



Decisions from the meeting of  
AESOP Council  
in Lodz, March 28<sup>th</sup> 2008

From now on, the materials related to AESOP activities and to the agenda points are provided in the booklet produced ahead of the meeting and delivered at the meeting.

Also, the « minutes » below keep trace only of:

- the decisions of the Council;
- complementary informations or debates which do not appear in the materials.

Present : (à compléter d'après la liste de présence ou à défaut celle des inscrits. Sur cette dernière, je vois deux absents à coup sûr, JanTucny et Lubica Vitkova).

Apologies : Andreas Voigt – il faut compléter par les autres. Les messages sont passés par votre boîte mail, sinon mettez to be completed et nous le ajouterons à mon retour car je les avais listées mais c'est sur l'ordinateur fixe.

## 1. Introduction :

### **Minutes of CoRep meetings :**

From now on, as today :

- the documentation useful for Corep meetings will be distributed as a booklet at the meeting.
- the minutes will provide the trace of the CoRep decisions and/or informations complementary to the booklet only ;
- the validation of the minutes will be done by e-mail ;
- the materials + decisions will be available for download online on our website

### **New form of intervention of AESOP in support of schools :**

The President of AESOP has sent an official letter to the French Ministry of higher education, stating its concern about the programmed suppression of the possibility of having a bachelors' degree in planning. This type of activity of AESOP can be used more often to support schools when they experience troubles at the national level.

## 2. Education matters :

### **Planning Education :**

AESOP launches a new series of working papers on planning education which will be used to :

- publish outcomes of the HoS meetings and other work on planning education.
- provide an open floor for the publication of papers, debates, works on Planning education – as there is no journal dedicated to these questions in Europe.

The first issue is distributed at the meeting and will be sent to the schools. To propose matters for publication in Planning education, contact Anna Geppert.

References:

- ISSN 1998-216X
- Key title: Planning education
- Abbreviated key title: Plan. educ.

### **Excellence in teaching prize** (chair Francesco lo Piccolo):

The teaching prize 2007 (Venice) has not been granted so far because bank details have not been communicated to the Treasurer. The Italian representatives will contact Venice.

## **3. Research matters**

### **Thematic groups** (Roelof Verhage):

For the next CoRep meeting, AESOP will provide a complete information about the type of support that AESOP can offer to thematic groups (this info is available on the website).

Meeting of the TG in Chicago: Tuesday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-13:00.

### **Best published paper prize** (P. Naess):

Submission criteria : the BPP committee has defined more precisely the length of the papers that can be submitted by the editors :

- a paper should be at least 3.000 words.
- Editors can submit two papers of less than 13.000 words, but one paper only if it is over 13.000 words.

Committee : Vasseline Troeva and Willem Salet are stepping down after Chicago. The chair of the BPP will propose two new candidates for the next CoRep meeting.

## **4. Planning policy / links with other organisations**

### **AESOP-ECTP Study on Planners mobility in Europe** (Anna Geppert) :

As a result of the Leuven HoS meeting, AESOP and ECTP decided to undertake a *study on planners mobility in Europe* investigating the barriers for mobility of Planners (establishment, transnational service provision).

The tender document prepared for this study is now ready and very complete. However, the study requires funding above the level ECTP can provide. We are now in the process of fund-raising, for which ECTP is investigating with the European commission the possibility to apply to call for innovative projects.

Anna Geppert will keep us informed.

### **Collaborations with Isocarp** (Peter Ache) :

ISOCARP and AESOP have come to an agreement to become mutually members. A memorandum of understanding is about to be signed. Peter Ache will keep us informed.

## **5. Organisation matters:**

### **New members** (Anna Geppert):

In King Ryad University, who applied for AESOP associate membership, there are separate courses for males and females. King Ryad will be granted associate membership (which does not have the same political meaning as Full membership). However, the SG will make clear in the answer to King Ryad university that AESOP does not make this distinction and considers male and female students indiscriminately.

### **ExCo Vacancies** (Anna Geppert):

ExCo is about to face a turnover in positions of highest importance to our association:

- in 2008:

- **ExCo officer in charge of the Thematic Groups** : Roelof Verhage is at the end of his mandate. NB. This position was called « Junior Vice President », which was confusing. Originally, the « JVP » function was created to enhance the presence of our young generation. Today, we have a representative of the AESOP Young Academics playing this role. For this reason, the title of JVP will no longer be used. Roelof Verhage will provide a short description of the mission of this official.
- **ExCo communication officer** : Nikos Karadmitriou is at the end of his mandate also. He has provided AESOP with its new visual identity. We hope for a good candidate.

- in 2009:

- **Vice-President** (formerly called Senior Vice President) : After Chicago, Willem Salet will take over the position of President and Peter Ache will become Vice-President. He will step down after Liverpool conference (2009) and a Vice-President (incoming, future President) is to be elected.
- **Treasurer** : Andreas Voigt will be stepping down after Chicago. He has served 4 years in this function and implemented a new treasurer's database, leading to a professional accountability.

Procedure:

- Anna Geppert will inform National representatives and Schools contact persons about the vacancies.
- Candidates are invited to contact Anna Geppert with a statement of interest by May 30.
- The 2008 elections will take place in Chicago.

#### **CoRep elections** (Anna Geppert) :

The elections of the CoRep are to be run between April and June 2008.

Anna Geppert will send a reminder to inform the national reps about the upcoming elections.

Available upon request at the secretariat : list of contact persons of your country.

#### **AESOP schools directory** (Anna Geppert):

By June 2008, Andrea Frank and Andreas Voigt will provide a new format, including a glossary, for the collection of key information about member schools. This should be used for an update of the AESOP memberschools directory.

Corep members will be asked to react upon a first proposal of Andrea Frank and Andreas Voigt in order to make sure that the proposed format is appropriate for the description of their school and their national context.

#### **AESOP Journal(s)** (Peter Ache):

Negotiations are under way with:

- Disp, in order to establish a partnership
- EPS, in order to formalize our long-standing relation : EPS have provided a proposal of memorandum and understanding.

CoRep remarks:

- in case reduced subscription fees are negotiated, we must stay aware that most of the subscription fees are actually paid by libraries and not by schools. Moreover, the subscription fees are often part of packages that are negotiated with publishers and can be lower than the official subscription fee for the journal. We have to make sure not to sign anything which would not provide schools a real advantage.
- EPS paper + electronic package : according to Tadeusz Markowski, currently this package allows to download the papers only 6 months after the paper version has been distributed. Could this be checked / improved?

#### **New website** (Giancarlo Cotella):

Exco asks for a mandate for the website committee to continue the action towards the creation of the website within a budget limit of 30000 euro.

Practically, this means that the selection committee can sign the contract with the company who wins the bid, as long as the committee considers the offer appropriate to our needs and as total amount of the bid is below the limit of 30.000 Euros maximum.

This mandate is granted by acclamation.

#### **Financial information** (Andreas Voigt is absent, Anna Geppert presents the treasurer's budget)

The full report will from now on be presented once a year at the summer meeting, when the visibility on the payment of membership fees is better achieved. For today, selective informations :

- The income from the Naples congress for AESOP is of 13000€. This provides us an additional resource.
- First responses to the membership fee increase : the rhythm of payments is similar to the last year. Also, the Treasurer and the SG have had no negative feedbacks. Also, so far we may consider the response positive.
- Examination of the proposal of waiving the fees according to the EU convergence criteria : the ExCo has examined carefully the impacts of a fee waiving on a regional level according to the EU

« convergence » funds which was introduced in Naples by the Italian representatives. This appears to be very complex and heavy to implement due to the fact that AESOP considers European schools from the perimeter of the Council of Europe : 47 countries, of which 20 are not EU members. For these countries, the regional PPP information is not available. For this reason, the current fee waiving is kept so far.

- For information, Zeynep Enlil (Yildiz Technical University) will provide us with Isocarp's membership fee model.
- In 2009, a full report on the works towards the 2010 objectives and on the financial implications will be provided the CoRep for discussion.

## **6. Coming AESOP events :**

### **AESOP Congresses :**

**2008 : Chicago, USA, Joint ACSP-AESOP Congress (July 6-10) :** 1200 abstracts have been submitted with a substantial participation of AESOP members (250), close to 1000 participants are expected. It appears a success ! It is safe to register and secure flight and hotel as early as possible. (July 4<sup>th</sup> is Independence day in the US, which will also generate traffic).

### **2009 congress in Liverpool (presentation by David Shaw):**

Title: *Back to the future*, in relation with the centenary of teaching planning in the UK (1909-2009).

Dates: July 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> 2009.

Manchester will organise the PhD Workshop in relation to the Liverpool conference.

Liverpool will provide flyers announcing the conference at the 2008 ACSP-AESOP Conference in Chicago.

Now that the date is available, a pre-announcement of the conference will also be made on the AESOP website and in the Yearbook. Liverpool will provide the secretary general with text/image for this purpose.

**2010 Conference:** we are looking for candidates willing to host the event.

**Helsinki** proposes to organise the 2010 AESOP conference. Mervi Ilmonen (Helsinki University, Centre for Urban and Regional Technology Studies) presents a statement of interest.

At this moment, there is no other proposal for the 2010 conference. The Helsinki proposal will be considered. A mail shot to the schools will be made in order to ask for proposals for conference organisation. A final decision (CoRep vote) about the 2010 congress will be taken at the 2008 Chicago conference.

### **AESOP Heads of Schools meetings :**

2009 Heads of Schools : we are looking for candidates willing to host the event.

**Lille** proposes to host the 2009 HoS meeting. Anna Geppert presents on behalf of Didier Paris (Lille) a statement of interest. At this moment, there is no other proposal for the 2009 HoS. The Lille proposal will be considered. A mail shot to the schools will be made in order to ask for proposals for conference organisation. A final decision (CoRep vote) about the 2009 HoS will be taken at the 2008 Chicago conference.

2009 Heads of Schools : we are looking for candidates willing to host the event.

A mail shot to the schools will be made in order to ask for proposals for conference organisation. A final decision (CoRep vote) about the 2010 HoS will be taken at the 2009 Liverpool conference.

### **Next CoRep meetings:**

- 2008 Summer meeting : Chicago, USA, Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-12:00 AM ;
- 2009 Spring meeting : Lille, France (to be confirmed) ;
- 2009 Summer meeting : Liverpool, UK, in the period July 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> 2009.