



## **EUNIS Board web meeting, 2nd of November 2016, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.**

### **Minutes**

**Present (Board members):** Pekka Kähköpuro (President), Ilkka Siissalo (Vice-President), Raimund Vogl (Treasurer), John Murphy (Secretary), Mikael Berglund, Ramon Grau Sala, Michele Mennielli, Lígia Ribeiro, Tomasz Szmuc, Bas Cordewener, Jean-François Desnos (Executive Secretary), Anna Pacholak (President's Assistant)

**Apologies:** Valérie Le Strat, Yves Epelboin (Past President), Jan Madey (Past President)

#### **1. Update on the 2016 Congress and Rectors' Conference.**

##### **EUNIS 2016 Congress (Michele Mennielli, Jean-Francois Desnos)**

Michele Mennielli gave an overview on the status of the 2016 Congress preparations. All remarks from the Board were passed to the organisers and accepted by them. The Programme Committee meeting will be held soon. Some of the tracks are to be changed and new Congress themes proposed. Myrto Amorgianou will redesign the Congress website and the new proposal will be presented to the Board at the meeting in Thessaloniki. The leaflet for sponsors is ready and Jean-Francois has already sent it to 12 companies (no reply so far). Contacts with potential sponsors are covered by the two teams headed by Yiannis Salmatzidis (local companies), and Jean-François Desnos (international companies). Both the teams are supported by Michele Mennielli.

##### **Rectors' Conference (Tomasz Szmuc)**

Tomasz Szmuc briefed the Board on the Rectors' Conference progress. Motorola has agreed to be the event's Gold Sponsor (€7.000 sponsorship) and negotiations with ABB are in process. Among the other potential sponsors are Microsoft and IBM. On the request of Ilkka Siissalo the Board reviewed the list of keynote speakers. Some of them have already confirmed. The new proposals were added and the Board members assigned to be the contact person for particular speakers. The mailing list is being updated and the invitations will be sent to Rectors soon.

## 2. Roles and responsibilities (John Murphy, Pekka Kähköpuro)

John Murphy introduced the paper on the current EUNIS structure and presented some slides on possible future direction and outlined some key questions. These documents had been circulated to the Board in advance and a preliminary discussion took place that will inform a more detailed discussion at the Board meeting in Thessaloniki. There were different points of view presented by the Board members. One suggestion is that the paid staff duties should be focused on operational activities. A key and a crucial position for the organisation is that of the Executive Secretary. This was highlighted among the proposals such as Communication Officer or Events' Coordinator. There were some queries on the role of Past Presidents and suggestions on strengthening the Task Force Leaders' roles. The number of Vice-Presidents could be increased and some may be appointed to regions as this position seems to reinforce lobbying. Raimund Vogl (the Treasurer) was asked to revise the budget in order to estimate funds that might be potentially allocated for staff hiring.

**Action: Raimund Vogl to estimate the potential budget that might be allocated for staff hiring.**

## 3. EUNIS strategic roadmap (Pekka Kähköpuro, Ramon Grau Sala)

The purpose of the presentation that had been sent to the Board in advance of the online meeting was to elicit and exchange ideas and have open discussions on the way EUNIS should go forward. There were five strategic areas of development proposed;

- financial sustainability and how we ensure it
- networking - to offer diverse and relevant networking opportunities
- member engagement - to retain and increase active members
- knowledge & skill provision - to provide state-of-the-art knowledge and skills for IT professionals in HE
- advocacy – to provide a voice for members in the EC for IT professionals in HE.

The Board members agreed that the strategy is relevant for the further developments of EUNIS. Board members are requested to send proposals of strategic objectives and measurable goals and some initial actions that could be undertaken in advance of the next Board meeting. The purpose is to come up with decisions on some of key strategic items at the next Board meeting. It may be useful to look at how similar organisations (e.g. euroCRIS) are structured and operating and to look at some of their activities, funding, mechanisms, sources of income, staff & management, expenditures etc.

**Action: All the Board members to send proposals of objectives/initial actions that might be undertaken.**

## 4. Any other business:

John Murphy suggested introducing a self-evaluation of the Board's performance.