



Wednesday, 28th of June 2017, 10:40-11:40, Umeå

1. Opening of the AGM: The chair of the ISCH committee, Alessandro Arcangeli, opens the AGM 2017, presents the structure of the AGM and the agenda for the meeting, and refers to the problem that 2/3 of the conference participants have not yet paid the required membership fee for 2017. It is decided that in future, it should not be possible to register for the conference without having paid the membership fee.

2. The Reception of the Report of the Committee: The chair of the committee, Alessandro Arcangeli, presents the report of the committee. The officers for the committee in 2016 were Alessandro Arcangeli (chair), Heta Aali (secretary), and Reima Välimäki (treasurer). All of them ended their office at the Umeå conference. The committee thanks them for their work. New chair of the committee will be Jörg Rogge, new secretary will be Cathleen Sarti, and new treasurer Liisa Lalu. Jörg Rogge and Cathleen Sarti who have both been elected to the committee in 2016 will suspend their three-year period on the committee as long as they are officers. Liisa Lalu has been co-opted by the committee.

In 2016, in Trieste, four new members were after a call for nomination elected to the committee: Anne Eriksen, Evy Johanne Håland, Jörg Rogge, and Cathleen Sarti. Since five open positions needed to be filled, they were all accepted without the need to hold elections. In addition, Jonas Liliequist (the organizer of the Umeå conference) was elected as president of the ISCH for 2016-2017.

The committee for the essay prize included co-opted members Anu Korhonen as chair of this committee, Harvey Green, Carolina Orloff, and Mauricio Sánchez Menchero. Since Anu Korhonen decided to step down from the prize committee, Alessandro Arcangeli volunteered as new chair of this committee. He is joined by Harvey Green, Carolina Orloff, and Mauricio Sánchez Menchero.

(Email) Meetings of the committee started the day after the conference in Trieste in 2016, and explored options for the holding of the conference 2018 in North America (see TOP 5 (b)), the publication of papers from the Trieste conference, the sub-themes of the Umeå conference, and changes in the contract with Edinburgh University Press in regard to the journal *Cultural History*. It was agreed, that in future the ISCH will buy 150 print copies of each issue, and that the option of an electronic journal-only access will be offered to the members of ISCH. New membership rates were agreed on in January 2017. A call for panels for the Umeå conference was agreed and launched in September 2016, followed by a call for papers for this conference in November 2016. This new two-step process was decided on to encourage more coherency in the panels. Since there were some concerns about the placement of individual papers, open sessions were also introduced. The selection committee consisted of Alessandro Arcangeli, Federico Barbierato, Virginia Langum, Jonas Liliequist, and Lewis Webb. In August 2016, Philipp Amour stepped down from his role as web manager, and Cathleen Sarti took over, including taking over the contract with the hosting company (see TOP 5 (c)). The email meeting of the committee took up again in March 2017 with the discussion on forthcoming conference in 2019. Tallinn as hosting institution was confirmed, and a general topic (Global Cultural History) was agreed on.

3. The Reception of the Treasurer's Report: The society's financial report is presented by the new treasurer, Liisa Lalu. The closing balance at 31 December, 2016, was 7,821.56 €, most of this on the account at Handelsbanken. Compared to 2015, this means a loss of ca. 1860 €. In 2017, however, expenses were limited in regard to the journal and postage (fewer copies bought, and possibility to only receive the e-journal). At the end of May 2017, income was higher than expenses, and an increased membership might keep this trend going.

4. The Reception of the Report of the Editorial Board of the Society's Journal: This report is presented by the editor-in-chief, Christopher E. Forth. He starts by emphasizing that publication in the journal is not dependent from membership in the ISCH. Furthermore, he refers to current challenges of the journal regarding marketing and visibility which leads to low submission rates (both in quantity and quality). There still are problems with the publisher to market the journal at cultural studies/cultural history conferences, however, it was presented at the recent meeting of American Library Association. The visibility in databases is a bit better, but not yet satisfying. Nonetheless, the publisher, EUP, is satisfied with the steady growth of the journal. EUP reported that traditional subscriptions to the journal increased in 2016, and that more than 100 institutions have access to the e-journal via EBSCO.

Since the meeting in Trieste, there have been a few changes to the editorial board: Shailja Sharma stepped down as a general editor. Rachel Haworth and Erin Sullivan stepped down as review editors. The society thanks all of them for their work for the journal. Erin Sullivan will remain on the editorial board as general editor, and she is joined by the new review editors, Kristine Steenbergh and Jan Frans van Dijkhuizen. In January 2017, two more general editors have also joined the team, Patryk Babiracki and Steven Schouten. And finally, assistant editor Rob Miller who has completed his PhD has been replaced by doctoral student, Doriane Meyer.

Coming back to low submission rates, Chris Forth expands that this also means that there is no backlog after April 2018. A few articles are, however, still in peer review. He encourages the participants to think about themed issues since they are a great way to keep the journal going.

5. The Reception of Any Other Reports as Deemed Necessary by the Committee:

(a) The Report of the Publication Series: Christopher E. Forth, co-editor of the ISCH book series at Routledge, reports serious problems with submissions, esp. monographs. This also includes a lack of quality proposals, which in turn led to the problem that not every year a book is published. In addition, Chris Forth reports missing visibility on the Routledge website(s). Here again, he emphasizes that publication in the book series is not dependent on ISCH membership, but the title of the book series (Studies for the International Society for Cultural History) is viewed as misleading in this regard.

(b) The Report of the ISCH Conference in 2018: Alessandro Arcangeli presents this report which was composed by Kevin Morrison. The next conference will be the first annual gathering of the ISCH in North America. A possible theme of the conference is introduced as Performance, Politics, and Play. Several topics relating to this theme are named. And finally, the date is suggested as 13-16 September 2018 in either Syracuse (NY) or New York City.

(c) The Report on Internet Activity: Cathleen Sarti presents an overview over the internet activity of the society. The official website changed in spring 2017 to culthist.net, and is hosted at cyon.ch with a WordPress installation in the background. The website is still re-designed. Statistics show that January

to March when also the conference is open for registration are the busiest times on the website (ca 6,000-7,000 unique visitors per month compared to ca 2,000 unique visitors per month in April to June). This also aligns with the top keyword searched (culture conference June 2017).

Further internet activities are being conducted over Twitter (@ISCHistory, 1,033 follower) and Facebook (official Facebook page with 1,792 subscribers, and Facebook group with 56 members).

6. The Reception of the Chair's Report on the Call for the Election of Members of the Committee:

The committee welcomes Marek Tamm (Tallinn) to the committee. Elections did not need be conducted.

7. Prize competition: Alessandro Arcangeli announces that the 2017 prize competition will be awarded at the end of the conference. However, since Anu Korhonen stepped down as chair of the essay prize committee a new chair of this committee is needed. Alessandro Arcangeli volunteered, and was welcomed by the members of the ISCH. He is joined by Harvey Green, Carolina Orloff, and Mauricio Sánchez Menchero.

8. Other issues: The AGM discusses possibilities for meetings after 2018. In 2019, Tallinn (Estonia) is suggested as location for the annual gathering. Further suggestions for 2020 are not yet made. However, the members discuss possibilities for smaller events, networking, doctoral candidate meetings, or panels in mega conferences which could be sponsored by the ISCH.

9. Closing of the AGM