

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES**

IATUL BOARD

**Minutes of the second meeting which took place on
Wednesday 5 June 2002
at the Raphael Hotel, Kansas City**

PRESENT

Michael Breaks (Chair)(MB)
Gaynor Austen (GA)
Egbert Gerryts (EG)
Maria Heinje (Treasurer) (MH)
Lee Jones (LJ)
Irmgard Lankenau (IL)
Cathy Matthews (CM)
Marianne Nordlander (MN)
Judy Palmer (Secretary) (JP)
Mateus Zaucer (MZ)

The Chair welcomed Cathy Matthews. Apologies were received from Murray Shepherd.

EG pointed out that with his retirement at the end of 2002 there would be a need to identify a successor as 1st Vice President. JP proposed LJ and this was agreed. LJ volunteered to accept Scholarship Liaison as his portfolio. He would circulate recommendations to the Board as to how this might be best managed.

In the absence of a formal agenda it was agreed that the focus of discussion should be a clarification of our aims and a discussion of how we should manage our financial resources in order to fulfil these.

GA suggested that we should aim to

- make IATUL a truly worldwide organisation and seek ways to enable this
- promote IATUL through publicity of various kinds (brochure, web site, scholarships to conference)

All agreed that this was a good summary of our mission.

The annual conference was an essential part of both these aims. MZ's suggestion that we should also consider the advantages of sponsoring people from western developed countries to speak at conferences in the developing world and in the Eastern Bloc countries, was warmly received. It was agreed that scholarships to attend the conference should be open to all and not confined to second level managers but also include Library Directors and that a requirement should be that the potential participant should be able to speak English. We queried whether the 2002 allocation

of \$5000 was sufficient for the Scholarship Fund. LJ pointed out that fees from membership subscriptions amounted to approximately €20,000 each year and thus €10,000 could easily be devoted to scholarships. A suggestion was made by IL that applicants should also be encouraged to apply for EU funding.

All agreed that the development of the website was critical to our success as a professional organisation and to achieve our aim of promoting IATUL. GA was tasked to decide where best the IATUL website should be listed. MH drew attention to the needs of existing members.

In connection with how best IATUL might support cross-country cooperation MB asked whether we should invite proposals for projects. We agreed that rather than treat these on an ad hoc basis that we should develop some criteria for

- a) what topics we wanted investigated and
- b) what procedures we should introduce to assess and award project monies.

EG queried whether, in projects, we should look for a focus on the professional development of individual librarians or on the institution. All agreed that the focus should be institutional. MB stressed that we should nevertheless consider opportunities that presented themselves as being worthy of support even if these did not rigidly fulfil our criteria.

Some discussion about the take-up of CHEST deals followed. We queried whether it was possible to list CHEST deals on the website and also whether these were available to consortia as well as individual libraries.

In acknowledging the central importance of the annual conference, EG queried how best we might influence sponsors to support our aims. All agreed that the prospect of a global market was attractive to sponsors and that this should be stressed. We agreed that the conference organisers should aim to bring in some profit, but that equally we should be prepared to underwrite a conference if it was held in a country where sponsorship or attendance might not be as good as in another country. A suggestion was made that we should consider organising a pre or post-conference seminar/training event that focused on professional development. The content of the conference was important not only to help support and develop librarians from less developed countries, but also to retain the interest and commitment of members in the west. For this reason it was sensible to think of holding the conference in the US or Canada every three years. CM stressed that Ryerson and other Canadian universities would be closely involved in the planning of the 2005 conference.

It was agreed that further discussion would be unproductive and that these matters should be addressed again at the next meeting on Friday 7 June.