



Minutes of the meeting of the ICOS Board of Directors Glasgow, 29 August 2014

Present:

Carole Hough (CH, chair), Terhi Ainiola (TA), Emilia Aldrin (EA), Lidia Becker (LB), Richard Coates (RC), Alice Crook (AC), Oliviú Felecan (OF), Milan Harvalík (MH), Antti Leino (AL), Carol Léonard (CL), Staffan Nyström (SN), Guy Puzey (GP, secretary), Kaisa Rautio Helander (KRH), Paula Sjöblom (PS), Valéria Tóth (VT).

Apologies:

Ian Clark (IC), Barbara Czopek-Kopciuch (BCK), Nobuhle Hlongwa (NH), Laura Kostanski (LK).

1. Welcome

The chair, Carole Hough, called the meeting to order on Friday 29 August 2014 at 13:00 local time. She welcomed the new members of the Board, and handed over to the new President, MH.

MH thanked CH on behalf of all members of both the outgoing and incoming Boards for all her outstanding work as President.

2. Apologies

There were apologies from IC, BCK, NH and LK.

3. Confirmation of the agenda

The agenda was agreed.

4. Matters arising from the General Assembly

The most important matters are the question of *Onoma* and the question of whether or not summaries should be produced in all three ICOS languages in the Congress proceedings.

MH asked members of the Board for their opinions on the matter of summaries for the proceedings. He understands the arguments on both sides.

As CH indicated, ICOS is one of few conferences still publishing proceedings. The question was whether or not abstracts in all three languages should be compulsory. RC felt that the key factor is timeliness. While it is good in every other respect to have three languages, the key concern is what is quickest. CL agreed that it is better to adopt a solution that will make it easier for ICOS and for members.

LB felt that it should not be a problem if the authors provided the abstracts themselves. OF pointed out that many ISI-indexed journals stipulate a limit of 200 words for abstracts. On such a basis it should be easy for each author to include three abstracts in English, French and German. Short abstracts would not be costly for ICOS to translate.

EA stressed that, internationally, proficiency in languages other than English is diminishing. If there are not abstracts at least in English, many scholars will not be able to read a summary of some papers, which would be unfortunate. CH felt it would be unlikely that many papers would be submitted without abstracts in English. Most would want to send in abstracts in English, and it would be more of a challenge for some English-language authors to translate into French and German. LB underlined that it would not look good if some papers only had one abstract while others had three.

CL stressed that the principles of equality and diversity are important. GP agreed and spoke of the work a number of members had put in to making sure the ICOS Newsletter is trilingual. It is a lot of work, but it is well worth the effort due to the importance of the principles concerned in the ICOS language policy.

MH spoke in favour of publishing the Newsletter and *Onoma* in three languages (or at least with summaries in three languages). The financial, work and time aspects are problematic as language needs to be checked. One potential solution suggested by MH was that submissions for the proceedings could have two summaries: one in the original language of the paper and another in one of the other ICOS languages. It could be stipulated that these abstracts must be provided by authors.

Overall, it was felt that this matter was best addressed by the editors of the proceedings themselves.

5. Information exchange between the ICOS Board and members in charge of flagship activities of ICOS (Congress organisers, Editorial Board, working groups)

MH explained that it was a big advantage that VT is a member of the new Board and will be organising the next Congress in Debrecen. There will be more opportunities for sharing information about progress at next Board meeting.

AL provided an update on the Editorial Board of *Onoma*. During the term of the previous ICOS Board, the Editor-in-Chief has been invited to Board meetings. AL is willing to continue that tradition if the new Board agrees. The Editorial Board itself is one of the working groups in the sense that the chair of the Editorial Board should be a member of the ICOS Board.

MH spoke about the forthcoming issues of *Onoma*. There has been a promising suggestion about Asian Onomastics. There are not currently that many ICOS members based in Asia.

SN will contact Asian members of ICOS to see if there are any prospective guest editors. (Action: SN). This can be discussed in greater detail at next Board meeting.

MH presented his report on the Terminology Group yesterday. As MH is still on the Board, he can continue as Head of the Terminology Group.

BCK will be asked for her opinion about the next steps for the Bibliography Group. MH will ask her personally about this, and will communicate the Board's best wishes to her in thanking her for her work co-ordinating the group. (Action: MH)

6. Date of next meeting

MH asked members of the Board to propose potential locations for a Board meeting in February/March/April 2015. Doodle polls had been organised for this in the past. LB could host a meeting in Hannover in March 2015.

There will be an opportunity to have hybrid meetings, with some members attending in person and some via Skype.

OF proposed a Board meeting in Baia Mare in September 2015 in conjunction with the ICONN conference. There should also be a pre-Congress meeting in Debrecen just before Congress.

7. Any other business

The minutes of the previous Board meeting (Glasgow, 24 August 2014) were approved as a true record.

MH closed the meeting at 13:48 local time on Friday 29 August.

Guy Puzey
Secretary (outgoing)
29 August 2014