

Minutes of the European Forum Committee Meeting in Amsterdam
Friday November 03, 2006. 20:45 - 22:15

Present: Trijny Schmitz du Moulin, European Director, Ria Bleeker (Chair), Carin Ahlberg (Sweden), Gisela Baronin Von Engelhardt (Germany), Marja-Liisa Lehtikoinen (Finland), Björg Nakling (Norway), Helga Tholacius (Iceland), Kate York (GB)

Ria Bleeker warmly welcomed the members of the European Forum Committee.

1. Drew up agenda / Appointed reporter(s) of the meeting
The agenda was accepted. Reporters: Gisela (Friday), Marja-Liisa (Saturday)
2. Minutes of the Forum Meeting in Malmö November 2005 - Adjourned till Saturday.
3. Minutes of the Forum Meeting in San Diego July 19, 2006 - Adjourned till Saturday.
4. Budget for 2006 – 2007.
A written draft of budget was attached to the agenda and was fully accepted by members.
The tight budget only allows refund of 20% of travel costs.
5. Information from Regional Director Trijny Schmitz du Moulin:
Trijny informed members about:-
 - a) the Administrative Board Meeting which took place after the Convention in San Diego,
 - b) the planning meeting in Austin (drafts of forms; coordination between committees)
 - c) her attendance at the meeting of the Steering Committee in London preparing for the Regional Conference 2007.
The Theme is Wisdom to Share • Pass on to Care; the subtheme: 'Creativity through Diversity'.
Trijny had already sent a letter to the European State Presidents informing them about the theme, costs, deadlines for receiving workshop proposals and names of prospective speakers.

Some proposals for possible speakers were made by Ria and Trijny: Peter Mosterd, a philosopher, and Dr. Bowen Paule, a sociologist and anthropologist at the University of Amsterdam.

Karen Duke had offered a pre-seminar workshop. Also Maria Steingrimsdottir from Iceland had offered to do a workshop.

Minutes of the Forum meeting in Amsterdam Saturday, November 4, 2006

Present: Trijny Schmitz du Moulin (European Director), Ria Bleeker (Chair), Carin Ahlberg (Sweden), Gisela Baronin Von Engelhardt (Germany), Marja-Liisa Lehtikoinen (Finland), Björg Nakling (Norway), Helga Tholacius (Iceland), Kate York (GB).

1. Minutes of Forum Meeting, Malmö, November 4-5, 2005 accepted.
2. Minutes of the Forum Meeting, Turku, August 6, 2005 accepted with following **amendments**:

Guidelines for European Achievement Award:

An EAA to be given biennially in recognition of distinguished service given to Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in Europe

- Procedure *The name of a member from any European state may be submitted by European State Executive Boards* to the chair of the European Forum by October 15, for decision of recipient of the award at November Forum Committee meeting. After the first year, the deadline for submissions will be October 15 in even-numbered years.
- Award. The award is a specially designed **pin / pendant, paid for by Euro 50 maximum** from each state organization in Europe.
- Criteria The recipient will be someone who *from among the following has*:
 - a) been active in **the development of the European Region**
 - b) held **leadership positions at European or state organization levels**
 - c) **supported and mentored** other members of Delta Kappa Gamma
 - d) been active in **raising the public awareness and the membership of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**
 - e) given **lectures and /or workshops** at Delta Kappa Gamma meetings
 - f) increased **membership in her own state organization**
- Submission: A recommendation form is sent out by the Chair of the European Forum to be completed by each State Executive Board. This form was created in the 2006-2008 European Forum.

It was decided that EAA should be awarded at the next European Convention in Great Britain for the first time and then biennially. The recommendation form will be sent out in September in even-numbered years to the member states.

The European Forum Committee was unanimous about the first recipient of the Award.

Other business.

⇒ Dorothy Haley (GB) reminded that the European Forum will celebrate its 10th anniversary at the next European Regional Conference in Great Britain in 2007.

⇒ Marianne Skardeus (Sw) suggested the following :

Themes for the European Forum Committee 2006-2008 to discuss:

- a. "How to celebrate our 10th anniversary of the European Region (documents, history and celebrations). London and Oslo would probably like to have suggestions very soon." It was suggested that the former European Regional Directors give a short historical performance of maximum 5 minutes.
- b. "Voices of Vision" is now going to be broadcast all over the USA (in co-operation with radio/TV stations to promote DKG in the USA). How could we in Europe profit from this? How could we in Europe portray DKG? How to finance a DVD and how to interest radio and TV stations in Europe to report about DKG?

2. The European Regional Convention in London, GB, August 2007

Pre-seminar: It was decided to offer a European Forum pre-seminar on blogging and safe internet use, with the title "Electronic Wisdom to Share" prior to the opening ceremony. The maximum number of participants to depend on the size of the computer room. It was suggested that the leader of the pre-seminar should come from Iceland or GB. The early opening ceremony of the conference affects the time available for the pre-seminar. The deadline for advertising is Jan 20, 2007

Reporters: Bettina Kulsdom and Mary Wardrop will be asked to be reporters.

EF booklet: The British committee has a good offer on printing costs and the booklet could be printed in connection with other material. The cover could be uniform with the rest of the conference material. Kate York will inform about the deadline for printing. 2,5 hours in the schedule will be requested for the EF meeting.

Timekeepers: Gisela von Engelhardt and Carin Ahlberg.

Opening thoughts - max 3 minutes: A Norwegian speaker will be requested.

In memoriam: A minute's silence for members who died in 2005-2007.

Speaker: Sigrun Klara will be requested to be the speaker on the theme Wisdom to Share • Passion to Care

Workshops: teacher visits between different countries / an exchange bank of ideas (already existing in Sweden) / electronic skills / others suggested by members. Coby van Klaveren and Marianne Skardeus will be approached to lead a workshop.

The 10th anniversary of the region: The former Regional Directors will be asked to give a presentation of 5 minutes on their period.

Agenda of the meeting: to be prepared for the booklet.

3. Financial support to cover the costs of the Regional Director

Each country has agreed to contribute 1 € per member. The sum is to be paid directly to the RD's account. Ria Bleeker will send a letter about this to the State Presidents.

4. Goals for the European Forum for 2007-2009

1. **Plan both Regional and International Forum sessions through regular meetings of the Forum Committee.**
2. **Continue to strengthen the seven member states by using electronic newsletters and homepages with English summarization.**
3. **Maintain co-operation between European Regional Director and member states.**
4. **Encourage members to attend state conventions.**
The European Forum recommends waiving fees on the business part of the convention, for instance registration, for guests from other countries. This is to encourage communication and exchange of ideas between European member countries. Hospitality in members' homes can also be offered if the venue is close-by to further reduce costs. An English translation of the agenda would be helpful. It was noted with satisfaction that personal contacts are increasing.
5. **Recognize ongoing research by members by establishing contacts between members and members' schools**
A public database on members' personal information and special fields may not be possible because of data protection laws. Kate York will prepare a form for the use of each state and send it to State Presidents for

distribution. In need of a contact, State Presidents can be approached for special information obtained on this form.

6. Portray DKG events and projects through contacts with the media.

7. Organize a pre-conference seminar or workshops.

These goals are to be presented at State Conferences and discussed at the Regional Conference Forum meeting.

5. By-laws:

It was suggested that the by-laws and standing rules of each country should be translated into English for the benefit of the headquarters and other member countries.

6. Suggestions for the future

- **continue to organize a pre-conference seminar**
- **organize a European event at the Regional Conference**
- **continue with ideas of expansion, a workshop in the Regional Conference**
- **Make use of the goals and improve the society information booklet and the use of websites**
- **Think about visits between teachers and pupils**
- **Choose themes where funding could be asked for e.g. Socrates or the Educational Fund**
- **Encourage states to focus on the theme of democracy and European citizenship**
- **Pay attention to cost effectiveness in choosing the place for meeting**

For this reason it was suggested that the next committee meeting be the second weekend in November, which is not a holiday weekend.

7. The meeting closed at 17.00