

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES (IATUL)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2006

2pm Tuesday 25th May 2006. School of Engineering, University of Porto, Porto.

1. Opening of General Assembly

The President, Gaynor Austen, 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 Laval University in Quebec on Tuesday 31 May 2005 were accepted as correct, following an amendment to the name of Michel Dagenais.

4. President's Report

The President reported that membership was strong and growing. During the year in review members had been attracted from new areas, such as Bangladesh and Morocco. A membership drive was taking place, and as part of this the IATUL Secretary, Paul Sheehan had addressed a group of French research librarians in Paris in March 2006.

The annual conference in Laval University, Quebec, in 2005 was a great success, and the President congratulated Michel Dagenais and his colleagues on the organising committee.

The President congratulated and thanked Ana Azavedo and her colleagues for the excellence of the current very efficiently organised conference, which was very well attended with over 170 delegates.

The president urged all present to attend the next annual conference in Stockholm in June 2007.

The Board met twice in Quebec in 2005, and in Dublin in November 2005. This last was combined with a seminar, jointly held with the Irish university and research libraries organisation, CONUL. Two new members from Ireland joined IATUL in 2005.

IATUL finance has been handled very efficiently by Maria Heijne at the Technical University of Delft, but with the post of Treasurer being handed over to Dr Reiner Kallenborn, this function will soon be transferred to the Technical University of Munich. There are regulatory difficulties to overcome, and this has prevented the issuing of invoices for 2006. These should be issued soon.

IATUL continues to offer a number of services to its members. The IATUL Alert service has been maintained by Barbara Ewers of Queensland University of Technology. A self subscribing email list is also maintained and IATUL is very grateful to Murray Shepherd for his regular posting of items to this list.

IATUL recently initiated a Cross-Border Co-operation programme, for which one grant has already been awarded. Members are encouraged to forward proposals for consideration under this programme. Details are available on the IATUL web site. IATUL has also negotiated favourable terms for its members with EDUSERV for electronic products, details of which can also be found on the IATUL web site.

The association continues to offer travel grants to new or non member individuals from developing countries to assist attendance at the annual conference. In 2005 librarians from India and Africa received awards under this scheme. The Tony Evans Travel Grant, generously funded by a past president of IATUL was awarded for the first time this year; its aim is to encourage attendance by young librarians at the annual conference.

As part of its desire to encourage further collaboration among members, the Board is pleased to announce the formation of Special Interest Groups. Currently, groups in Organisational development and quality, Information Literacy, and Library Building Design are in formation.

The IATUL Board has worked extremely well together. Judith Palmer has handed over the post of Secretary to Paul Sheehan, and will remain on the Board for a further year. Murray Shepherd has stepped down from the Board. The Board is extremely grateful to both for their very significant contributions. Board member Cathy Matthews is recovering from a serious illness, and was sent best wishes. Gaynor Austen will hand over the Presidency of IATUL to Maria Heijne after this General Assembly. She had enjoyed her time on the Board, including terms as Vice President and President, and expressed her thanks for the support she had received.

5. Financial report

The Treasurer presented the financial reports, including the outcome for 2005 and the budget for 2006. Income from membership fees increased in 2005/6. There were increased expenses in the year, from events such as the Dublin seminar, Conference grants, and the work on the IATUL archive in Oxford. The annual conference in Quebec in 2005 produced a surplus of €14k. The investments made in 1997 need to be re-invested. Invoices have not been issued so far in 2006 for the reasons announced by the President, but they will be issued in the near future. The Board has agreed that non-payment of membership fees will lead to cancellation of membership.

6. Report by the Honorary Auditor

The honorary auditor noted that there was an accumulated surplus in the reserves, which included investment income, and that this might be reduced. The auditor reported that the accounts gave a true and fair view of IATUL finances.

The president proposed the adoption of the financial statements and this motion was carried.

7. Board membership

The President explained the procedure for election to the Board, and reported that there had been three valid nominations for Board membership. The Board recommended the following:

A Dewe, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

M. Gorski, Cracow University of Technology, Poland

L. Houle, McGill University, Canada.

The recommendations were accepted.

IATUL Presidency. At the November 2005 Board meeting it was agreed that the outgoing President Gaynor Austen, whose term would finish at this conference in Porto, would be replaced by Maria Heijne.

8. IATUL web site

The transfer of the management of the site is in progress. It had been planned that Ryerson University would take over the task, but it is now likely that Auckland University of Technology will manage the site. There are problems with current email lists, due to old technology. These should be resolved when the site is transferred.

9. IATUL annual conference 2007

This will take place in the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden from 11th to 14th June.

A venue for the 2008 conference is still under discussion.

10. Tony Evans travel grant presentation.

The first Tony Evans travel grant was presented by the donor to Fiona Bradley of the University of Technology, Sydney.

11. Vote of thanks

All present joined The President in a vote of thanks to the University of Porto for hosting the 2006 conference.

IATUL incoming President Maria Heijne thanked Gaynor Austen for her nine years of service on the IATUL Board, the last two as IATUL President. She has left a strong and growing organisation.

12. Conclusion

The General Assembly was concluded and will be reconvened in Stockholm, Sweden in June 2007