

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES (IATUL)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2012

15.40 -16.40 5 June 2012

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

1. Opening of General Assembly

The President, Ainslie Dewe, opened the Assembly and welcomed all members. She also read two e-mails from former members Mr Tony Evans and Paul Kaegbein who sent their best wishes to the Singapore conference.

2. Approval of Agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted.

3. Minutes of last general Assembly

The minutes of the General Assembly, held at Warsaw University of Technology on Tuesday 31 May, 2011 were considered and Jim Mullins moved for their adoption as a true record of the proceedings. The minutes were accepted.

4. President's Report

Professor Dewe's report had been circulated to members. The report noted a continued interest from potential new members who see value in supporting and benefitting from the activities of the association. The current membership stood at 213 a slight decline from 231 in 2011. The current economic climate was cited as the main reason for losing old members. However the President noted that new members had joined from South East Asia region and that current members were drawn from a total of 54 countries.

The President thanked Ms Regina Schmidbauer from Technical University of Munich (TUM) for providing assistance in running the IATUL office and being a backup to the Treasurer, Ms Irma Pasanen under a User Agreement with TUM. She also acknowledged the role played by Dr Reiner Kallenborn the former Board member who has agreed to act as the Head of the IATUL office. The IATUL funds would remain in Germany and the official IATUL office address would also continue to be located at the premises of TUM.

The 2011 conference in Warsaw was another success for IATUL and the President thanked the hosts especially Ms Jolanta Stepnik, the Director of the Main Library, Warsaw University of Technology and her team for a job well done. The 2012 conference is being held in Asia for the first time and has attracted many delegates and new members from the region. The 2013 conference will be held in Cape Town earlier than June from 14th to 18th April and will be hosted by the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

The President attended the ICSTI conference in Beijing on behalf of the association. ICSTI is the International Council for Scientific and Technical Information and offers a unique forum for interaction between organizations that create, disseminate and use scientific and technical information.

The 2011 autumn board meeting and seminar were held in Melbourne. As a lead-in to the Singapore conference the theme was Libraries for new generation learners. Fifty university library staff from Australia and New Zealand, and the IATUL Board members attended the seminar. The keynote speaker, Professor Fazal Abbas Rizvi, Professor in Global Studies in Education, Melbourne Graduate School of education provide a stimulating address on Cosmopolitan Learning. All the papers presented at the seminar are posted on the IATUL website.

In the absence of a formal strategic planning session the Board has done a general scan of the environment and developed a formal strategic plan and is now in the process of finalizing it so that it can be used as a guiding tool by the Board.

The President reported that Dr Reiner Kallenborn had initiated the establishment of a Task Force to develop specific projects for IATUL. It is hoped that this Task Force will provide a structure to develop agreed areas of action as it is difficult for a Board to deal with official business and at the same time manage projects.

The website continues to be managed and kept up to date by the Web Manager, Ms Gillian Barthorpe at Auckland University of Technology. Ms Barthorpe prepares the monthly News Alerts which are disseminated via IATUL-1 as well as being posted on the website. The President expressed her thanks to Gillian Barthorpe for supervision of its activities.

Communication between Board members has been assisted by the Elgg file sharing and communication platform. This is proving very useful for conducting IATUL Board business and the President expressed her gratitude to TUM for this initiative. The President concluded by thanking all Board members for their contribution to IATUL during the year.

5. Financial report

The Treasurer presented the financial reports, including the outcome for 2011 and the auditor's report by Loeffler & Kollegen which covered the period January to December 2011. The auditors reported that the accounts were in order and revealed no discrepancies.

The Treasurer noted in her report that the total income for IATUL for 2011 was €44 000, with €16 000 coming from membership fees, €17 000 from royalties and €10 000 from previous conferences. Assets which include investment portfolios stood at €119 523 giving a total of €148 000.

The treasurer said that there would be a deficit budget for next year, but this was planned as the reserves were too high.

The financial report was adopted.

6. Board membership

The GA approved the appointment of the following Board members:

- Alena Ptak-Danchak (Keeper of Scientific Books, Radcliffe Science Library at the University of Oxford. Alena's appointment provides representation from the UK, Ireland and France
- Imogen Garner, University Librarian, Curtin University, Perth, Australia. Her appointment provides representation from Australia and New Zealand.
- Reiner Kallenborn as the next IATUL President.
- Gwen Ebbett from Windsor University in Canada will replace Louis Houle who steps down in 2012.

- Marek Gorski will also be leaving the Board at the end of 2012 and a new member to represent East European region will be considered

The President thanked all Board members who will be stepping down for their contributions to IATUL during their terms.

The President pointed out that all IATUL members can put their names forward for board membership.

7. IATUL developments

The Board has set up a Task Force to spearhead various projects to benefit members and currently a number of projects are under consideration. The President also pointed out that it is important to find projects in which the IATUL funds could be used.

8. Future conferences

Planning is already advanced for the 2013 conference, which will be hosted by the Cape Peninsula University of Technology in Cape Town, South Africa.

The 2014 conference will be held in Helsinki, Finland and will be hosted by Alto University.

2015 Conference will be held in Hanover, Germany and will be hosted by the TIB.

9. Vote of thanks

All present joined the President in a vote of thanks to Nanyang Technological University, and particularly to Mr. Choy Fatt Cheong and his colleagues for their work in organising an extremely successful conference.

10. Conclusion

The General Assembly was concluded and will be reconvened in Cape Town, South Africa, during the Annual Conference, on Tuesday 16th April 2013.