EUNIS General Assembly meeting, 9th of June 2016, Thessaloniki

Minutes

The annual meeting of the EUNIS General Assembly took place during the EUNIS 2016 Congress in Thessaloniki, Greece.

1. Welcome and registration of representatives

Present:
Daniel Van Belle (U. L. Bruxelles), Ivan Vrana (EUNIS-CZ), Pia Hulda Jensen (U. South Denmark), Kurt Nielsen (Syddansk U.), Ilkka Siissalo (U. Helsinki); Kuno Öhrman (Hanken S.E.), Christa Winqvist (Aalto U.), J.-F. Desnos (EUNIS), Frédérick Bigrat (Sorbonne U.), Thierry Koscielniak (Paris Descartes U.), Yves Epelboin (Pierre et Marie Curie U.), Amandine Alehyane (Paris Ile de France U.), Hartmut Hotzel (Bauhaus U. Weimar / ZKI), H.-D. Weckmann (U. Düsseldorf), Raimund Vogl (U. Münster), Yiannis Salmatzidis (Aristotle U. Thessaloniki), John Murphy (Trinity College Dublin), Michele Mennielli (CINECA), Zigmunds Zitmanis (Riga Stradins U.), Bas Cordewener (Jisc), Terje Johanssen (Norwegian Business School), Przemyslaw Stolarski (Adam Mickiewicz U.), Robert Dabrowski (U. Warsaw), Mariusz Czerniak (Nicolaus Copernicus U. in Toruń), Jan Madey (MUCI / U. Warsaw), Tomasz Szmuc (AGH U. Cracow), Anna Pacholak (EUNIS), Ligia Ribeiro (U. Porto), Elsa Cardoso (U. I. Lisbon), Darina Tothova (Slovak U. Nitra), Ramon Grau Sala (SIGMA), Vicente Andreu Navarro (U. Jaume I), Victoriano Giralt (U. Málaga), Sören Berglund (U. Umeå), Murat Erten (Izmir I. T.), Pekka Kähkipuro (Brunel U.), Peter Tinson (UCISA), Richard Murphy (Essex U. personal), Gregory Palmer (U. of Penn), Malte Dreyer (H. U. Berlin), Christian Zufferey (EPF Lausanne), Tomislav Tomljenović (Agency for Science, Croatia), Maciej Zygmunt (AGH), Markus von der Heyde (vdH-IT), Ani-Jatta Immonen (Aalto U.).

President John Murphy took the chair.

2. Approval of the minutes from the 2015 GA meeting in Dundee
The General Assembly approved unanimously the minutes from Dundee in 2015.

3. New members since October 2015 accepted by the Board
The General Assembly approved unanimously the following new applications:
Regular Members:
Université Libre de Bruxelles,
Izmir Institute of Technology
Brunel University London
Oslo and Akershus University College
National Information Processing Institute Warsaw.
Corporate Members:
Software2
Collabco

4. EUNIS activities

The Board and TF leaders reported on the activities and future plans of the EUNIS Task Forces. All Task Forces had run pre-Congress workshop on 7th June 2016.

Benchmarking:
The BencHEIT TF now has 57 members, taking part in the BencHEIT survey on IT expenditures. The next annual BencHEIT workshop is planned in Trondheim, Norway at the beginning of December 2016. New active participants are welcome, including members that would be willing to join the steering group. A closer cooperation with JISC and EDUCAUSE is expected.

Interoperability:
The TF currently runs the EMREX project, Erasmus without Paper and Techies bunch in the Groningen Declaration Network. There are approx. 120 members in the Task Force.

E-Learning:
There are approximately 100 members from 15 countries on the mailing list. The next workshop is expected at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, Norway, possibly with the BI workshop. The TF is interested in a bid for an EU project.

Business Intelligence:
The BI TF is interested in joint/cross over events with the E-learning TF and webinars on BI issues within EUNIS.

ERAI
ERAI are developing a repository for the work published by ERAI and EUNIS provided by euroCRIS (Dspace-CRIS). Next year ERAI plans for case studies and interviews linked to current reports. Collaboration with other organisations such as EDUCAUSE, CHEITA and Internet2 as the European node are in progress.

European Commission
EUNIS is represented in Bruxelles by Yves Epelboin at the Education & Training 2020 Working Groups, especially the Digital skills and competences WG. EUNIS is involved in The Digitally-Competent Educational Organisation, developing a self-assessment online tool to assess digital competences and maturity of institutions and educators in using ICT.

Rectors' Conferences
The aim of these Conferences are to discuss strategy, policy, organization and management issues and are not IT focused.
Rectors' Conference 2016
Last April, the EUNIS 2016 Rector's Conference took place in Kraków, Poland, hosted by AGH and Jagiellonian Universities . Attendees were Rectors and decision makers from 43 institutions and representatives from 21 countries. According to the evaluation questionnaire, the event was rated very high.
Rectors' Conference 2018
The next EUNIS 2018 Rectors' Conference that will be held in Portugal on 26-28 April 2018, hosted by the University of Porto.

Next Congresses:
2017 Münster
The EUNIS 2017 Congress will take place in Münster, Germany, on 7 - 9 June 2017, hosted by University of Münster.
See the presentation of Münster colleagues, their Congress booth, and http://www.eunis.org/eunis2017/

Congresses 2018 and after
The Secretary will announce a call for proposal for EUNIS members to host the Congresses in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Roles on the EUNIS Board
The President announced that the roles of Board members would be evaluated.

The General Assembly unanimously approved both past and planned activities.

5. Special report about a financial issue

The Treasurer had the difficult duty to communicate a significant financial fraud suffered by EUNIS.
Checking the accounts in early 2016, the Treasurer discovered a major discrepancy between the bank reports and the reports made by the Treasurer Assistant, Mr Harald Spiegl.
Confronted by the evidence, Mr. Spiegl confessed to having fraudulently obtained up to €96,758 from the EUNIS account.
The Board reacted immediately, removing Mr. Spiegl from his position, securing the account, and hiring a lawyer in Germany to determine the best legal route to follow.
The aims of EUNIS board were:
1) to recover as much of the money as possible
2) to keep a legal pressure on the Mr. Spiegl with the possibility to take an action to court at a future date.

A legal notary agreement has been signed by Mr. Spiegl on Tuesday 7th of June 2016, in which he confessed to the fraud and committed to payments of €500 per month until September 2020, and for a final payment of €104 500 in October 2020 (i.e. for a total of €130 000). These payments are secured by a land charge on Mr. Spiegl's property, and a submission to wage garnishment.
In addition, the Board decided the following actions:
• Establish double-verification on EUNIS online banking account by Board members
• Make monthly bank account statements available to all Board members
• Conduct an external financial audit ASAP in 2016 using a French auditor (EUNIS is registered in France)
• Establish annual internal financial audit by auditors elected by general assembly from EUNIS members starting in 2017.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the measures outlined by the Treasurer.
The President and the Board expressed sincere gratitude to the Treasurer for his efficient and effective management of this exceptional affair.

6. Financial report and budget

The Treasurer presented in details the cash report for year 2015-2016, which is summarized below:

Expense		Income	
Staff	7527.05	Membership fees	40185.07
Meetings and travels	5081.16	Surplus EUNIS 2015	3698.95
TFs support	5141.64		
Sponsor. EUNIS 2016	7500.00		
Bank fees	487.70		
Total	**25737.55**	**Total**	**43884.02**

The money fraudulently removed from the EUNIS bank account is not included in this cash report.

The Treasurer then proposed the 2016-2017 budget, summarized below:

Expense		Income	
Staff	15000.00	Membership fees	40500.00
Board meetings	4000.00	Exceptional items	6000.00
TFs support	15000.00		
Cloud and other services	4800.00		
Bank and admin. fees	800.00		
Total	**39600.00**	**Total**	**46500.00**

The bank balance on June 5th 2016 is €52529.24.
Estimation for September 30th is €35529.24. This takes into account legal expenses for the Mr. Spiegl affair (€21000), and a surplus from Rector's Conference 2016 (€7000).

Both reports were unanimously approved.

7. Election of scrutinizers for the election of Board members

Ivan Vrana and Kuno Öhrman were elected as scrutinizers.

8. Election of new Board members. There were four vacancies.

After a secret ballot (36 papers) the following were reelected to the Board:

John Murphy (current President of EUNIS)	35 votes
Ilkka Siissalo (current Vice President of EUNIS and BencHEIT Task Force Leader)	36 votes
Michele Mennielli (current Secretary of EUNIS)	35 votes

After a secret ballot the following were approved as Board members having been co-opted during the year since the last General Assembly:

Malte Dreyer	36 votes
Yiannis Salmatzidis	36 votes

The General Assembly ended after the elections (no other issues were raised).