



Minutes of the Council of Representatives

**Meeting in Chicago, July 7th, 2008
8:00-12:00**

Present : Peter Ache (ExCo), Rachelle Alterman (Israel, corresponding member), Sigmund Asmervik (Norway), Beata Banachowicz (Poland), Eduardo Caceres (Spain), Benjamin Davy (Germany), Lain Deas (United Kingdom), Zeynep Merey Enlil (Turkey), Karl Friedhelm Fischer (Germany), Andrea Frank (ExCo), Anna Geppert (ExCo), Aspa Gospodini (Greece), Enrico Gualini (Germany), Beatrix Haselsberger (YA representative), Mervi Ilmonen (Finland), Umberto Janin Rivolin (Italy), Jörg Knieling (Germany), Erwin van der Krabben (Netherlands), Hans Leinfelder (Belgium), Helen Linzer (Austria), Francesco Lo Piccolo (Italy), Tadeusz Markowski (Poland), Petter Naess (Denmark), Kristina Nilsson (Sweden), Didier Paris (France), Artur da Rosa Pires (Portugal), Gerhard Schimak (Austria), Jan Schreurs (Belgium), Willem Salet (ExCo), David Shaw (Liverpool, AESOP 2009 Congress), Pantoleon D. Skayannis (ExCo), Arnold van der Valk (Netherlands), Roelof Verhage (ExCo), Andreas Voigt (ExCo), Maxmillian Wittman (Czech Republic).

Voting rights : According to AESOP Charter, the voting rights are as follows :

- National representatives : 1 national representative when the country has 1 planning school only ; 2 national representatives if the country has 2 or more planning schools. When a national representative is absent, his substitute votes in his place.
- ExCo members : 1 vote per member
- Proxies : 3 proxies have been registered :
 - Kristina Nilsson acts as proxy for Ulrika Gunnarson Östling (Sweden),
 - Sigmund Asmervik acts as proxy for Roar Amdam (Norway),
 - Beata Banachowicz acts as proxy for Tadeusz Marszal (Poland)
- Other present (substitutes if the national representative is present, observers, guest participants, do not hold voting rights.
- For todays meeting, the number of votes results in 29.

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1. Welcome by Peter Ache (cf. Pr report, Booklet of materials) :

AESOP is moving forward, following its 2010 objectives. Also, during Peter's mandate (2008-2010), we have moved forward on the three key issues :

- educational issues,
- inviting eastern countries,
- professionalisation of AESOP.

After this congress, Peter Ache will step down and Willem Salet will become President of AESOP.

2. Organisation matters by Anna Geppert and Andreas Voigt (cf. SG report, Tr report, Booklet of materials):

2008 brought us several new members (5 full, 4 associate) : AESOP's attractiveness is confirmed.

Our association is financially healthy and, until now, the payment of the membership fees by our members has not suffered from the rise of the membership fee.

AESOP's professionalization is proceeding on several matters, such as the website.

The elections for the new Council, which will act from 2008-2010 have been held successfully : we thank our Representatives for their support.

We would like to draw the attention of the Council members on the update of the Schools Directory : a new formular will be sent to you during the summer, with the request to fill it for your school and send your remarks by September 20. Thank you for your cooperation !

3. Planning education :

“Excellence in Teaching Prize” (Peter Naess):

The Committee has received few proposals, but of high quality, and will be able to designate a winner at the General Assembly. In order to increase the number of applications to the prize, two possibilities may be explored :

- Cooperate with the YA network for the promotion of this prize
- Suppress the annual “theme” in order to open the prize to all Planning courses each year.

The Prize Committee will take its decision upon these matters.

4. Planning Policy :

Links with professional organizations :

- a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with IsoCarp (cf. Booklet of materials). The ExCo is working together with IsoCarp on common actions, such as a participation of AESOP to the “Young Planners” seminar organized by IsoCarp.
- a study on Planners mobility in Europe will be undertaken by the ECTP with the support of AESOP. This study will show whether there are obstacles in this mobility likely to lead to the establishment of a common platform for the Planing profession. (cf. Booklet of materials)

Links with Planning Journals :

- The negotiations between Elsevier and DisP are suspended. Also, the proposal to enter this partnership is no longer valid. However, AESOP is discussing directly with DisP the possibilities of establishing a close cooperation.
 - A Memorandum of Understanding proposed by European Planning studies is under negotiation. Our remarks are in the hands of EPS and we hope to receive an answer soon : all remarks are accepted, EPS is investigating the effects of a permanent 15% Fee reduction for our members. (cf. Booklet of materials)
- Suggestion by the CoRep : check and compare the cost of EPS when included in a “journal package”.

5. Planning research :

“Best Published Paper Prize (Francesco Lo Piccolo):

- The Committee has received nominations from 21 out of 50 Planning Journals, with a very high overall quality. A winner will be announced at the General Assembly.
- Unanimous election of Aspa Gospodini and Tore Oivin Sager who will join the Committee.

Thematic Groups (Roelof Verhage):

Some of the Thematic Groups develop strongly, giving birth to seminars, books (Complexity group). The Planning law Group is founding an independent association. It is important that the link with AESOP remains strong. Detailed report about the Thematic Groups is in the Booklet of materials.

6. Young Academics (Beatrix Haselsberger):

Activities flourish (detailed report in the booklet) :

- YA publish : proceedings from their meetings (Bratislava, St Petersburg), and a special issue of Regions
- YA hold events during this congress : a special session dedicated to the winners of AESOP YA bursaries, a roundtable about how to get the best of your presentation, YA drinks...
- The next YA congress will take place in February in Vienna, thank you for involving your PhD students
- The next AESOP PhD workshop will be organized in July 2009 in Manchester. YA will be associated to this event.

7. AESOP 2008 events:

- **The Lodz Heads of Schools** about Quality Assessment was very successful, with some 60 participants. It leads to the creation of a special position in ExCo to take in charge the development of AESOP's role in this matter.
- **The PhD workshop** has been organized in Jotunheimen National Park (Norway), by the Norwegian University of Life Science (VERIFIER). It has been dense and fruitful as much as pleasant. The organizers, together with the YA, will provide a set of “guidelines” to support future organizers of these events.

8. ExCo changes :

We express gratitude for their contribution to our colleagues at the end of their term :

Roelof Verghage, who has been our Junior Vice-President, in charge for the Thematic Groups. Roelof also has been of great support in the organization of the meetings of the Heads of Schools, and has contributed strongly to the publication of the Proceedings of the Second Heads of Schools meeting (*Planning Education*, March 2008).

Nikos Karadmitriou, who has been AESOP's communications officer. He has given AESOP its visual identity. He also has supported with his expertise the project of new AESOP website, which would not have come to life without his contribution.

Peter Ache, who has been our President (2008-2010). He will remain in ExCo as Vice-President in 2008-09.

Election of the new ExCo members :

To fit better AESOP's needs, starting from July 2008, some ExCo positions are re-defined :

- the title of “Junior Vice President” is suppressed. It lead into confusions with the “Young Academics” representative” and with the “Senior Vice-President”.
- The new positions are defined as “special project officers”, attached to the tasks with represent important challenges for AESOP during the coming periods.

Elections are held for 3 positions (2008-2010) :

- Special Project Officer for outreach to Eastern European countries : **Beata Banchowicz** (University of Lodz, Poland) is unanimously elected, by acclamation.
- Special Project Officer for the website : **Giancarlo Cotella** (Univ of Torino, Italy) is unanimously elected, by acclamation.
- Special Project Officer for quality management : **Maroš Finka** (TU of Bratislava, Slovak Republic) is unanimously elected, by acclamation.

9. Hosts for the 2010 Congress :

For the first time in its history, AESOP has received as much as 5 expressions of interest for its 2010 Congress. Furthermore, every application appeared of very high quality, both in terms of scientific concept expressed in the conference themes and in terms of capacity to host the event (cf. Booklet of materials). Thus, the Council was facing a very difficult choice.

To manage the selection, candidates were invited to present their proposal to the Council. After the presentations, two rounds of votes took place. The first round aimed to select the two proposals receiving the highest number of votes. As a result of the first round, the proposals of Helsinki (13 votes) and of Dortmund and Tours (ex aequo, with 5 votes each) went to the second round.

AESOP 2010 Congress	1st vote	2nd vote
TKK Helsinki, Finland : <i>Space is luxury!</i>	13	15
TU Dortmund, Germany: <i>Negotiating the commons of Europe : Culture, Conflict, Consensus</i>	5	6
U. Tours, France : <i>Planning and climate change : learning and adapting</i>	5	5
TU Delft, Netherlands : <i>Cohesive territory – integrated governance</i>	2	
Polis U., Tirana, Albania : <i>Planning and paradoxes : New directions, challenges and opportunities</i>	2	
Blank votes	2	3
Total votes	29	29

As a result of the second round, TKK Helsinki is elected to host AESOP 2010 congress (15 votes/29).

The Council would like to express its gratitude to all candidates and to invite those candidates who were not elected for 2010 to consider an application for the WSPC 2011.

10. Hosts for 2009 and 2010 Heads of Schools meetings

For the Heads of Schools meetings, AESOP has received as much as 4 proposals, all of very high quality, showing the schools readiness and capacity to host this event, both through the written proposals (cf. Booklet of materials) and through the oral presentations.

For the 2009 Heads of Schools meeting, a vote took place to make a choice between the 2 schools which expressed interest for this period. As a result of this vote, Lille will host the 2009 HoS meeting (15 votes/29).

AESOP 2009 Heads of Schools meeting	Votes
Université de Lille, France	15
Polis University, Tirana, Albania	12
Blank	2
Total votes	29

For the following years, the Council decided unanimously to establish the following agenda :

- 2010 Heads of Schools meeting : University of Yildiz, Istanbul, Turkey.
- 2011 Heads of Schools meeting : Polis University, Tirana, Albania. As no representative of the school is present at the meeting, the Secretary General will contact them with the invitation to host the event.
- 2012 Heads of Schools meeting : HafenCity University, Hamburg, Germany.

The meeting is closed at 12:30.

Next meetings – newly elected members of the Council :

- Spring 2009 : Lille, France
- July 2009 : Liverpool, UK
- Spring 2010 : Istanbul, Turkey
- July 2010 : Helsinki, Finland.