

europaean architectural history network

Business Meeting, 23 February 2018 Warsaw

Old University Library (BUW) rooms 106 and 105
University of Warsaw Main Campus
Ul. Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28
00-927 Warsaw

Attendees:

Hilde Heynen (Chair), Mark Crinson, José Ángel Medina Murua, Pablo Arza Garaloces, Christian Parreno, Freddie O'Dwyer, Lucia C. Pérez, Wouter Van Acker, Anne Hultzsch, Andres Kurg, Stylianos Giamarellos, Miranda Critchley, Jorge Correia, Anat Falbel, Carmen Popescu, Piotr Bujas, Petra Brouwer, Cănă Bilsel (reporting)

Minutes

The meeting started with Hilde Heynen's presentation.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Kathleen James Chakraborty
2. **Approval of the minutes of the Business Meeting, 4 February 2017, Dortmund:** Hilde Heynen presented the minutes of Dortmund meeting and thanked the former secretary Merlijn Hurx. The minutes were approved to be put on the website after approval.
3. **Nomination of Officer:** Vice-President Mark Crinson reported on the nomination of the new Vice-President. The search committee composed of Maarten Delbeke, Carmen Popescu and Mark Crinson nominated Jorge Correia and thanked him for accepting this position to become president after the biennial conference, Edinburg 2020. Jorge thanked the committee for nominating him. Hilde expressed her support to Jorge's nomination. Jorge Correia was elected as the next vice-president of EAHN.
4. **Revision in the Bylaws** for the inclusion of communication officer in the executive committee: Cănă Bilsel (secretary) presented the proposal. Hilde stressed that the proposal meant officially recognizing the role of the communication officer. The proposal was received positively by the councilors. Petra Brouwer pointed out the role of the communication officer in establishing the relation of the executive committee with the Journal. Hilde and Petra stated

that Josie Kane did this for years with success. Hilde proposed to update the bylaws according to this suggestion.

Carmen Popescu pointed other issues in the bylaws to be discussed to make the participation more inclusive.

Jorge Correia noted that the inclusion of a communication officer to the executive committee was a fair idea, but the term of each officer should be considered carefully. Petra reminded that the publication officer and the four editorial board members are appointed for 4 years.

Councilors agreed on an executive committee of five officers, the communication officer being the fifth person to be elected. It is decided to discuss the proposal in Tallinn business meeting, after the Bylaws is reedited.

5. Nomination of Councilors

The President, Hilde Heynen reported that the search committee nominated three new councilors: **Ricardo Costa Agarez** Assist. Prof. in the University of Evora who proposed sessions in EAHN conferences, **Mari Lending**, Professor in Architectural Theory and History in Oslo School of Architecture, who published an excellent book on Plaster Constructions Architecture of Reproduction, and **Denis Bocquet** Professor of Urban and Architectural History and Theory at Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture, Strasbourg.

Hilde stressed that increasing Council members will contribute to the institutionalization of the network. The three nominated colleagues were warmly welcomed by the members of the Council.

6. The Guidelines for Themed International Meetings

The Vice-President, Mark Crinson stated that the guidelines as they currently exist did not allow for different forms of conference.

Discussion:

Jorge Correia agreed with Mark on the need for flexibility in format, but argued that the guidelines needed to be strict in the limitation of the size and purposes of these meetings. He reminded that they should not become as important as biennial conferences. Anne Hultzsch pointed that the biennial conferences and thematic ones are different in content, and she reminded from the web editor point of view that the relationship between the executive committee and the conference organizers needed to be very active. Hilde pointed to the need for being strict concerning the registration with the new membership policy. Carmen Popescu reminded that themed conferences were based on the idea of opening the network –as in the case of the first conference in Brazil- to peripheral conditions, and that the possibility to organize conferences with marginal themes should also be considered. Andres emphasized that the guidelines for both thematic and biennial conferences had to be formulated not as obligations but as guiding regulations. Mark agreed that Biennial conferences needed structure, but stated that the themed conferences needed to be more flexible.

Hilde stressed that EAHN officers and members should be part of the scientific committee of the EAHN conferences. Jorge pointed out that if a conference

registration passes from EAHN website, it could be considered an EAHN conference but if not it can be an associate conference.

Mark suggested that two things could be combined: the finances and the website, whether the conference was advertised by EAHN, financial arrangements need to be flexible, there can be negotiations. Petra stated that a stronger connection of the themed conferences with the journal should be searched.

7. **Guidelines for Biennial Conferences**

The secretary presented the updates suggested in the guidelines of biennial conferences.

Discussion:

Hilde stressed that the registration to the biennial conferences should be made through the website of EAHN. Anne suggested that next time the registration link should be put behind the EAHN membership page.

8. **Membership, Website and Office**

Cânâ presented the process of transition to free membership.

Anne, as web editor, reported that the website had problems before Dortmund BM in 2017. A new web developer was employed and since then problems were being solved. She announced that new features had been introduced to the section of the interest groups on the website. Every EAHN member can be part of an interest group via the website. Many of the interest groups proposed side events in Tallinn conference. Josie Kane will step down as web editor as of this business meeting Anne has taken over in the new role communication officer from her. The web team is now composed of Anne Hultzsch, Giorgio Ponzio (news/listings) and Miranda Critchley (membership/ website). Anat Falbel suggested that a section related to each conference could be opened.

Hilde reported about the possibility of relocating the EAHN office. Cânâ presented her proposal to host the office at METU in Ankara, taking into consideration the advantages of the secretary and the office being in the same place. Hilde thanked the team in Pamplona and Edinburg for the time they spent. She also thanked AHO Oslo, ETH, Leeds Beckett University and TU Delft for giving an office to EAHN for several years. Pablo Arza Garaloces agreed that it would be much better to have the office and secretary close together. Hilde thanked the office and officers in Pamplona.

9. **Finance**

The treasurer, José Medina Murua reported the financial balance of 2017, income and expenses including reimbursement of membership fees for the period October-December.

Discussion:

Hilde stated that people participating in Jerusalem conference paid membership in the old system, which explains why the surplus was limited in this conference. José reminded that, for precision, the financial report is expected from the organizers of the Jerusalem conference. Hilde concluded

that a couple of years more is needed to assess whether the new membership system can indeed sustain the organization in the long term.

10. The Journal

The publication officer and editor of the *Journal Architectural Histories*, Petra Brouwer reported that the journal passed through a transition period since one year as many of the editorial board members changed recently.

Petra Brouwer and Christian Parreno are now Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Assistant, respectively, since the summer. She reported that reviews are back on track, and that Wouter van Acker started to work as review editor responsible for book reviews, conferences and exhibition reviews. She stated however that there was very little response for new editors. She also noted the difficulty to invite people for reviewing books, and multi authored reviews were seen as the solution, as it was easier to find people to write short reviews. She mentioned that authors should be aware that they might have to pay additional fees for more substantial proof reading if the English of an article is sub-standard. She noted that 20-22 articles / a year was expected but there was a notable decrease in the number of articles received in 2017. She reported about the special collections coming up. Concerning the finance of the journal, Petra reported also on the subscription fee required for the subscription to the Open Library of Humanities. Concerning the indexing, she informed that the application was submitted to the Web of Science, but it required a long procedure.

11. Conferences and Business Meeting

- i. Chair of the Biennial Conference Tallinn 2018, Andres Kurg, announced that the registration was open, and a comprehensive program was to be announced by the end of February. Fees were higher than in Dublin, but the total amount decreased because of lower student fees. He informed that changes were made in the programme: opening keynote was now on the evening of the first day, after Special Interest Group meetings, this leaves the lunch on the second day free for lunch events, including an exhibition on the conference site. Andres reported that the Scientific Committee proposed Christine Stevenson, specialist of early modern architecture, as the keynote speaker.

Axel Fischer who organized a conference asked for promoting their journal. On the 11&12 June AHRA PhD Conference in Helsinki, done together with Aalto University, were planned as side events.

- ii. Jerusalem themed conference Histories in Conflict 2017.
Carmen Popescu who directed a session in this conference, reported that it was a very interesting conference, despite problems about panel sessions, and papers with different topics. Hilde stated that she was in the scientific committee, and reported that there were many local papers from Israel but not many from Palestine. Anet stated that there were marvelous entries in her session from Arab Israelis. Carmen stated that the level was good but that the schedule with three parallel sessions was overly dense at some moments.

iii. Delft Conference: "Tools of the Architect"

Cânâ Bilsel, who attended the conference as representative of the executive committee, reported that it was a successful and fruitful conference with many presentations by young scholars.

Discussion:

Other participants mentioned however that most of the participants did not know that it was an EAHN conference, and the conference was not very coherent. 120 papers presented were overwhelming. The secretary noted that this number was less than half of the abstract submissions.

iv. Joint conference with SAHANZ (Australia) 2019

Vice-President Mark Crinson reported that he met with Andrew Leach. It was planned as SAHANZ's annual conference, yet there were still negotiations to be done concerning the financial aspects.

Hilde informed that it was the first time, and SAHANZ always organized thematic conferences. "Looking Back at Distance" would be the theme of the conference. Carmen noted that it looked more as a joint conference than a themed conference.

v. The Design History Conference

Mark reported that it was thought as a two days short conference on "Building-Object/Design Architecture: Exploring Interconnections," scheduled in March 2019.

vi. EAHN International Conference 2020 in Edinburgh

Mark reported that the preparations of the next biennial conference advanced as well. Hilde reminded that it should be announced in Tallinn, followed by a call for session proposals.

vii. New proposals for international themed conferences

Carmen Popescu stated that they were reflecting on a biennial conference around their international project including France, Italy, Romania, Turkey. "Transgression" would be the title of the conference that could be organized in 2020. She noted, however that conference fees might be a problem, e.g. in France, because of people's critical attitude against paying fees.

Anat Falbel reminded that a themed conference can come out of interest groups.

viii. Business Meeting 2019

Lucia Pérez' proposal to organize the business meeting 2019, combined with a conference in Zaragoza, was accepted by unanimity.

12. EAHN Publication Awards

The president, Hilde Heynen reported on the future plans for the EAHN Publication Awards; she stressed the possibility of a book award (which would need a lot of reflection on how to do it) and stated that the publication award for

the journal was still on the table. The editorial board was to make a short list of 10 candidates.

13. Other Business

The institutional membership fee was fixed to 250 Euros.

The President, Hilde Heynen thanked the attendees for being here and closed the meeting.