

# Minutes from the EAAE General Assembly

## Centre for Mediterranean Architecture, Chania, Crete

### 1 September 2014

**Chairman:** EAAE President Karl Otto Ellefsen

**Minutes:** Inge Lens and Erling Rognes Solbu

Schools present or represented:

|       |                |                       |  |
|-------|----------------|-----------------------|--|
| BE-01 | Belgium        | Antwerpen             | Artesis Plantijn University College Antwerp                      |
| BE-03 | Belgium        | Brussel               | ULB Faculté d'architecture La Cambre - Horta                     |
| BE-07 | Belgium        | Diepenbeek            | U Hasselt Faculteit Architectuur en Kunst                        |
| BE-09 | Belgium        | Gent                  | KU Leuven Campus Gent & Brussel                                  |
| BE-14 | Belgium        | Leuven                | KU Leuven Departement A.S.R.O.                                   |
| BE-17 | Belgium        | Mons                  | Mons University  |
| CH-08 | Switzerland    | Geneve                | Western Switzerland University of Applied Sciences Hepia         |
| CH-16 | Switzerland    | Winterthur            | ZHAW   |
| CZ-02 | Czech republic | Praha                 | Praha Technical University, CVUT                                 |
| DE-38 | Germany        | Köln                  | Fachhochschule Köln  |
| DE-65 | Germany        | Münster               | University of Applied Sciences M.S.A.                            |
| ES-01 | Spain          | Barcelona             | Universidad Politecnica de Catalunya, E.T.S.A.                   |
| ES-03 | Spain          | La Coruña             | Universidad de La Coruña, E.T.S.A.G.                             |
| ES-08 | Spain          | Sant Cugat del Valles | Universitat Politècnica Catalunya                                |
| ES-09 | Spain          | Sevilla               | Universidad de Sevilla, E.T.S.A.                                 |
| ES-10 | Spain          | Valencia              | Universitat Politècnica de València                              |
| GB-09 | Great Britain  | Glasgow               | Glasgow School of Art  |
| GR-01 | Greece         | Athens                | National Technical University Athens                             |
| GR-03 | Greece         | Thessaloniki          | Aristotle University of Thessaloniki                             |
| GR-05 | Greece         | Volos                 | University of Thessaly   |
| HU-01 | Hungary        | Budapest              | Budapest University of Technology & Economics                    |
| IT-07 | Italy          | Firenze               | Università degli Studi di Firenze                                |
| IT-09 | Italy          | Genova                | Università degli Studi di Genova                                 |
| IT-10 | Italy          | Milano                | Politecnico di Milano  |
| IT-14 | Italy          | Pescara               | Università degli Studi "Gabriele D'Annunzio" di Chieti e Pescara |
| IT-18 | Italy          | Roma                  | Sapienza - Università degli Studi di Roma                        |
| IT-46 | Italy          | Udine                 | Università degli Studi di Udine                                  |
| IT-51 | Italy          | M'Aquila              | University of L'Aquila - DICEAA                                  |
| LI-01 | Lichtenstein   | Vaduz                 | University of Liechtenstein                                      |
| LV-01 | Latvia         | Riga                  | Riga Technical University  |
| NL-01 | Netherlands    | Amsterdam             | Stichting Amsterdamse Hogeschool voor Kunsten                    |
| NL-02 | Netherlands    | delft                 | Delft University of Technology                                   |
| NL-04 | Netherlands    | Groningen             | Academy of Architecture  |
| NL-09 | Netherlands    | Rotterdam             | Hogeschool Rotterdam   |
| NL-14 | Netherlands    | Arnhem                | ARTEZ Institute of Architecture Arnhem                           |
| NL-15 | Netherlands    | Eindhoven             | Technische Universiteit Eindhoven                                |
| NO-01 | Norway         | Bergen                | Bergen School of Architecture                                    |

|       |          |                 |   |
|-------|----------|-----------------|---|
| NO-03 | Norway   | Oslo            | Oslo School of Architecture                             |
| NO-04 | Norway   | Trondheim       | Norwegian University of Science and Technology          |
| PL-02 | Poland   | Gdansk          | Gdansk University of Technology (GUT)                   |
| PL-04 | Poland   | Gliwice         | Silesian University of Technology - Politechnika Slaska |
| PL-08 | Poland   | Warsaw          | Warsaw University of Technology                         |
| PL-09 | Poland   | Wroclaw         | Politechnika Wroclawska                                 |
| PT-03 | Portugal | Guimaraes       | Minho University  |
| PT-04 | Portugal | Lisboa          | Universidade Lusiana                                    |
| PT-08 | Portugal | Lisboa          | Universidade Tecnica de Lisboa                          |
| PT-11 | Portugal | Porto           | Universidade do Porto                                   |
| RO-02 | Romania  | Bucarest        | University of Architecture & Urbanism Ion Mincu         |
| SK-01 | Slovakia | Bratislava      | Slovenska Technicka Univerzita                          |
| TR-03 | Turkey   | Ankara          | Middle East Technical University                        |
| TR-13 | Turkey   | Istanbul        | Istanbul Kultur University                              |
| TR-24 | Turkey   | Northern Cyprus | Eastern Mediterranean University                        |
| TR-25 | Turkey   | Istanbul        | mimar sinan fine arts university                        |
| TR-62 | Turkey   | Ankara          | TOBB University of Economics & Technology               |
| TR-65 | Turkey   | Samsun          | Ondokuz Mayis University                                |

Representatives of PT-11 and TR-65 reported an issue concerning the payment of their membership to the secretariat prior to the GA. These schools were allowed to vote during the GA. Their inclusion in the count did not affect the quorum.

55/136 = quorum

## **1 Agenda for the special GA**

The President presented a revised agenda for the Special General Assembly, and asked for the assembly's approval.

Maria Voyatzaki stressed that the agenda should include an opening for "any other business", so that issues arising during the meeting could be discussed and decided upon.

The President then proposed that possible additional issues should be put forward during the lunch break, and then handled as the last point in the afternoon agenda. This was accepted by the GA.

With this amendment the revised agenda was approved.

## **2 Report on the EAAE Administration**

As announced and approved during the GA in Hasselt in March, the EAAE secretariat moved from KU Leuven to Hasselt University during summer 2014. The new address for the organisation and the secretariat was approved by the GA. The new EAAE secretary Inge Lens was introduced to the GA.

### **3 New memberships**

Four new schools had applied ahead of the GA:

Full membership:

- Politecnico di Torino, Dipartimento Di Architettura e Design, Torino - Italy
- Istanbul Kemerburgaz University, School of Engineering, Department of Architecture, Istanbul - Turkey

Associate membership

- October High Institute for Engineering and Technology, October 6 City - Egypt
- International School of Architecture, Confluence Institute for Innovation and Creative Strategies in Architecture, Lyon – France

All applications were approved.

### **4 The ACE / EAAE Relationship**

The President briefly informed the GA about the revitalization of the EAAE/ACE joint working group and the common Erasmus+ strategic partnership (see also pont 10).

ACE Executive Board member, and member of ACE's Schools Group Dubravko Bacic then addressed the GA on behalf of ACE.

Main messages:

- Forwarded a greeting from the ACE president Luciano Lazzari.
- Underlined ACE's interest in the revitalized cooperation with the EAAE. ACE sees the joint working group as the main engine for future collaboration.
- Expressed ACE's enthusiasm for the Erasmus+ project.
- Announcement: ACE is establishing the ACE diploma project prize. The aim is to establish an annual prestigious and relevant prize for architectural graduates. Accredited EU schools will be invited to submit 1-2 projects. European schools of architecture are encouraged to keep their heads up for the call.

### **5 Election of EAAE Vice President**

Council member Adalberto del Bo was nominated by the EAAE Council ahead of the GA. No other candidates were proposed by the GA participants.

Adalberto del Bo was unanimously elected Vice President of the EAAE by applause.

## **6 Proposal for a Chania Declaration**

A proposal for a Chania Declaration with reference to the amendments to the Professional Qualification Directive of 2005 written by Herman Neuckermans and revised by Karl Otto Ellefsen was presented to the GA.

According to the statutes resolutions may be approved validly by 2/3 approval, even when it wasn't included in the original agenda circulated as part of the call for the GA, if the GA bring together 1/3 of the members.

The proposal was discussed. Several members raised doubts about the draft's formulation on practice requirements, both with regard to wording (e.g. "training"/"experience"/ "practice") and content (definition of valid practice). It is also challenging to find a version that takes the candidates' difficulties in obtaining practice in Europe today, and that satisfies various country-specific degrees and qualifications systems.

Upon the President's proposal the GA agreed that changes could be presented to Adalberto del Bo and Herman Neuckermans during the lunch break.

In the afternoon session the President proposed that the proposal that was made during the lunch break will be disseminated to all members shortly after the GA. The members may then propose changes during September and October. A preliminary declaration will be voted upon by the EAAE Council at its meeting in Lisbon on October 30th, and a final version will be decided upon by the next EAAE GA in 2015. This was approved by the GA.

## **7 EAAE Mission and Statutes**

Gunnar Parelius presented the main ideas behind the Council's proposal for changes to the statutes, and a few topics for discussion.

Koenraad van Cleempoel presented the Council's proposal for an EAAE Mission statement. Both documents were distributed to all members two months ahead of the GA.

The main principles behind the revision of the statutes are:

- Tidyness and consistency
- Compliance with Belgian law
- Rewritten purpose of Association (mission statement)
- Reflection of established practices
- Transparency
- Better precision
- Reducing micromanagement

The EAAE Mission and Statutes were unanimously approved by applause.

## **8 The Future of the EAAE: Presidents address**

The President opened by declaring the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of heads a great success, and by formally thanking the organizers.

### **The current EAAE Council**

All members of the Council gave a very short presentation of themselves.

The majority of the current Council members were elected in 2013. There will be a major turnover of members, including a new President, in 2015. The tasks for the current Council are roughly put the following:

- To “clean up” the past situation
- To rebuild the Association.

The Council has to a large extent been able to do this; it has been made very clear that there are no problems in the economic situation of EAAE or ENHSA. Though everything may not always have been executed in accordance with best practice, there has been no fraud or corruption. The Council asks for the GA’s support in rebuilding the association.

### **Formal apologies**

The President formally apologized to the former presidents of the EAAE, who have put down a lot of work, and indirectly or directly felt accused for bad management and fraud, and to the ENHSA coordinators. The latter’s reactions were understandable. The President and Council are very sorry about the accusations that were put forward by members of the EAAE.

The road ahead must be based on a strategy of reconciliation. The members should exercise to separate actions and persons. The past situation may be seen as “family matters” that the EAAE is able to handle, and then move forward.

### **The ENHSA experience, and the EAAE/ENHSA relationship.**

- The EU funding of ENHSA has ended. This does however not necessarily mean the end of ENHSA. This is up to ENHSA. The EAAE is only one of many members.
- ENHSA has presented the Chania events and many other deliverables, networks and projects. It has provided professional and academic content to its members and event participants. It has been an extremely active and devoted organization; a community more than an institution. It has allowed participants to be persons more than representatives, which is rather unique.
- The EAAE needed ENHSA to finance professional activity. Practically after some years EAAE leaned on ENHSA, and maybe relied too much on ENHSA. The challenge now is how to run the EAAE without continuous ENHSA funding.

### **On EAAE networks and projects:**

The Council is working to clarify the rather chaotic current situation. A report by Council member Susanne Komossa and coordinator of networks Gunnar Parelus has established three categories; networks, strategic initiatives and projects (see point 11).

### **The future role of EAAE in a world of new emergent collectives**

At the next GA the most important decisions will be about the future. The basic arguments for keeping the EAAE are

- 1) The need for an open forum for exchanging views and experiences
- 2) The political need for the representation of interests.

The EAAE may be understood as an umbrella with activities that can be developed further e.g.:

- 1) The website – huge potential.
- 2) A yearly quality event for people related to architectural education
- 3) Several networks, strategic initiatives and projects activities.

There is a need for renewal, new approaches and inclusiveness. The EAAE needs to particularly include young people, and regions that are currently not well represented (E.g. France, Germany, UK). People will come back. It is a matter of time and how the past conflict is treated.

### **Next EAAE GA and annual event**

- Next year's annual event will be decided upon in the Council meeting in Lisbon.
- Decisions will not be made without the support of members and stakeholders.
- It is not up to the EAAE to decide about the future of the head's meetings in Chania. This is up to ENHSA.
- One option is to take a break from Chania in 2015, and hold the GA and annual event in Milan during the World Expo in 2015. Putting this option forward does not mean a farewell to Chania. Maybe the EAAE should come back every other year?

## **9 EAAE Work-plan 2015**

In the president's address the following tasks for the organisation were stressed:

- Clarifying the role of the organisation
- Re-establishing networks, projects and strategic initiatives.
- Acquiring new membership

A proposal for an EAAE work-plan 2015 will be published after the EAAE Council meeting in Lisbon in late October 2014.

## **10 Erasmus+ report**

Short presentation of the awarded project *Confronting Wicked Problems: Adapting Architectural Education to the New Situation in Europe* by the coordinator at the applicant school AHO, Erling Rognes Solbu.

- A network of 8 schools + EAAE and ACE received 285 000 Euros under Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships
- Three think tanks will study best practices in teaching architecture within *sustainability, heritage and architecture and professional knowledge*
- The results will be disseminated in *Teaching Wicked Problems Reports*, and further elaborated in workshops open for all members at annual EAAE events.

## **11 Report on networks and projects**

Short presentation by coordinator of networks Gunnar Parelus.

The Council is working to clarify the status of the various thematic networks and projects connected to the EAAE.

The ongoing activities are sorted in three categories:

- *EAAE Projects* - directly under the auspice and responsibility of the Council. Services to members.
- *Thematic Networks* - smaller groups within EAAE focusing on specific issues of interest, not controlled by the Council. Bottom-up initiatives.
- *Strategic Initiatives* - close connection to the Council and EAAE strategies

All project leaders will be contacted and invited to continue, or have the opportunity to officially quit. Active project leaders will be invited to the Council meeting in Lisbon in October.

## **12 Economy Report and Budget 2015**

Presented by Treasurer Koenraad van Cleempoel.

EAAE's holdings constitute a grand total of 221.916 Euros (balance 2013 + savings).

The 2015 budget calculates an income of ca. 60 000 Euros (membership fees), and spendings of ca. 71 000 Euros (secretariat, general administration costs, Council meetings, Website maintenance and projects, 2015 annual conference/GA, projects and thematic networks).

The Council sees this as a healthy budget although it is subsidised a little from the funds.

The 2015 budget was approved unanimously. Future budgets should specify any subsidies from the funds.

## **13 General Assembly 2015**

According to the new statutes, the location of the GA is decided upon by the EAAE-Council. In his address the president suggested that the Council of 2015 will

take place in August/September in Milano as a part of an EAAE congress. This will be decided upon in the Council meeting in Lisbon in late October 2014.

#### **14 Other**

Herman Neuckermans pointed out that next year is EAAE's 40 years anniversary. Should it be celebrated in some way at next GA?

He also encouraged the Council to check whether it is required by law to include a paragraph in the Statutes on what will happen to the EAAE assets in case of resolution of the Association.

He went on to encourage the EAAE secretariat to find a more open and accessible way to distribute minutes from Council meetings and GAs.

Pierre von Meiss: The address list for projects and networks should be improved in order to reach the responsible teachers at the relevant schools.

The President closed the Special General Assembly by thanking the organizers of the Chania event, and all present members for their participation.