

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL STANDING CONFERENCE
FOR THE HISTORY OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF ALCALÁ, 8 SEPTEMBER 2000**

ISCHE XXII

1. **APOLOGIES**: Apologies for inability to attend were received from Prof. Dr Christoph Lüth due to illness.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**: The minutes of the last General Assembly meeting in Sydney in 1999 (as presented in *ISCHE NEWS* and the homepage) were approved by the General Assembly present with no amendments.

3. **CHAIR'S REPORT**: (Prof. Dr Jeroen J.H. Dekker)

Jeroen Dekker warmly welcomed members to the General Assembly meeting and expressed delight at the ongoing globalisation of ISCHE, especially through the affiliation of new societies from Brazil, Argentina and Israel. He reported that Professor Michael Omoleva, the present representative for Nigeria at UNESCO had accepted an invitation by the Executive to become an Executive Member for a three year term-of-office on a co-opted basis, according to the Statutes of ISCHE. He also reported that Prof. Dr Erwin V. Johanningmeier under the by-laws has had his membership of the Executive extended for a further year (one year term) as Treasurer (2001).

The Chair also reported that the Executive have also decided upon the development of a new and much more elaborate ISCHE Homepage and 'Webmaster' style website which would provide 'state-of-the-art' linkages with all participating national societies in the field of the History of Education.

Prof. Dr Antonio Viñao Frago, as retiring member of the ISCHE Executive, after his second term under the Statutes, was warmly thanked for his outstanding work as Membership Secretary in achieving the full affiliation of several national societies during his term-of-office.

4. **ELECTION OF THE NEW CHAIR, ISCHE**: Prof. Dr António Nóvoa, who was fully endorsed by the current executive, was duly elected as Chair, ISCHE unopposed and by acclamation by the General Assembly present.

In response Prof. Dr António Nóvoa proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of ISCHE for the outstanding work accomplished by Prof. Dr Jeroen Dekker during his term-of-office as Chair. He also warmly

recognised the work of all other previous Chairs by name since the establishment of ISCHE which had been a notable success as an international learned society due to their tireless efforts.

Prof. Dr António Nóvoa stated that he was completely and passionately committed as the new Chair to carry out the wishes of the General Assembly of ISCHE, to develop strong links with the international historical society movement and to continue to improve the quality of official ISCHE publications, as well as its annual conferences and general international standing.

5. **ELECTIONS TO THE ISCHE EXECUTIVE:** The following members were duly elected to the Executive in the places of vacancies in accordance with the statutes. Each person was nominated by the appropriate national society in History of Education and endorsed by the ISCHE Executive:

Dr Ruth Watts (re-elected to a second term-of-office) nominated under the statutes by the Chair and Executive of the English Society of History of Education. Dr Watts had demonstrated her strong commitment by presenting well-received scholarly papers at every conference, her active involvement in the Gender Studies Working Group, her planning of the upcoming Birmingham Conference and her previous work on the ISCHE Executive.

Prof. Dr Agustín Escolano who was nominated by the Executive of the Spanish Society for the History of Education (SEDHE). Prof. Dr Escolano is the current Chair of SEDHE and a distinguished Professor of the History of Education with numerous highly regarded publications.

As there were two vacancies and two nominations Dr Watts and Prof. Dr Escolano were endorsed and elected unopposed by acclamation of the General Assembly.

6. **REPORT ON THE OSLO CONFERENCE, AUGUST 2000, INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF HISTORICAL SCIENCES:**

Jeroen Dekker reported that ISCHE had full voting rights at the Oslo International Congress of Historical Sciences (ICHS) for the first time due to its completed affiliation and endorsement by ICHS. He reported that the annual membership fee is currently \$653.00 (USA) and that ISCHE was well represented at Oslo by the Gender Studies Working Group led by Prof. Dr Geoffrey Giles. Eight high quality papers were presented on the theme of 'Uses and Abuses of Gender in Education' to a small, but high quality audience and all were well received.

7. **REPORTS ON FORTHCOMING ISCHE CONFERENCES:**

(a) **Birmingham 2001** (12-15 July 2001): Dr Ruth Watts and Dr Ian Grosvenor presented a full report on the plans for ISCHE XXIII at the University of Birmingham in July 2001, accompanied by a video presentation and a four page illustrated, printed pamphlet for conference bookings and reservations. The conference theme is 'Urbanisation and Education.

The City as a light and beacon?' The conference opening will be at the University with a keynote speaker and the remainder of the conference will be held in the conference facilities of the Chamberlain Tower Hotel. The keynote speakers include Associate Professor Kate Rousmaniere, Miami University, USA, Bengt Sandin, Linköping University, Sweden, Philippe Savoie, Institut National de Recherche Pédagogique, Paris, France, Professor Carolyn Steedman, University of Warwick, England. Dr Ruth Watts is Conference President. Exhibitions are planned at the Chamberlain Tower Hotel, City Library and Rotunda. Full details are available on the conference website: <http://www.cetadl.bham.ac.uk/domus/>

- (b) **Paris 2002** (ISCHE XXIV): Professor Dr Philippe Savoie gave a detailed presentation of ISCHE XXIV to be held at the Sorbonne, Paris in July 2002 in combination with the National Conference commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the French Lyceum and government authority over education. The theme is 'Secondary or post-primary education in its widest sense' and the national conference is fully open to ISCHE members as well. (The conference was previously approved by the General Assembly and this was reconfirmed).
- (c) **Sao Paulo, Brazil 2003**: A presentation was given in detail by the local organising committee. The conference venue of the University of Sao Paulo was founded in 1934 and is the most distinguished and prominent Brazilian university, especially for History of Education. The University is situated 15 kms from the city centre. The theme of the conference is a broad and inclusive one: 'Education and Modernity'.

Questions were called for after the comprehensive report but there were none. Planning for the conference is now at an advanced state.

The General Assembly officially approved the conference at Sao Paulo in 2003 (XXV) by a show of hands. There were none against and one with no opinion.

- (d) **Geneva, Switzerland 2004**: It was reported by Prof. Dr António Nóvoa that Geneva was a particularly suitable venue for an ISCHE conference (ISCHE XXVI) as there was strong, ongoing research in the field being conducted there and an experienced and viable local organising committee. The theme proposed was 'Pedagogical Innovation, especially between the 1920s and 1960s'.

The General Assembly endorsed the Executive's recommendation for the Geneva group to prepare a detailed plan and proposal to be presented at the General Assembly at Birmingham

in 2001.

- (e) **Sydney 2005 to be combined with ICHS in Sydney:** This ISCHE meeting will follow the policy established to have a combined conference with ICHS every five years. The venue for the combined conference will be the University of New South Wales, Kensington, Sydney which has a very distinguished Department of History. A local organising committee will be established to formulate a program for the two following days after the ICHS meeting. ISCHE Conference papers will be also delivered within the ICHS for two days, making four days, in all, of an ISCHE Conference (XXVII).

- (f) **Tel Aviv, Israel 2006:** Yuval Dror of Tel Aviv University reported to the General Assembly that Tel Aviv would be the conference venue and Tel Aviv Hotel would provide the residential accommodation for those that will attend. A professional conference organising firm will assist. The local History of Education society will organise and members are drawn from various Israeli universities and include non-Jewish as well as Jewish scholars and researchers. The theme proposed is 'Education and Community' in the broadest sense from the local outwards to the international.

The local organising committee are invited to develop a more detailed proposal for presentation at the Birmingham Conference in 2001.

- 8. **STANDING WORKING GROUPS:** It was reported that there were two Standing Working Groups active within ISCHE: The Enlightenment Standing Working Group and the Gender Studies Working Group. The Enlightenment Group has several meetings and publications to its credit and is planning a meeting at the Birmingham Conference in 2001. The Gender Studies Working Group had a meeting in Oslo in 2000 as reported above and have given papers at every ISCHE meeting since its foundation.

The Teaching of History Standing Working Group and the Post-colonial Standing Working Group are formally dissolved, the latter never having met since the initial proposal.

It was pointed out that Working Groups could re-emerge if they had sufficient membership interested and new ones could be formed from time-to-time.

- 9. **PUBLICATIONS:** The publication of Proceedings of ISCHE Conferences were up-to-date with the 1999 Sydney Conference book due to be released in January 2001. All others in recent years have been published and released. A full list of available publications will appear in the *ISCHE News* in the next issue of *Paedagogica Historica* and on the revised homepage and website.

10. **NATIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS: INTERVENTION REPORTS:**

- (i) The Brazilian Society for the History of Education gave a report on its structure, organisation and function after the two History of Education societies in the country had combined to form the one national organisation who are preparing the Sao Paulo Conference in 2003. Membership numbers are very pleasing.
- (ii) The Argentinian Society for the History of Education have now affiliated with ISCHE. They were founded in 1995 and now have a very strong and growing membership.
- (iii) The Catalan Society for the History of Education is now eighteen years old with a strong and active membership which is productive in terms of research and scholarship.

11. **ISCHE CONFERENCE PAPER PRIZE:** Prof. Dr Wayne Urban announced that Tanya Fitzgerald of Auckland, New Zealand had been awarded the Sydney ISCHE Paper Prize (1999) for her paper entitled ‘ “To be under the eye of some of us at all times to divert their attention from mischief”: Maori Women’s Resistance to Schooling 1823-1835.’ He said that the paper was outstanding and the award was unanimous according to the judges. The Secretary accepted the award on behalf of Tanya who was not able to attend the Conference at Alcalá.

12. **TREASURY REPORT:** The treasurer reported that the positive bank balance for ISCHE stood at \$2680.86 (USA).

13. **VOTE OF THANKS:** A very warm vote of thanks was directed to Professor Dr Maria del Mar de Pozo Andrés and to all others on the local committee for organising such an outstanding, well-run and satisfying conference in every respect at Alcalá.

The General Assembly was declared closed as there was no other business.

JOHN RAMSLAND

General Secretary, ISCHE.