DRAFT MINUTES

29th Meeting of the IUC Association Assembly

and

34nd Meeting of the IUC Association Board

Held through internet from 17 to 24 December 2021

PARTICIPATED: Wieger Bakker, Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund, Nada Bruer Ljubišić, Vida Demarin, Milena Dragičević Šešić, Berta Dragičević, Sigmund Grønmo, Peter Kampits, Hrvoje Kraljević, Asim Kurjak, Frank Laubert, Ørjar Øyen, Krunoslav Pisk, Pavao Rudan, Hans Joachim Seitz, Zvonimir Šikić, Ivan Šimonović, Ivo Šlaus, Aleksandar Štulhofer, Mitja Žagar

A quorum is established by participation of 20 out of 29 members. Prof. Šimonović took part with time delay due to technical reasons. Prof. Kampits restrained himself from voting.

1. **Report**, prepared by Prof. Pisk and Ms. Bruer, was circulated through mail. Abstract of the report: The year 2021 ended with 38 programmes and total of 1543 participants (both in Dubrovnik and online). Due to Corona pandemic majority of programmes were held as blended.

After long communication the contract with the Ministry of Science and Education has been signed at the end of October on 900.000 KN after the Ministry has received an approval from the Government office for NGO’s to use the exception for direct funding in case of the IUC. Scholarships have been granted to 112 grantees. Due to the pandemic lock-down in spring and early summer and lower physical participation the IUC would use app. 735.000 KN out of this contract.

After talks with the Head Secretary of University of Zagreb Ms. Heli Hajdić Nikolić and Head of Finances Ms. Marijana Drempetić first, later with Rector Damir Boras an agreement has been made with University of Zagreb regarding the methodology of calculating IUC’s part of utility costs of the building. By beginning of December, University of Zagreb, by the decision of Rector Boras corrected the calculated bills and the IUC paid app. 8500 Euro of debt from 2019 and 2020, while the bill for 2021 is issued on 18.260 Euro. Amendment to the Cooperation agreement has been signed in mid- December. Contract to Ms. Nikolina Vekić has expired with 22 July and it has been arranged that after two months break it would be again signed by the University of Zagreb. In the meantime, the IUC Association would secure a contract for Ms. Vekić. This re-appointment has been secured in mid-October as a substitute while a procedure with the public job vacancy announcement has been carried out in November. University of Zagreb is covering half time of this job position and the IUC other half.

The IUC is taking part in the EU Erasmus + project “Weeks of International Teaching- Inclusive and Digital” – a cooperation with Mandel University Brno established by Mr. Boudewijn Grievink. The money secured for the project is at the temporary IUC account until the project coordinator approves the expenses and allows the transfer. Majority of funds are secured for the end of the project since the IUC is carrying out the dissemination of the project.

Prof. Seitz printed the Academic programme brochures for 2021/2022.

Indian Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Raj Kumar Srivastava visited the IUC and got acquainted with its work and programmes.

Prof. Šimonović informed the IUC that the proposed idea to launch the “IUC EU Accession countries scholarship fund” cannot be operationalised through the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. Instead, it was suggested to try to launch the idea through the Ministry of Science and Education and/or academic institutions. The IUC office, with the help of Mr. Grievink will start a social media campaign in order to gather some funds for this purpose.

German and French Ambassadors to the Republic of Croatia visited the IUC and held a hybrid forum “Multilateralism and the EU as Models of Contemporary International Relations.”

On 24 November Mr. Grievink held an info session on newly announced EU Erasmus programmes through Zoom to all the interested IUC course directors.

University of Zürich, Technical University of Munich, University of Osnabrück, The American University in Cairo, Autonomous University of Barcelona and University of Lódź resigned from the IUC membership. Faculty of Social Studies of University of Ostrava and John Innes centre from Norwich has applied for membership and are new member of the IUC.

**Discussion:**

Prof. Seitz thanked the IUC team, its course directors and speakers for carrying out a programme despite pandemic situation. He also thanked Prof. Pisk and the IUC office for securing the agreement with the Ministry.

The report was unanimously accepted by all voting members.

1. **Financial report for 2020**

Abstract: The Support from the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education has been arranged in October 2021. The IUC would use 735.000 KN out of the available 900.000 due to the fact that not all scholarships were able to be distributed. The final auditing will be done by Mr. Hans Egil Offerdal, as usual, in spring 2022. Although the current report shows deficit of -57165 with the expected refund from the Ministry by the very end of the year, the overall budget should be in positive balance of app. 28000 Euros.

Income in fees is significantly higher than expected since projections in the budget have been made on the conservative side, not knowing how COVID-19 would affect the participation in IUC programmes. Significant support in the budget has been establishing of participation fees for online participation.

Additional income was WITEA project.

Mr. Offerdal took part in the fall IUC EC meeting and inspected the IUC books for the years 2019 and 2020. It is planned that he would again prepare the final report for the IUC Association account for 2021 in spring next year. Mr. Offerdal also put together a Budget for 2022 and this budget has been accepted at the fall meeting of the IUC EC.

**Discussion:**

Financial report for 2021 was unanimously approved by all voting members.

1. **Preliminary budget for 2022**

**Preliminary budget for 2022** considers that the IUC would receive a support from the Ministry of Science and Education. It also has an item in expenditures for Anniversary programme and the Council meeting. Only this – extraordinary expenditure – is the reason why it is planned to have a deficit of -10.390 Euros.

**Discussion:**

Preliminary budget for 2022 was unanimously approved by all voting members.

1. **The Academic programme for 2022** was unanimously accepted.
2. As it was arranged in the past EC meetings, the main event to mark **the 50th anniversary** celebration has been scheduled from 29 September to 1 October 2022. On 29 and 30 September the conference ***Fostering Inclusive Internationalization:*** Role and Responsibilities of Science in Addressing Global Challenges is planned, while the 17th Council meeting will be held on 1 October. It is planned that the conference would have the invited speakers and the open call for contributions. All association members are invited not only to participate in the anniversary conference/Council, but also to actively contribute to the programme itself. It is planned to prepare a monograph on the occasion of the 50th anniversary which would have a different concept than previous two IUC publications on the occasion of the 30th and 35th anniversary.

**Discussion:**

Prof. Seitz complimented the participation of Prof. Turković and Prof. Birkelund as speakers on the conference.

Prof. Kurjak suggested using the opportunity of the anniversary to present Ian Donald Inter-University school of Ultrasound that has grown into the largest educational system in the world with 142 schools throughout the world.

Prof. Žagar suggested that every event in 2022 collects some thoughts on the IUC and its activities, particularly on how they impact or have impacted the participants. This material can be shared on line or in a special publication as a part of the promotion.

The meeting is closed.

NB, December 2021