

MINUTES

EAHN Business Meeting

Saturday 21 February 2015

Time: 15:00-19:00

Venue: Condestable Palace, Mayor Street, 2 in Pamplona

Attendees: Alona Nitzan Shifan (chair), Hilde Heynen, Ruth Hanisch, Maarten Delbeke, Josephine Kane, Iuliana-Elena Gavril, Michela Rosso, Edoardo Piccoli, Carmen Popescu, Davide Deriu, Javier Martinez-González, José Ángel Medina Muru, Jorge Correia, Daniel Millette, Andres Krug, Epp Lankots, Mariann Simon, Kathleen James Chakraborty, Nele De Raedt, Elvan Altan Ergut, Eliana Perotti, Elizabeth Merrill, Merlijn Hurx (minutes)

1. Apologies for absence

Adrian Forty, Mari Hvattum, Katia Frey, Tom Avermaete, Jiat-Hwee Chang, Ruth Verde Zein, Petra Brouwer

2. To approve the minutes of the Special Business Meeting 18 June 2014

The minutes of the Special Business Meeting held in Turin on 18 June 2014 were **approved**.

3. Election of officers

The re-election of Treasurer Ruth Hanisch and Secretary Merlijn Hurx for a second two-year term (February 2015-2017) was **approved** by unanimous consent of all attendees. It was reminded that Alona Nitzan Shifan will remain president until the Dublin Conference in 2016, when Hilde Heynen takes over. A search committee for a new Vice-President needs to be installed.

[Action: Hilde Heynen]

4. Membership

- Secretary Merlijn Hurx reported on the current state of membership. By the end of December 2014, the EAHN had 317 members, including 78 Students Memberships and 2 Institutional Memberships (Université Libre de Bruxelles/Ramla Benaissa Architects, Philadelphia). In addition, the EAHN counts two honorary members (Nancy Stieber and Susan Klaiber). It was reminded that additional sponsorships of institutional memberships are welcomed.

The prospects for the number of Memberships are good. Although, it is expected that a significant number of members, who enrolled for International meeting in Turin, will end their memberships in the upcoming months, a serious drop in the numbers will be prevented, because new members will register for the Belgrade Themed Conference (as off 1 March).

- To encourage more submissions to the conferences from a broader range of academics, and to remain an inclusive network, a number of board members prepared a proposal to change the existing 'student membership fee' to a concession rate membership (35€), which should be applicable to students and scholars with little financial support (independent scholars, scholars outside Western countries etc.).

To apply for a reduced membership fee, students need to send a copy of their student ID. Other scholars may apply by sending a motivation letter and a short CV to the Secretary and Treasurer.

The introduction of a two-tier system with regular membership fee of 75, -€ and a reduced fee of 35, -€ was **approved**.

[Action: Merlijn Hurx/Ruth Hanisch]

- The benefits of Institutional Membership were discussed, but it was decided that such a membership should be regarded as a donation. In return, Institutional Members will be listed on the website.

- Alona Nitzan Shiftan proposed to discuss the composition of the board and recruitment of additional Committee Members. An important question is whether the recruitment of members should be formalised in order to include geographical areas that are not well represented in the network? There is little participation in the EAHN conferences of countries with a strong academic tradition in architectural history, like France and Germany. Committee Members may act as active agents for the EAHN in their own academic environment.

Discussion

An important advantage of a more formalised appointment of Committee Members is that new members will likely be more committed to the EAHN. Furthermore, a rotation system in which members are appointed for a fixed term should prevent that the EAHN is perceived as a closed community of friends. However, it was argued that a great strength of the current format of Committee Members is its open nature. It seems undesirable to create a distinction between formal and voluntary members; the Business Meeting should remain an open meeting for everyone. In order to get more people involved with the Board, the Special Business Meeting at the Biannual International Meetings should be better advertised and preferably scheduled back to back with a reception afterwards.

- It was **agreed** that Alona Nitzan Shiftan and Hilde Heynen will work out a proposal to appointed membership of the board. In addition, a search for a few new official members will be undertaken.

[Action: Alona Nitzan Shiftan/Hilde Heynen]

5. Finance

Treasurer's Report.

Current state and the year ahead.

Treasurer Ruth Hanisch reported that the EAHN is financially healthy. Currently, there is 16.027,81€ (31/12/2014) on the EAHN bank account and 5.228, 23€ (31/12/2014) on the PayPal account. The total balance for 2014 is: + 21.256,04€. Other fortunate news is that in 2014 the EAHN fulfilled all its debts to TUDelft (5330€).

Budget for 2015

Starting balance	21.256,04€.
Projected income	
175 regular membership fees	13125€
75 reduced membership	2625€
3 Institutional membership fees	<u>750€</u>
<i>Total projected income</i>	<i>16500€</i>
Expenses	
Website restructuring	5.000€
Website maintenance	2.500€
PayPal	759€ (Average fee of 3€ per member)
Journal	6820€ (For 2014: 20€ x 316 members: 309 active PayPal members (19/02/2015) and 7 payments directly to the bank account). In addition, the fees of 2 Institutional Members will be allocated to the Journal: 500€)
Interest Groups	<u>1.580€</u> (5€ x 316 members)
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<i>16.659€</i>

NET (Income 2015 - Expenses 2015)

without spillover from 2014) -159€

Projected End Balance 21.097,04€

The authorisation problems with the bank account have finally been resolved. Because French banks seem to be uncooperative to international organisations, it was **agreed** that on the long term the transfer of the EAHN bank account to a more modern and accessible bank needs to be investigated.

Currently, the **Funding committee** consists of Maristella Casciato, Christine Mengin, Sophie Hochhäusl, Edoardo Piccoli, Rob Dettingmeijer, and Ruth Hanisch. They will put special effort in 2015 in increasing the number of Institutional Memberships.

[ACTION: Ruth Hanisch]

6. Website

The Secretary reported that work on the website has progressed too slow. It has taken a while before a competent web developer was found; he has started with several technical improvements with some delay. The Interest Group Pages have top priority, and will be ready for the launch of new groups shortly after the Business Meeting. However, because of the persistent problems, it is believed that new website needs to be built from scratch by a professional web developer. The new website should allow easier maintenance.

Discussion

The board was highly concerned with the slow progress on the website, and stressed that it cannot remain disfunctional any longer. Because of the key-importance of the website to the EAHN, it was **agreed** that funding of 5000€ needs to be allocated for the construction of a new website. Moreover, because it was thought that the web team cannot merely rely on volunteers, an annual budget of 2500€ euro will be made available for regular maintenance by professional web developers. However, the board has demanded that the Secretary and Webmaster need to rethink and streamline current working processes. In addition, for the construction of the new website, quotes from multiple web developers need to be obtained.

[ACTION: Merlijn Hurx/Josie Kane]

Another issue that was discussed was the problem that emails from the Office don't arrive at the recipients. This problem needs to be sorted out by the web team.

[ACTION: Merlijn Hurx/Josie Kane]

To increase the frequency of e-newsletters, it was proposed to reinstall the EAHN correspondents in multiple countries. Elizabeth Merrill has volunteered to be the new coordinator. She will approach former correspondents with the question if they are interested to supply the EAHN with news updates, or whether they know good candidates. We should aim for weekly or fortnight e-newsletters.

[ACTION: Merlijn Hurx/Elizabeth Merrill/Josie Kane]

7. Interest Groups

The Secretary announced that three new groups have been formed after the conference in Turin. They are about to set up their pages on the website:

- *Architecture and Environment* by Sophie Hochhäusl and Torsten Lange

- *Women and Gender in Architecture and Urban Design* by Katia Frey, Hilde Heynen, Kathleen James-Chakraborty, Eliana Perotti
- *Postmodernism and the Cultural Turn in Architecture* by Steve Parnell, Véronique Patteeuw, and Léa-Catherine Szacka

- We expect these new groups to be a great contribution to our online platform. At the moment there are already four active Groups: Eastern European and Balkan Architecture, Urban Photography, Housing and Word and Image. To guide the new Group Coordinators in setting up a new group Anne Hultzsch has prepared 'Guidelines for EAHN Group Coordinators'.

- To improve the visibility of the groups the new website will contain a section on the main page with a short blurb and contact details of each group. And to strengthen their appeal we decided in Turin that they will be invited to organise a side-event at the biannual International Meeting in Dublin. In addition, it was **agreed** that a separate section on the Journal website will be created, which will serve as a public outlet for the Interest Groups. The Groups will be invited to publish a Position Paper twice a year. The APC-fees will be covered by the income from the membership fees: per member 5€ will be allocated to sponsor the Position Papers by Interest Groups.

[ACTION: Anne Hultzsch]

Discussion

Alona Niztan Shiftan stressed the need to encourage the Interest Groups to apply for funding.

Davide Deriu remarked that in England several institutions (Arts&Humanities Research Council and the British Academy), provide funding to facilitate academic networks for travel and meeting.

See:

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/Funding-Opportunities/Pages/Funding-Opportunities.aspx>

<http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/index.cfm>

Other possibilities are to apply for EU funding. For COST Action already existing networks do not qualify, however new groups can apply for funding. Another option is the new HERA Call "Uses of the Past", however proposals need to be submitted before 9 April 2015

See: <http://heranet.info/hera-jrp-documents-1>

8. Journal

The Journal Editor Maarten Delbeke reported that the Editorial Board has been expanded with four new members: Petra Brouwer, Elizabeth Merrill, Iuliana Gavril and Ruth Verde-Zein.

- Numbers of visitors are stable. There is a clear correlation between announcements of new content and numbers of visitors. It is therefore crucial that the EAHN site, the Journal website and social media outlets remain linked.

- Since the APC has been introduced, the number of submissions has dropped significantly. The remaining funds from the NWO grant covers the publication costs of all articles in the pipeline (28 at the time of the BM). Also thanks to the contribution of the EAHN the Journal is financially secure until well into 2016.

- This output should guarantee a decent open issue for the year 2015. There are two new Special Collections in the making, scheduled for late 2015: *Travel*, edited by three members of the EB, and *Word and Image*, edited by guest editors.

- The APC remains set at 500 Euro. With our current costs this amount does not generate the overhead that allows us to waive a significant number of fees. It would therefore make sense to engage the institutional memberships for a Waiver Fund. (In the meantime we have discussed this option with Ubiquity, who agree that this is feasible without Conflict of Interest)

- Ubiquity has submitted a request to Thompson to list Architectural Histories in the Web of Science. The EB is gathering information about the different indexes and lists that are being used across Europe to rate research output, so that we can lobby effectively to have AH listed there. Having AH listed in these indexes will help to justify the APC.

- As Maarten Delbeke wants to resign in 2017, a search for a successor should be initiated.

[Action: Alona Niztan Shiftan]

Discussion

It was **agreed** that the income of Institutional Membership fees should be allocated for the Journal.

Carmen Popescu expressed her concern that in some academic cultures scholars are not accustomed to paying fees for publications, nor have financial support for publishing Open Access. Maarten Delbeke shares these concerns, however argued that Open Access is fostered by various National Scientific Organisations, because it enhances access to research output among a wider audience, especially scholars who are not affiliated to institutions that can afford expensive subscription charges. However, he acknowledged that such a transformation needs time, and in the meanwhile we need convince scholars of the quality of the Journal and the benefits of Open Access.

9. Affiliated organisations

The Secretary has been in contact with several organisations that are concerned with the built environment.

- With **Davide Deriu**, who is the liaison to Architectural Humanities Research Association, UK, the possibilities of collaboration will be explored. Possibly, the EAHN might be involved with the annual PhD symposium that is organised by AHRA. It was **agreed** that the Secretary will contact Teresa Stoppani, who coordinates the AHRA PhD symposiums.

- **Antony Moulis**, President of SAHANZ, is enthusiastic about setting up collaboration between both organisations. We agreed to enhance the presence of each organisation on the SAHANZ/EAHN websites; in addition to providing a reciprocal link to each of the sites, there can be the addition of news of upcoming events specific to each organisation. Furthermore, our mutual agreement may include the opportunity to propose a session to the SAHANZ annual conferences and EAHN International Meetings. In addition, it was proposed to organise a joint Themed Conference in Australia/New Zealand in 2019 (see topic 12).

- With **Sandra Weddle** it was agreed to explore collaboration with the RSA. The EAHN may consider becoming an Associate Organization to the RSA, which would mean that a representative from the EAHN serves on the RSA Council. Furthermore Associate Organizations sponsor up to five sessions at their International Meetings.

- Contact with **Nancy Stieber** on the SAH has not yet been established. However, Sophie Hochhäusl offered to organise an EAHN meeting at the Annual Conference of the SAH in Chicago together with Maarten Delbeke.

[ACTION: Merlijn Hurx]

It was **agreed** that Kathleen James-Chakraborty will invite affiliated organisations to organise a session/round table at the Dublin conference. The Secretary will provide a list with affiliated organisations.

[ACTION: Merlijn Hurx]

Discussion

Several other organisations were discussed with which a liaison could be established, among which Docomomo, International Association for the Study of Traditional Environment (IASTE), Construction History Society of America (CHSA), and Comité International d'Histoire de l'Art (CIHA). The Secretary will investigate future possibilities for collaboration.

10. Tours

Former attempts to find a Tours coordinator have not been successful. Because of the many tours that are organised at EAHN Conferences and Business Meetings and the busy EAHN programme for the next few years, it was **agreed** to end the search for a new Tours Coordinator. The board will continue to encourage Organising Committees of conferences to organise post-conference tours.

11. Conferences and Business Meetings

International Conferences

The Dublin International Conference 2-4 June 2016

The Scientific Committee has received 85 proposals, from which 25 sessions were selected. Kathleen James Chakraborty expressed the committee's concern that there was not a great geographic spread; many proposals came from English-speaking countries. Furthermore, the proposals covered only a limited chronological range; there were few proposals that concern the period before 1800. To balance this limitation it was decided to organise additional open sessions.

- A confirmed keynote speaker is Roger Stalley, and an invitation is sent to Jean Louis Cohen.

The conference venue will be Dublin castle, and a reception will take place in Trinity College Dublin and Irish Architectural Archive. Prior to the Dublin Conference, the Organisation will run a seminar helping non-English speakers to get papers into shape for the proceedings. Hopefully, the conference fees will be the same as in Turin.

- The Call for Papers will be out in March, and the deadline will be 30 September 2015.

Tallinn 2018

Andres Krug and Epp Langkots of the Institute of Art History of the Estonian Academy of Arts in Tallinn have offered to host the International Meeting of 2018. The Academy provides higher education in fine arts, design, art history and architecture. The conference will be held in a new building, located on the fringe of the old town, which is expected to be ready in 2016/2017. Andres stated that they are planning to engage other colleagues from the Baltic (including Finland) in the organisation of the conference.

Discussion

Merlijn Hurx put forward that also TUDelft has offered to organise the 2018 International Meeting. Delft has expressed its wish to host the International Meeting long before, and therefore Merlijn suggested to hold the 2018 conference in Delft and the Tallinn in 2020. However, as Estonia celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2018, and the location fits very well the EAHN's mission statement to involve all geographies in Europe, the Tallinn proposal for 2018 was **approved** by unanimous consent of all attendees.

[Action: Andres Krug]

Themed Conferences

The Belgrade Themed Conference 15-17 October 2015

Carmen Popescu reported on the Belgrade Themed Conference. The Scientific Committee selected around 85 papers from a submission of 104, which results in 17 sessions. Many proposals were from former Yugoslav

countries, but there was an excellent good geographical spread: other proposals came from Portugal, Poland, Turkey, Australia, Southeast Asia, and Israel. It will be a challenge for the committee to have enough session chairs. Confirmed keynote speakers are Branko Mitrović, Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen and Mario Carpo.

The Delft Themed Conference 2017

Merlijn Hurx reported on behalf of Tom Avermaete on the Themed Conference on “*the Roles and Tools of the Architect*” in Delft. The conference will be jointly organised by multiple universities (TUDelft, Utrecht University, Leiden University) and national institutions (Het Nieuwe Instituut –former NAI-, Berlage Institute). This collaboration on a national level is one of the key assets of the plan, and is also quite unique for the EAHN. The location of the conference will be in Rotterdam (Het Nieuwe Instituut) & Delft.

[ACTION: Tom Avermaete]

The Themed Conference “Histories in Conflict” (Israel) 2017

Alona Nitzan Shiftan reported on the Themed Conference “*Histories in Conflict*”, which she proposed to organise together with Panayiota Pyla in Israel or possibly also in Cyprus. 2017 is 50 years after 1967 war, an important mark in the history of Israel, that potentially allows for funding. The exact nature of the conference has still to be decided upon, and could also have the form of an Interest Group Workshop.

[ACTION: Alona Nitzan Shiftan]

The Zurich Themed Conference 2017/2018

Eliana Perotti gave an update on the “*Women and Gender in Architecture*” conference in Zurich, which is an initiative of the Interest Group on Gender. They have worked on two proposals, one for a smaller conference and one for a large conference. Eliana remarked that it is easier to fund a bigger conference. The conference will likely resolve in a Themed Issue in the Journal.

[Action: Eliana Perotti]

Joint Themed Conference with SAHANZ, Australia 2019

Merlijn Hurx communicated an informal offer to hold a future EAHN Thematic Conference in Australia in conjunction with the annual SAHANZ conference in 2019. The proposal to work out a more concrete plan was warmly welcomed by all attendees. Merlijn Hurx will contact Antony Moulis, president of SAHANZ.

Business Meeting

Paris 2016

Christine Mengin and Carmen Popescu proposed a three-day programme for the Business Meeting in mid-February 2016 at INHA. The programme includes a presentation of the State of the Art of French Historiography combined with presentation of the EAHN to French scholars. Furthermore, the EAHN will celebrate its 10th anniversary in the newly opened library of the INHA, La Salle Labrouste in Richelieu Library.

The proposal for the Business Meeting in Paris was warmly welcomed and **accepted** by all attendees.

[ACTION: Carmen Popescu/Christine Mengin]

Discussion on future conferences and meetings

Due to the many proposals for Themed Conferences in the upcoming years Alona Nitzan Shiftan opened a discussion on the nature of these conferences. She expressed her concern that too many sizeable conferences may lead to an overload, and it may prove difficult to populate the scientific committees. Hilde Heynen shares her concern, but thought that the EAHN has enough scholars to serve on scientific committees, even with

multiple large themed conferences in a single year, however she agreed that three conferences in 2017 seems a bit too much. The following conference schedule was proposed:

Conference and BM schedule until 2020

2015 Belgrade Themed Conference (14-17 October)

2016 Business Meeting in Paris (mid-February) / Dublin International Meeting (2-4 June)

2017 Delft Themed Conference / Israel + Cyprus (Themed Conference/Interest Group Workshop) (June)

2018 Zurich (Themed Conference/Interest Group Workshop) in combination with BM / Tallinn International Meeting (June)

2019 Australia Themed Conference in collaboration with SAHANZ

* Subsequent to the Business Meeting, Tom Avermaete has enthusiastically agreed to organise a Themed Conference in 2017 together with a Business Meeting in Mid-February.

12. Any Other Business

- Alona Nitzan Shiftan proposed to install an EAHN Publications Award. Costs should not be an issue, because no money needs to be involved (which is also the case at SAH). However, care should be taken to include all geographies and academic traditions within and outside of Europe. Eligible publications may also be written in other languages than English. However, this might prove a barrier for vetting publications. During the discussion several solutions were considered. Committees may be composed of three to five members from different countries, and depending on submissions additional expertise may be required.

Another option is to install two awards: one for the best English-language book, and one for the best non-English book, which could include a translation award. It was **agreed** that the officers will prepare a proposal.

[Action: Alona Nitzan Shiftan/Hilde Heynen]

- Hilde Heynen brought up the question of unifying criteria for scientific production. The EAHN should compose a document with criteria for good research and a list of peer-reviewed journals. Such a document is important to our discipline, and in particular because it may serve as a strong policy document. However, the large differences between academic cultures make it difficult to indicate what these criteria might be. It was **agreed** that Hilde Heynen will work out a proposal.

[Action: Hilde Heynen]

- The Conference Guidelines and Templates drawn up by Jorge Correia and Michela Rosso have been **approved** and will be made available on the website, preferably in the public area.

Alona Nitzan Shiftan proposed a vote of thanks to Javier Martinez-González, and the University of Navarra for the excellent organisation of the PhD symposium and Business Meeting in Pamplona.