

ESHA General Board Meeting, Friday, 24th of March 2006

1. Opening, welcome

- BM speaks about the secretariat change
- New representatives who have never attended a GB meeting give a short introduction: **Roy** from NAHT from the United Kingdom, **Peter** from Scotland, **Solveig** from Norway and **André** from Belgium.
- ESHA has a new e-mail address. Please send everything to Eshaoffice@web.de

2. Minutes of Helsinki

Minutes approved.

3. Presidential Report by Antonino Petrolino

- BM thanks AP for the presidential report and the support he still gives to him and to ESHA.

4. New Concept: Regionalization

- BM says ESHA needs close contact with its members to know what they expect from the organization. It is also necessary to work more in between the meetings.
- To achieve a closer contact, the EB has been divided into regions. JL is responsible for the Scandinavian and the Baltic States, AP for the Roman States, NG is responsible for France and Brussels and the coordination of the ESLN project.
- The EB is looking for someone taking up the Eastern European countries and Russia. Belgium remarks that the Southern regions also have to be developed.
- BM remarks that the regionalization is not a formal structure for ESHA, but only within the EB.

5. ESHA Secretariat

- BM says ESHA has had some discussions about the work done in Utrecht. Therefore, Utrecht will now be in charge of the financial affairs: budget, money, invoices, archives etc. The daily work will now be done in Germany. In the future, the secretariat will “follow” the president.
- NG will be in charge of the newsletter and everything concerning it will be sent to her secretariat.
- Bernhard Staerke will be in charge of the website.
- These measures will reduce the costs so ESHA will have more money for other tasks.
- **Kees van Ouden** left the secretariat this year.
- BM says that ESHA will work with this new structure now and then evaluate whether it is better.

6. Budget – Will be discussed on Saturday, 25th of March

7. Report on projects

- *Main project ESLN*: NG reports that ESLN was a big success. 60 people came to take part in the third module and it is still possible to take part. It is important to deal with the future of ESLN now since there are many motivated participants. Some of them are also interested in becoming ESHA members.

- *PISA II*: ESHA works on this project with the Dutch. Please deliver the material in time (Participants are Norway, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the UK and Cyprus)
- *Homestays*: Please spread the news about the project because it is not on all the countries websites yet. ESHA asks all member organisations to give a written first evaluation. Pieter Hetteema remarks that the project shows the European dimension of ESHA.
- *Helsinki dissemination project "Hands on Brains on"*: JL explains the cooperation with the Manager of the Norwegian Science Center, **Professor Hannu Salmi**, which brought up new projects that are accepted by the Commission. On the 17th of November, a conference will take place in France including a Round Members' with directors of science centers and school heads to learn how to experiment in class instead of only teaching.
- *Autonomy*: **NAHT** will prepare a final position paper for Rome on Autonomy. Anyone who has results of the working groups from former conferences shall send them in.

8. Website and Newsletter

- ESHA needs to build up a network which is interactive. Bernhard Staerke suggests a portal which is not open for the public and needs a username and a password. It will only be for GB members who can then load up documents to a working area. SLV NRW already uses this in Germany. Newsletters will be placed on the website and will be made open to the public via an archive. Everything can be posted in different languages. Please use the forum.

9. Applications for ESHA membership

- ESHA has Membership applications from Scotland, Denmark, Belgium and Cyprus (Primary and Secondary -delegates could not come). All countries representatives give a short introduction. BM presented the written introduction for Cyprus. GB agrees to all five new members.

ESHA General Board Meeting, 25th of March 2006

1. Opening, announcements

- There will be a GB meeting in autumn 2007. Who is interested in hosting the conference in 2008 or the GB meeting? The spring meeting will be in Luxemburg. Macedonia offered to host a meeting.
- Gorica Llijoska from FYROM (Macedonia) offered to be in charge of the Eastern Regions in the EB (regionalization).

2. Rome Conference

- AP gives a short overview about the Rome Conference. The General Board meeting will be part of the conference. Up to the end of April, the conference fee is 280 Euros, afterwards 340 Euros. The conference will include school visits, speakers from Italy, the UK and France. There will be 23 working groups. Please register via www.esha2006.it, also for the school visits.

3. Financial Report – Budget

- AP reports -

Income: the contributions from members were higher in 2005 than in 2004, by an amount of approx. 1.000,00 €

No funding was received for projects, compared to an expected income of 12.590,00 € The reason is that the interim report for ESLN activities held during 2005 was not forwarded to the Commission in due time. In consequence, no payment was done.

Expenses: the secretariat cost 3000 € more than expected. Also, the support for ESLN was lower. The expenses for EB were 3000 € higher. The reason is that the EB was enlarged by one observer member (Kate Griffin from ICP – decision of EB Stavanger). And, in addition, all EB meetings were attended by all EB members (where this was not true during some of the previous years); therefore the costs were also higher. Nevertheless, ESHA has a little benefit of 1688 € Overall, the budget was higher.

Result capital: it equals **67.431** €, higher than 2004 by those 1.688,00 € resulting from the balance between income and expenses. But the European Commission can still make corrections on project-results for five years after the final report was sent in. Since the SMC project was funded with approx. 28.000,00 € this is the max. amount of money that could be still claimed back. In the worst case, our result capital should be reduced by that sum of money: but it is highly unlikely that this will happen.

- After this report, the realisation budget for 2005 is approved.
- The proposal of budget for 2006 is very similar to the one for 2005, since no relevant changes are expected in income or expenses, apart from a possible new contract for the secretariat.. This new contract will change the budget proposal and EB will report about these changes in Rome. The budget 2005 and the budget proposal 2006 were approved (otherwise necessary changes due to the new contract between ESHA and the Secretariat in Utrecht)
- The ESLN funding from the Commission can be at a maximum of 12000€
- The membership fees stayed almost the same. AP, answering one question from the audience, expresses his view that in the end the membership income might be a little bit higher, due to new members coming in and maybe to Sweden returning to ESHA.

4. Projects

- **Jens Nilsson** explains the Danish project which deals with learning with internet radio. Young people use mp3-players and download radio programmes (podcasting). The project is about producing educational programmes in cooperation with Danish schools, vocational colleges and a Hungarian school. It starts this autumn and has good ratings.

5. School visits

- **Belgium delegate:** went to the Humboldt Gymnasium and complained that he didn't see enough of the school itself and didn't get enough information.
- **Ton Duif from the Netherlands** says that the visit to the Montessori School gave very much insight. The group met teachers and students. The buildings were in bad shape. The countries shouldn't only invest in secondary education but in all schools.
- **NG:** in France most of the money goes to upper secondary schools.

- **Peter Hetteema** says that the visit was well prepared and the school was nice, but he would have liked more contextual information as a foreigner to be able to discuss about the problems.
- Kate Griffin from England remarks that it would be nice to meet more principals and see more than one school, maybe all schools in the system.
- **Linda Austin from the UK** says it was very interesting to visit a Gymnasium but it was a highly selective, elite school. It would also be interesting to see a comprehensive school to get both sides of the picture.
- **BM:** Germany has a very selective School system and the principals hope to change it. PISA might bring a change.
- **Margret Rössler from Germany** says that PISA also leads to a higher level of selection since politicians enhance selective behaviour within the school system. ESHA should describe the schools within the system for the visitors.
- **Pieter Hetteema from the Netherlands** remarks that it is necessary to know about the regional context – for example that the birth rate in Brandenburg has gone down and schools are declining.
- **Tim from Ireland** found the visits excellent because the group had the opportunity to listen to an English class. Children were asked “What do you think about your school” and so the principals could hear the students’ perspective.
- **Jorgen Christiansen** from Denmark was impressed by the hospitality and thinks that ESHA should give the schools a feedback and that each group should have a speaker during the visit.
- **Bernhard Staerke** thinks the school visit to the Montessori School was good because the visitors got a short introduction, visited classes and had a discussion with the pupils. He thinks this should be a model for all visits. ESHA will prepare a paper (model) for school visits to use it in first time in Rome.
- **BM:** For the next meeting in Rome ESHA will hand out descriptions of the school system. It would be helpful if every member gave a short description of the system and uploaded it as soon as possible.

6. ESHA Members’ book

- ESHA wants to print a book and also have a version on the internet.
- We need similar standardized information on all members’ books, i.e. e-mail and web address, photos of children of each country, a text in the native language.
- The book needs a more professional graphic design. It is necessary to leave a white stripe in the middle for folding the page.
- GB decides to wait with printing the book until everyone is satisfied. There is no time pressure.
- NG says OCE might sponsor the book.
- **Bernhard Staerke asks everyone to e-mail the texts and the informations and to send a letter with standards to bst@slv-nrw.de, best until the end of May.**
- **Freddy Meeus prepared the history of ESHA on CD.**
- The book should contain information about the organisation, the history of ESHA and the members’ books.