



# Minutes Executive Committee EASSW 7-8 November 2022

Hybrid meeting in Porto and EASSW Teams Chaired by Christos Panagiotopoulos

**Participants:** Christos Panagiotopolus (CP), Mariusz Granosik (MG), Raymond Kloppenburg (RK), Mona Livholts (MoL via Teams), Judit Csoba (JC), Florin Lazar (FL), Femke Dewulf (FD), (ZP), Katarina Hjortgren (KH), Urban Nothdurfter (UN), Anna Rurka (AR) Ana Maria Sobocan (AS via Teams), Sandra Mendez (SM)

**Excused:** Jane Fenton (7-8.11), Zuzana Poklembova (7-8.11) Marika Lotko (7-8.11), Marta Borges (7-8.11), Anna Rurka (7.11. 11-12.30)

**Notes taken by:** MoL, UN, KH

**Minutes edited by:** MoL

**Place:** Porto and Digitally via Teams

## Agenda Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Venue: ISSP

### 10.00-11:15

1. Approval of minutes from last online meeting

The board approved of the minutes from last meeting.

2. Update from the officers (CP, RK, MG, ML)

CP presents the following proposal for changes of the organisation of the structure of the meetings and working groups:

- Reduce live meetings from two face to face to one face to face and one online per year. The motivation is sustainability to reduce travels but also to make it easier to participate in EASSW and stay engaged.
- Reduce working and task groups from six to two groups. The suggestion is the cohesion of Membership + Communication group and Publication + SIG + Small projects + Regional event
- Dissemination of Sustainability group



MG provide information about his role vice president as taking part in 23 meetings of solidarity and support for Ukrainian colleagues, IASSW Board meeting July 2022, PASSW annual meeting October 2022 and 50th anniversary of UNED November 2022.

RK presents the budget for 2022, including the balance of the latest years 2019, 2020, 2021. EASSW has a balanced budget. The surplus of the budget is due to less travelling. Some resources reserved for expenses concerning the ongoing work with communication. It is possible to promote activities for members such as for example publication. CP brings up the possibility of exco-members participation in conferences to promote EASSW.

Membership update (SM) and presentation of Manual of Procedures

SM provided an update of membership from the years 2021 and 2022. The statistic showed that 2021 EASSW had 111 member schools and 2022 101 member schools.

### **11:15-11:30**

Discussion on update from the officers

The board discuss the possibility and positive effects of reducing face to face meetings to reduce travelling, but the discussion also brought up the risk of losing cohesion and informal communication. Discussion also concerned the importance of rotation of group responsibility. FD brings up the importance of the relationship between structure and culture to be intimately intertwined to reach good results. ML raise the issue of prioritizing which tasks the groups focus on and suggest to have a 'yearly cycle' of different activities and applications and to alert all exco-members to send out these in time.

The board discussed the relationship between individual and collective fees and the importance that there is a difference between collective fees and discount. RK describes that the loss of members is partly due to a choice members make between EASSW and IASSW and actualises the importance of actualising the discussion of shared membership and providing EASSW-members the best possible membership. FD think that it is important to improve the information about the organisation and to make offers for example of reduced membership fee when taking part in EASSW conferences. CP suggests that we can promote the association better by connection to journals, publishing, awards. AS brings forth the question of clarifying where we stand, what is our focus and how can we find the audience? How can we work better with alliances such as ESRA, Eastern Association, IASSW?

### **11:30- 12:15**

3.Update on the website and on the Logo

- Discussion, comments and suggestions for further improvement.
- Comments to be sent to people who have undertaken those tasks

### **12:15-12:30**

**Coffee break**



### **12:30-13:30 Urban**

Update on the conference ECSWE 2023

- Meeting the Local organizing committee
- Update from the Scientific Committee

Members of the local organizing committee (LOC) join the board meeting and report on the state of the abstract submission and the overall preparation of the ECSWE 2023 to be held in Porto in June. The number of abstracts submitted so far is rather low (66 abstracts). The board and the local organizing committee discuss different scenarios and strategies in order to foster the promotion of the conference and the definition of a minimum number of participants for the conference to be held. ML as chair of the scientific committee urges the LOC to update information about the keynotes on the homepage. The discussion concerns analytical reflections on different factors that might contribute to a lower participation, such as people trying to fly less preferring green travelling, the competition with other conferences, as well as the question of possibilities and limitations with English as the conference language etc. However, MG underlines that there are still two weeks left to the deadline and that many submissions might arrive more closely to the deadline. The board, together with the LOC, decides to foresee an extension of the deadline until December 18th (to be announced shortly before the 20th of November) and to define 300 participants as minimum for the conference to be held. Sara Melo from the LOC will check whether this is financially sustainable arguing, however, that less participants means also lower costs for some expense items. One of the major fix costs, the expenses for the hall hosting the open ceremony, will be sponsored by the city of Porto. The participants agree to engage in the promotion of the event using a unified message which should be sent to all by Sandra Mendes.

## **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2022**

### **Updates from working groups**

#### **Small projects**

One task that needs to be solved is who shall continue as coordinator after election in 2023?

#### **Special Interest Groups, SIG (KH)**

KH informs about the SIGs. There are in total four SIGs established.

A suggestion for the conference is to arrange a lunch-meeting for all SIG's.

To create a space (a special slot) for all SIG's at the conference – to show that we are a joint community and to discuss what SIG's are and to present their work.

#### **Regional Events (FD)**

One regional event has been sponsored: University of Greenwich – regional events in March and May 2022.



There are 2 calls per year. Submission regional events deadlines: March 1st: (events can take place until the end of the year) October 1<sup>st</sup> (events can take place until the end of June the year after). Until now there has been three applications.

### **SWE awards (FD)**

There are three categories of SWE awards:

1. **Alice Salomon Award:** Innovative pedagogical and practice experiences in Social Work Education.
2. **Research Award:** Research on Social Work education.
3. **Student Award:** Social work student project or thesis.

The **call for submissions launched beginning of November 2022**. Submissions can be made until **Monday the 24th of April 2023**. The submission of the awards can be submitted by the nominees themselves or by a third party. Submissions can be done using the application forms on the EASSW website.

- There is a need to create a committee or judging panel to evaluate and organize nominations.

### **Publication group (MG)**

A Special Edition of SWE will be published in the beginning of 2023. 9 papers are submitted. Half of them are accepted and ready to be published.

The next cycle of the of the book series in cooperation with Springer will be continued. Judit Csoba and Florin Lasar will take over as editors. The next step is to schedule a meeting and to announce the second call of the book series. It should be an open call for members.

Nino Zganec will present the book-series in a special slot at the conference.

A contact will be taken with SWE Journal regarding a special issue of ESCWE 2023 conference.

### **Communication group (FL)**

Discussion about how to find the best ways to provide information about EASSW activities. Not all information that is published in social media is published on the website. Maybe it's time to rethink how we do with the newsletter when we have the new website? It's important to continuously update the calendar on the website.

One strategi that is being discussed is how to make the website more informative even for non-members, for example to create a real mapping about SWE in different countries.

### **Planning for the General Assembly in June 2023 and elections.**

There will be two vacancies as officers, the treasurer and the secretary positions.

When RK ends as treasurer there will be a need to change the bank from Netherland.

**Formation of Election committee:** Ana Maria Sobocan and Judit Csoba volunteers as members of the Election committee and will take responsibility for the work preparing for the general Assembly.



### **12:00- 14:00 EASSW and the future ahead**

Discussion on strength and weaknesses to improve the work for the future.

One suggestion is to create a common document (one year schedule) of all activities EASSW. Another suggestion is that sustainability aspects should be integrated in all applications.

Discussion about the expectations on people being a member of the board and how to work in between the EC- meeting twice a year.

There is a need to increase the administrative support and to clarify what EC- members can expect from the administration.

**Decision:** To change the organization of the structure of meetings and working groups in accordance with the proposal from C.P. (see above).

- 1) To reduce live meetings from two face to face to one face to face and one online per year.
- 2) To reduce working and task groups from six to two groups through a cohesion of Membership + Communication group and Publication + SIG + Small projects + Regional event.

### **Next board meeting**

Next board meeting will be an online-meeting Monday 13.03.2023, 10 -14 CET

**AOB**