

Minutes of the AGM of the International Society for Cultural History, 28 May 2010, Turku

1. Present: A paper was passed around for members present to sign: 51 members were present
2. Minutes of the last AGM: the minutes of the AGM were read by Hannu Salmi, who chaired the meeting. They were approved.
3. Report of the Committee for the past year: Hannu Salmi read the report of the Committee, which was approved. It will be displayed on the Society's web site, along with these minutes.
4. Treasurer's report: David Smith reported that at 31/12/09 the balance stood at £1350.85, having been £645.85 a year previously. There had been no expenditure in 2009. All the income had been raised in the form of membership fees, except for £130.00 raised from £5 voluntary levy which was announced after the Brisbane conference. David emphasised the need to build up the Society's reserves in the light of the journal contract which obliges the society to pick up any shortfall in the 200 subscriptions target. The membership drive should therefore be continued and the appeal for a voluntary levy repeated, with the suggestion that wealthier members are free to pay more than £5 - the on-line store allows for multiples of £5 to be donated. He gave an update to 20 May 2010, when the balance stood at £1440.85. Since then there has been approximately £200 further income, but the payments for the essay prize (£250) and the fee for the development of the election web site are now due. The Treasurer's report for 2010 will be put on the ISCH website along with these minutes.
5. Journal Report: Marjo Kaartinen reported that a contract with Edinburgh University Press had been signed and that the first number would appear in March 2012. She appealed for submissions. Questions were asked about peer review (original research articles will be peer reviewed), number of issues per year (2, expanding to 3 later and eventually 4), electronic access (included in subscriptions and free to certain less developed countries), cost (the subscription fee for the journal for 2012 is £70 for institutions and £30 for individuals. The discount price is £25), assistance to non-English speaking authors (to be provided by editors / reviewers initially, later funds for this would be made available, depending on the progress of the journal), provision of free limited preview and abstracts in languages other than English (Marjo will look into this). A call for papers will be available on the website and will be sent via Culthist. Members are invited to circulate it to colleagues.
6. Anu Korhonen reported on the progress of the publication series. Two promising proposals are under-review, but more proposals are needed, especially for monographs. She referred to the information and links available on the Society's website and undertook to send a new appeal for contributions via Culthist. A

question was asked about the marketing strategy of Pickering and Chatto. Anu stated that they do seem to target conferences in North America and elsewhere in the world. She also explained that the press is interested in books of global appeal for the first few volumes. Later it may be possible to publish some books of more regional interest. The 'manifesto' of the series was discussed, and Anu appealed for comments - and suggestions for improvements - to be sent to her. It was also suggested that 'Culthist' could be used for discussion as regards desirable topics for volumes in the series.

7. Post graduate network: Gillian Swanson reported on her engagement with the 'Angles' postgraduate network at Birkbeck College, London, which is planning to use CUNY Academic Commons as a platform for national and international discussion. It was agreed to co-opt James Emmot, a leading member of the Birkbeck group, to the committee of the ISCH, and that the Society should seek to help develop the network.
8. Oslo conference. Anne Eriksen reported on progress with the organisation of the 2011 conference in Oslo. Keynote speakers have been identified, leaflets are available, and a website is under construction. A link to it will be placed on the ISCH website. A suggestion was made that a postgraduate meeting might precede the conference. This possibility would be discussed at a postgraduate meeting which was to follow the AGM.
9. Election results. There were 6 candidates. It was announced that Lene Otto, Harvey Green, and Inanc Ozekmekci were elected. Harvey Green, who was present, was congratulated and welcomes to the committee. The retiring members, who had also served on the prize committee, would become co-opted members, if they are willing to continue. There would be further places on the committee available in 2011 and the election process would begin earlier than in 2010.
10. Auditor: it was agreed that Alex Sutherland would be invited to serve as Hon Auditor for another year.
11. Other Business.

Future conferences after 2011: it was reported that Rainer Broemer had written to say that Istanbul were keen to organize the 2013 conference but not 2012. Didier Francfort suggested France for 2012 and this was favourably received by the meeting. It was also consider desirable to hold a conference in North or South America in the near future.

Internet audience: the web broadcasting of the Turku keynote papers was applauded and Tapio Onnela thanked for his efforts. If the speakers are willing the recordings will be put on U-tube in due course, and links to them added to the ISCH website.