

IATUL BOARD MEETING
Sunday 20 April 2008, 10am
AUT Library, Auckland

PRESENT

Maria Heijne (MH) **Chair**
Ainslie Dewe (AD)
Arja-Riitta Haarala (A-RH)
Marek Gorski (MG)
Louis Houle (LH)
Reiner Kallenborn (RK) (**Treasurer**)
James Mullins (JM)
Paul Sheehan (PS) **Secretary**
Alice Trussell (AT)
Sohair Wastawy (SW)

1. Apologies and welcomes

Apologies were received from Ana Azavedo
Jim Mullins was welcomed to his first board meeting.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Stockholm board meetings were confirmed as accurate.

3. Matters arising/Actions

There were no matters arising which were not on the agenda, and all actions were completed or were noted on the agenda

4. Report on 2008 conference

AD tabled a report on the 2008 conference. There will be 170 delegates, including day delegates; 74 of these will be from NZ. As 100 was the break-even point for the conference, there will be a financial surplus. This will be assisted by the level of sponsorship, which was excellent. The Programme Committee was pleased with the quality of the papers. The conference will start with a formal Maori welcome on the evening of the 20th.

MH thanked AD and her team for their very thorough preparations for the conference.

5. President's Report and General Assembly 2008

MH's report was circulated. It noted progress in IATUL administration, and in IATUL activities.

PS circulated amendments to the Travel Grant guidelines, which would allow existing members to avail of the grants. They were agreed. It was also agreed that the principle of the Travel Grants applying to local, and not travel costs would be maintained. The list of former grantees should be updated annually to assist conference organisers. Organisers would be free to prioritize applicants according to the guidelines

6. Financial report

Outcome 2007

The transfer of financial administration from Delft to Munich required the formation of a not-for-profit trust in Germany. A tax declaration will need to be made every year. A student, A. Geiss,

has been employed to process the work. After the request concerning methods of payment was made at the last GA, more credit card payments are being made. The Robeco fund has been closed, and the proceeds (approximately €80k) transferred into German government bonds. This will be noted on next year's financial report, as it the transfer took place in 2008. Also in 2008 conference financial surpluses of €1,300 were transferred from Porto, and €3,400 from Stockholm

The Board agreed that gifts should be made to J. Poelt and A Geiss in recognition of their work for IATUL

The overhead expenses for IATUL officers of President, Treasurer and Secretary were discussed. It was agreed that consideration should be given to increasing the President's expenses to €3,000 p.a.

7. Membership

PS tabled a membership report.

Membership, at 238, had remained stable during the year to date. The database was still being cleared of duplicates, irregular memberships etc. There were six new members, two of them from India, and six resignations. The number of resignations by UK institutions was a concern, and PS has taken actions to address this.

8. Opinion Survey

LH reported on the results of the membership opinion survey.

The response of 102 replies, almost 50%, was good. Overall, the responses were positive, but they required interpretation. For example although a small percentage said that the annual conference was a primary reason for joining IATUL, a majority said that features of the conference, such as networking, and awareness of current developments, were. There was support for initiatives such as the Special Interest Groups, but also a lack of awareness of them. It was decided that a small group would meet to consider the survey results, to identify the priority areas for action, and to indicate how the survey should be used to help IATUL development.

LH was thanked for his work on the survey

Actions:

Group to meet to consider, and make recommendations on, the survey. To report at next Board meeting

9. Website report

Gillian Barthorpe joined the meeting to speak to the tabled website report

Website statistics showed an increasing trend of use from autumn 2007 to spring 2008.

Website backup. This issue was raised at the last board meeting. GB explained that McGovern, the contractors, backup to tapes stored offsite, so that at any one time there are is one month of data available should restoration be needed. Servers are protected by hardware service contracts. McGovern has no legal claims on our data. The board agreed that these standard measures provide adequate protection for IATUL data.

Membership data should be updated to the website from the membership database at six monthly intervals.

Blogs. In the absence of detailed alternatives, the board decided to adopt the proposal that a moderated open comments section should be added to News Alerts. McGovern will be asked to provide a revised quotation for this.

Iatul-l should continue in parallel with the News Alert blog for the time being.

Actions:

AUT to obtain revised quotation from McGovern for open comment facility, and to proceed with this functionality if expenditure approved

10. Projects

a. Cross country co-operation projects

MG reported on a developing project between the technological universities of Cracow, Dortmund and Lodz. Further details to be provided

Actions:

MG to report on project between Cracow, Dortmund and Lodz

b. Twinning initiative

IATUL board members are encouraged to develop relationships with each other to stimulate this initiative

Actions:

All

c. Special Interest groups

A meeting of the management and library organisation group will take place on 20 April, following email discussion.

Action:

RK to report on SIG developments

d. Expert database

PS tabled a suggested format, based on Excel spreadsheets and a web interface. Project to proceed.

Action:

PS to proceed

11. IATUL development

The board should drive identified development areas, especially the projects identified in item 10 above, by participating in them.

Developments should concentrate on priorities taken from the members' survey. A publicity campaign should be formulated around these priorities.

IATUL's technological focus is valid. The proposed name change, to include the term Scientific, should be considered during the next year, announced at the 2009 GA, and form part of a coherent IATUL publicity campaign.

IATUL does not have the subscription base at present to allow it to employ a secretariat staff.

One option, which would allow activity to be scaled to available finance, would be to seek such support on a contract base from other organisations.

12. Portfolio reports

- JM. South America and Spain
- A-RH Europe (General) /Scandinavia

Promoted IATUL to Russian institutions

- AD Asia Pacific

IATUL was promoted in Australasia. A seminar in Hong Kong could be useful

Promoted IATUL at Australasia meeting

- MB India/ N Asia
- LH Canada. Attended events in France and Senegal and promoted IATUL there.
- MH Netherlands/China
- SW Middle East

Translated IATUL documentation into Arabic for the IFLA Arabic sub group

- MN Scandinavia

Promoted IATUL at Scandinavian libraries meeting in Trondheim

- RK Germany

Will promote IATUL at a booth at a national German library meeting. An IATUL pamphlet, approved by board, was circulated and will be distributed at this meeting. Also promoted IATUL to one of the two biggest universities in Bangkok

- AT USA

Sent letters to US institutions

- PS Ireland/UK/France

Concentrating on UK. Has identified and sent letters to potential IATUL members.

13. Poster prize

A-RH and MG will judge the Poster prize

14. Forthcoming conferences

JM has set up an organising committee for the 2010 conference at Purdue. Dates will be from 20th to 24th June 2010. The Study Tour day will be on the Thursday rather than the Wednesday for logistical reasons. Hotel prices will be in the region of \$90 per room per day.

Next meeting Tuesday April 22, 12am, AUT