

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES (IATUL)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010

1 pm Tuesday 22nd June 2010
Purdue University

1. Opening of General Assembly

The President, Ainslie Dewe, opened the Assembly and welcomed all members.

2. Approval of Agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted

3. Minutes of last general Assembly

The minutes of the last general Assembly, held at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven on 2nd June 2009, were accepted as correct.

4. President's Report

The President thanked outgoing President Maria Heijne for her very active and successful presidency and for her service to the IATUL board in a number of roles.

Membership continues to be healthy with over 50 countries represented. An unexpected increase in membership arose when the IATUL Board decided to offer a one year complimentary membership to the institutions from the STIMULATE programme whose representatives attended the Leuven conference. At a time of financial tightening all organizations are reviewing their budgets and this has had some effect on IATUL membership.

The Treasurer's report indicates that IATUL finances are in good order, with a healthy level of reserves.

The President thanked Ludo Holans and his colleagues at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven for organising the very successful 2009 annual conference. The current conference is also proceeding very successfully and has again attracted a large number of delegates.

The autumn seminar is an important part of the effort to raise the profile of IATUL and attract new members. The 2009 autumn seminar, on the subject of e research, was held in Hong Kong. It attracted delegates from a number of SE Asian countries and helped to establish links for future activities. The president thanked Choy Fatt Cheong and Steve O'Connor for using their extensive contacts in the region to widen awareness of our Association.

The web site continues to be vital for communicating with the IATUL membership. We are grateful to AUT and Gillian Barthorpe for managing it so effectively. Members are encouraged to post comments on the News Alert items. The most prolific poster of items on IATUL-l, Murray Shepherd, gave notice last year of his intention to withdraw from this responsibility. The Board decided that the list should be kept going for communication to and between members, even though it is anticipated that the posts would be far less numerous. The president thanked Murray for his many years of dedication to the task.

The board has met twice at this conference. The President thanked outgoing Board member Arja-Riitta Haraala who stepped down at the end of 2010, and welcomed new Board members Mr Choy Fatt Cheong, Nanyang Technological University Singapore, and Terje Hosieth of Lulea University, Sweden. She also thanked Board members for their contributions during the year.

5. Financial report

The Treasurer presented the financial reports, including the outcome for 2009 and the budget for 2010, and the auditor's report by Loffler & Kollegen which covered the period January to December 2009. The auditors reported that the accounts were in order and revealed no discrepancies. The subscription income for 2008 was less than budgeted because of reduced subscriptions. There is still a surplus of approximately €110,000 on the balance sheet, of which €98,000 is in government bonds.

In reply to a question the treasurer said that there would be a deficit budget for next year, but this was planned as the reserves were so high.

There was a query from the meeting over conference surpluses. The treasurer reported that these were normally expected to be approximately €3k

The financial report was adopted

6. Amendment to the Constitution

The proposed amendment was:

Article 1 of the Constitution, Name and Style, currently reads:

The Association shall be known in the English language, its medium of official communication, as the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES. In other languages it may be known by a direct translation or by a preferred variant, e.g. Internationale Vereinigung der Bibliotheken Technischer Universitäten or Association Internationale des Bibliothèques d'Universités Polytechniques. The official abbreviation of the name of the Association for all purposes and in all languages, shall be IATUL. IATUL is a non-profit institution.

It is proposed that it should be amended to read as follows:

The Association shall be known as the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES. The English language is its official medium of communication. The official abbreviation of the name of the Association for all purposes and in all languages, shall be IATUL. IATUL is a non-profit institution.

The proposed amendment was agreed unanimously

7. Board membership

The President covered some of the issues in her report. New Board members and a succession strategy for the executive posts will be considered in Munich. The Board will seek to nominate new members who could take on the work of the executive offices.

8. IATUL developments

The Board is to initiate discussions on an IATUL Strategic Plan in the November meeting in Munich and to establish priorities.

The Cross country co-operative project which was in preparation is to be discontinued. There has been very good progress in Twinning initiatives, with a discussion list established between three IATUL libraries. The Special Interest Group on Library Quality Management will continue its work. The proposed expert database will be discontinued.

The results of the membership survey of 2008 will be reviewed. The Purdue library Institutional Repository will accommodate papers from this and previous IATUL conferences. The IATUL copyright policy will be reviewed so that IATUL will receive a licence form conference speakers to publish all conference contributions.

9. Future conferences

Planning is already advanced for the 2011 conference, which will be held in the Warsaw University of Technology. The 2012 conference will be held in Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, and the 2013 conference will be held in Ozyegin University, Turkey.

10. Vote of thanks

All present joined the President in a vote of thanks to Purdue University, and particularly to Jim Mullins and his colleagues for their work in organising an extremely successful conference.

11. Conclusion

The General Assembly was concluded and will be reconvened in the Warsaw University of Technology in May 2011.