

IACS Board Meeting

5 June 2024

Attending: Jamin Pelkey (President), Todd Oakley (Secretary), Esther Pascual (Past President), Donna West (Board member), Jordan Zlatev (IACS-5 Conference Organizer), Alexandra Mouratidou (PR officer), Alin Olteanu (Treasurer); Martin Thiering (Vice President), joining for the remaining 20 minutes.

1. Minutes

Todd to take minutes.

To check minutes: Jamin and Donna.

2. Overview (Jamin)

Jamin called for updates to the agenda. Since there were no additional items proposed, the meeting proceeded with standing reports, followed by items 5-8. The meeting ran for an extra 30 minutes.

3. Treasurer updates (Alin)

Since our last board 15 new memberships

Current account: €3386,66

Jamin asked, “how are conference fees integrating with membership fees?” Jordan asked about the procedure for confirming membership. Todd reported that the process is not automatic and that members are entreated to send a notification message to the Secretary, who then adds them to the membership list.

Jamin provided an update on the Philosophy Documentation Center (PDC), which offers membership management services to academic organizations. George Leaman, Director of PDC, was not able to join the meeting.

Todd moved that we bring this issue to the General Assembly.

Donna asked how long it would take to get the PDC up and running. Jamin outlined the process, suggesting that they would be curating our membership list and taking care of the finances (including all the legal burdens). Donna asked if we might pay less for the out-years? Jamin suggested a separate meeting with George Leaman, Director of PDC to discuss options.

4. PR Officer updates (Alexandra)

Alexandra has been updating the website as usual with seminars and minutes, posting on Facebook and Twitter (X) about the conferences and advertising the conference dinner. Donna asked if registration is still open for the Conference Dinner. Alexandra said that the deadline is August 1st.

Jordan reported that there are 60 seats available for the dinner; and there have been 20 registrants to date. An updated list of registrants will be available soon.

5. Secretary, Membership & Journal updates (Todd)

Membership: Todd reports that we currently have 140 members (88 regular and 52 student). Most of the new memberships are students.

Journal: No major news to report. Todd reports that the special issue on Göran Sonesson is going to press; submissions continue to come in at about 3-5 per month, with about half to three quarters sufficiently within the scope of the journal to go out for review. We continue to reject 45-50% of the submissions, require substantial revisions for 30%, and accept 20% with minor revisions. The editors rarely must “scrounge” to produce the two issues a year.

Todd emphasizes that we should offer opportunities to edit dossiers or a special issue at the General Assembly meeting during the conference, and advertise the new Open Access arrangement.

Jordan asked if we provide free membership to plenary speakers. Jamin moved that plenaries have their membership fees waived for the conference (with the understanding that those who have already paid will not be refunded). Motion was adopted unanimously. Jordan moved that our Ukrainian participants have their membership fees waived. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. IACS5 2024 updates & planning (Jordan)

Jordan provided an update on the conference, with 75 oral presentations. He has arranged them today in a preliminary schedule.

Posters have been a disappointment in terms of follow-through. We accepted 20 posters but only 6 have submitted revised abstracts. Donna suggested sending them a reminder.

We have booked 5 parallel presentation rooms, but we can currently accommodate the presentations in 3 parallel rooms. This will increase attendance to each parallel session. Jordan promises to send a draft of the preliminary programme to members of the board for review.

7. IACS5 Scholarship application discussion

Jamin presented the scholarship application call for IACS 3. Esther stressed the need to have multiple reviewers for the scholarship application.

Jamin proposed that we send out a call for applications to the conference participants (including poster presentations). Jordan agreed to send the call to the conference participants. If we send the call, Jordan will send it by Friday.

Budget: Jamin proposed that at least €2000,00 of IACS revenue be set aside for scholarships, perhaps more as need arises. He moved that the board approve this budget. The budget was unanimously approved.

Jamin, Todd, and Esther have volunteered to review the scholarship applications.

Submit: Jamin will create a Google form for the application and send it to Jordan and Alexandra for dissemination to the conference participants.

8. Planning for next board meeting (IACS5 General Assembly)

The board members identified four agenda items for the General Assembly.

1. Todd will present the journal report on behalf of Peer Bundgaard (editor in-chief)
2. The next conference. Piotr Konderak is considering hosting the next conference in Lublin, Poland.
3. How to engage new people on the board? Todd suggested that board members recruit potential new nominees for the board. The board should meet a few minutes before the meeting to coordinate nominees.
4. Elections of president. Jamin indicated a willingness to serve a second term as president, but would gladly give another candidate the opportunity. Todd suggested that board members keep their eyes out for potential candidates, and deliberate over such candidates in a pre-Assembly meeting. There was agreement that the board should meet before the General Assembly, perhaps during the lunch break on the second day.

Meeting was adjourned after a thorough discussion of all agenda items.