made. Hamish Spencer, as a representative of the LOC, is thanked for all the work already done.

## 5. Respectful Behavior Policy

Janet Browne, president-elect, gives an update on the current progress on preparing an amended version of the RBP. Most importantly she mentioned:

- The inclusion of a professional as an ombudsperson and the potential costs involved. It was agreed by council that Janet Browne will explore several options and check with Milada Sekyrkova, our treasurer, what is feasible. If a professional ombudsperson turns out to be too expensive, we will try and find another solution that is in the spirit of the GA amendments.
- The council members who are supposed to be in the committee evaluating complaints will also be expected to follow a short training. Also here, council will have to provide options to avoid this becomes a vacuous requirement.

## 6. Establishment of a new commission

During our previous council meeting the functioning of the IDTC commission was discussed and it was decided that council, in collaboration with the SG of DLMPST, would explore the possibility of **establishing a new teaching commission**. Hasok Chang, Liesbeth De Mol and Benedikt Loewe prepared a first proposal to establish an IUHPST Commission on Science and Education which is intended to have a very broad scope and anchored in the Manchester and Helsinki Manifestos. DLMPST plans to create this commission at their General Assembly in Buenos Aires on 27 July 2023 (as a DLMPST commission). At the same time, DLMPST plans to create a new Commission on Logic Education that will be closely collaborating with the IUHPST Commission on Science & Education. The current proposal to be voted on by the EGA is that a steering group would prepare a more detailed proposal including statutes, council, aims and scope, etc to establish an inter-division Science & Education commission and to be put to vote at our GA in Dunedin, New Zealand. Hasok Chang and Benedikt Loewe will be members ex officio of the steering group as representatives of DHST and DLMPST respectively to help the Steering Committee with the preparation of their proposal and serve as intermediaries between the two divisions and the SC. The EGA will be asked for approval of the steering committee with the aim of proposing the creation of the new commission in 2025.

## 7. Varia

Council agrees to organize a second in-between council meeting to prepare for the EGA. Liesbeth De Mol will create polls to fix the dates and times of:

- the next in-between council meeting (early november)
- the EGA, to be organized (end of November)
- the next annual DHST council meeting (mid-december)

The dates should be fixed by June 20.

Marcos Cueto ends the meeting and thanks Benedikt Loewe for his participation. The meeting is ended at 14h59 UTC.