

Minutes

GEECT BOARD MEETING 16th APRIL 2015 La Fémis PARIS

The 1st Meeting of the GEECT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL starts at 4:30 p.m.

All Board Members are present (Bert Beyens, Chair - Donald Taylor Black, Vice-Chair - Pavel Jech, Treasurer - Vinca Wiedemann & Manuel José Dámasio, Members)

President Bert Beyens welcomes every one, (including Viera Hladisova from FAMU).¹

Because Maria Dora Mourao, President of CILECT, Stanislav Semerdjiev, Executive Director of CILECT, and Herman Van Eyken, CAPA Chair, are participating in the Research Conference of La Fémis, Bert Beyens has invited them to attend the beginning of the meeting so they can contribute directly on some points that are on the agenda.²

Herman Van Eyken, Head of Griffith Film School Brisbane Australia, gives a brief introduction to the CILECT CONGRESS 2017 that his school will host. Theme of the Conference within the Congress will be “Ethics & Aesthetics”. A very challenging theme that hopes to address important subjects relating to the actual state of our world.

Maria Dora Mourao speaks about the CILECT Knowledge Project that is very important on the new website, but adds that also publications of books are part of that CILECT activity.

Stanislav Semerdjiev speaks about the launch of the new CILECT Website. Schools have to register and put up their school information.

Stanislav Semerdjiev reminds the GEECT Board Members of the existence in the CILECT Budget of Training the Trainers money. He would regret it very much if GEECT would organize lesser events in the future than was done in the past.

¹ Cfr Agenda Nr.4: Proposal on Financial GEECT work by Pavel Jech, Treasurer

² Cfr Agenda Nr.2: FYI Report CILECT EXECUTIVE MEETING Sydney/Brisbane

Maria Dora and Stan repeat that it is CILECT's Strategy to promote interregional contacts through the so-called CILECT Fee Waivers. For the workshop in La Fémis on Research 5 participants from other regions saw their registration costs paid by CILECT : Jyoti Mistry CARA, Herman Van Eyken CAPA, Gilsa Snaer CAPA, Maria Dora Mourao CIBA, Javier Segundo Olarte Triana CIBA.³

After the three CILECT guests leave the meeting, Bert Beyens welcomes the Board Members once again, telling them that as of 16th April 2015 GEECT counts 85 schools from 33 countries. A school from Utrecht (the Netherlands) has contacted the Executive Director. Further contacts exist with a Macedonian and a Palestinian school, and a second Turkish Film School.⁴

Then follow reports on GEECT Events since the CILECT CONGRESS in Los Angeles (October 2014):⁵ Bert Beyens gives a short report about the very well attended Teaching Documentary Conference in Cardiff (November 2014). Donald Taylor Black reports briefly on the very successful Production Design Conference in Dublin that he organized with his school IADT (March 2015).

Next topic on the agenda is the way the GEECT Board wants to work with the budget and how financial matters will be handled. The new Treasurer Pavel Jech makes the proposal that FAMU will support GEECT through the contribution of Viera Hladisova. She will assist him in all Bank-matters. A meeting in the BNP-Paribas Bank is planned for the next day at 3:00 p.m. with Christine Ghazarian, La Fémis, secretary of GEECT with the former President, Bert Beyens, Donald Taylor Black, Pavel Jech and Viera Hladisova

³ Cfr Agenda Nr.3: FYI CILECT Fee Waivers.

Later in the Meeting Bert Beyens and Pavel Jech point out that this is in fact a bit strange because the workshop in La Fémis is not a pure GEECT event, but a Europe-sponsored Media Event (like Midpoint is another event). Never were CILECT Fee Waivers used for other similar events.

⁴ Cfr Agenda Nr.6: GEECT Membership update. New Members?

⁵ Cfr Agenda Nr.1: FYI Since L.A.

During the meeting on Friday 17th the President and the Treasurer sign all documents to ensure that all financial transactions can be done from Prague.⁶

Then follows a conversation with an update of the Budget and reports on expenses.⁷ The organizers of the Conferences in Cardiff and Dublin have provided all documents and so the 2 x €10.000 was paid to them.

Next the President informs the Board that he has agreed to La Fémis to pay the registration fees for the Research Conference in La Fémis for 2 GEECT Members that are not part of the Media Program of the European Union: Christian Iseli (Zürcher Hochschule des Künste, Switzerland) and Ghassan Koteit (ALBA, Lebanon). Bert Beyens explains that he took this decision without consultation of the Board because of urgency. In the discussion that follows the ambiguity of the Fémis-conference becomes evident again, but the final decision is to pay the €600.

Another short discussion follows about the GEECT policy on travelling costs of the President or any other Board Member to GEECT events. It is agreed that GEECT Board Members present these costs in their respective schools, as was practice in the past. If a change in this policy would be preferable, then this should be on the agenda during a General Assembly meeting where the Membership can vote a proposal in a future budget.

The Board agrees that it is time to engage into the discussion concerning future activities: conferences and proposals.

The President asks the question: What should we do with the “ZERO RESPONSE” to the CALL for a Spring 2016 Conference?⁸ A mail was sent on 25th January with deadline 9th March. All Board members agree that a call should be repeated in order to provoke maximum effect. And another thing to consider is that the Board should maybe suggest topics for a Conference.

Fact is that there came no reaction to this call.

⁶ Cfr Agenda Nr.4: Proposal on Financial GEECT work by Pavel Jech, Treasurer

⁷ Cfr Agenda Nr.5: Budget update

⁸ Cfr Agenda Nr.7: Discussion: What to do with the Zero Response to Call Spring 2016 Conference?

The President reminds the Board that next to this call he received two proposals for a GEECT Conference, even before this call was send.

Proposal 1 is from Bart Römer, Director of NFA The Netherlands, to do a Conference of Research & Lab in Film Schools. But after an exchange of mails it is now planned in Spring 2017.

Proposal 2 is from Renen Schorr, Director of Sam Spiegel School Jerusalem for a July 2016 Conference with the Best of the Best Kept Secrets. After personal contact between Bert Beyens and Renen Schorr this idea is on hold for the future. GEECT does not organize 2 events in 2 consecutive years in Israel.⁹

Another topic for discussion is whether we give money to PROJECT PROPOSALS as we have withheld in our L.A. approved budget for 2014-2016.¹⁰ Only one very concrete request came in for collaboration between the Polish School in Lodz and the Maale School in Jerusalem (travelling costs for students). The Board decides not to give money because it should be possible for the schools to get money elsewhere. In the context of the limited budget the Board has doubts as whether to continue this kind of financial support in the future. The same can be said about the money for Research Papers.

THE GEECT BUDGET

The fundamental discussion about the GEECT BUDGET can no longer be neglected. The only income for GEECT comes from the GEECT FEE (€160 per school). With 85 schools GEECT has a modest annual income of €13.600.¹¹

⁹ *Later during the Conference in Paris Pavel Jech announces that FAMU could do a follow up conference on Research in Spring 2016. After the Conference Kirsi Rinne from Aalto Finland also says they would like to continue the theme with a Conference. Christian Iseli from Zürcher Hochschule der Künste would like to organize a follow up on the Teaching Documentary Conference (see mails)*

¹⁰ Cfr Agenda Nr.8: Discussion: Do we give money to Project Proposals?

¹¹ *In the GEECT Budget an estimate of €12.500 was used for many years.*

The fee has not changed since it was established in 1996!¹² A raise of the fee can only be put in a proposal to vote by the GEECT GENERAL ASSEMBLY in the near future.

After a conversation in Dublin with (new) Board Member Manuel José Damásio the President asked him to prepare a presentation for this meeting. “GEECT as a research stakeholder: challenges and opportunities”.¹³

Bert Beyens gives Manuel the floor.¹⁴

Manuel starts by saying that GEECT mainly offers 2 things: networking and events.

He explains that his proposal is of GEECT becoming a more active stakeholder in terms of research and training activities: to involve GEECT more as an active partner in EU funded training and research proposals. The ultimate goal is to increase the association’s international profile and relevance; to create extra sources of revenue; to reinforce the ability to lobby – namely with the EU Commission - in the interest of the member schools.

Scope — Two possibilities — GEECT as a partner in proposals submitted by members (in these cases involvement would be evaluated on a casuistic base considering the nature of each project) — GEECT as a promoter of proposals by itself. In the cases where these proposals would allow non-European participants CILECT would act as the proponent.¹⁵

Activities:

1 – Discussion of proposal with members (Munich)

2 – CFP – two specific applications: Knowledge alliances, Sector skills alliances TBA 2016

¹² The CILECT FEE is €1.600 per year.

¹³ Cfr Agenda Nr.10: Presentation Manuel José Damásio: “Geect as a research stakeholder: challenges and opportunities”, followed by discussion.

¹⁴ *What follows is more than a summary of Manuels presentation, but is also based on his mail of April 23th 2015.*

¹⁵ *This distinction came from a discussion with Stanislav Semerdjiev and Maria Dora Mourao at the end of the Conference after we informed them about our plans.*

Probably February 2016. In this case the idea would be to submit a knowledge alliances proposal having GEECT as proponent and all schools that answered the call for partners as partners.

CULT-COOP-2017-9: European heritage, memory, identity and cultural interaction

Innovation Actions EUR 9 million

Proposal for the creation in Europeana of a common digital archive to be used by GEECT schools according with their own strategies.

It was planned to end the meeting at 7:30 p.m. but conversations about the idea of making GEECT a financially stronger organization continued in the Restaurant for another 2 hours.¹⁶ Questions were raised regarding the relationship GEECT-CILECT. And a need was felt to know more about the statutes of GEECT in order to find out what is possible. The next day the President of GEECT informed Maria Dora Mourao, President of CILECT and Stanislav Semerdjiev, Executive Director of CILECT about the GEECT Boards plan to explore European Project money in the future. The Executive Director told us that he would not like to see GEECT and CILECT compete.

Before wrapping up the meeting the question is put: Where and when do we have our future GEECT BOARD MEETINGS?¹⁷ As principle all agree that it would be best to have a meeting during a GEECT or CILECT Event.

Next meeting will be in MUNICH, November 2015, during the CILECT Conference.

¹⁶ Agenda Nr.9: Discussion: Do we want a GEECT CILECT PRIZE as CAPA and CIBA? *The question was only very briefly discussed. There is a tendency to say YES but with a specific annual criterium attached: "Best Comedy" or "Best Cinematography", etc. To be continued?*

¹⁷ Cfr. Agenda Nr.11: Discussion: where and when do we have our future GEECT BOARD MEETINGS?



18

¹⁸ From left to right:
Manuel José Damásio, Pavel Jech, Vinca Wiedemann, Bert Beyens and Donald Taylor Black

7

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AGENDA GEECT BOARD MEETING 16-17th APRIL 2015 PARIS

start 4:30 p.m.

- 1) FYI: Since L.A.: short reports about Documentary conference in CARDIFF and Production Design Conference in DUBLIN
- 2) FYI: Report CILECT EXECUTIVE MEETING SYDNEY/BRISBANE
- 3) FYI: Cilect Fee waivers for the April workshop in FEMIS 5 Participants from other regions: Jyoti Mistry – CARA / Herman Van Eyken – CAPA / Gilsj Snaer - CAPA / Maria Dora Mourao – CIBA / Javier Segundo Olarte Triana – CIBA
- 4) PROPOSAL on FINANCIAL GEECT WORK by our treasurer PAVEL JECH: to have assistance of VIERA HLADISOVA (FAMU). See also meeting Bank on Friday.
- 5) BUDGET update Costs Cardiff Costs Dublin Extra support PARIS CONFERENCE for 2 Guests from Lebanon Costs President (Cardiff en Dublin)
- 6) FYI: GEECT Membership update. New members?
- 7) DISCUSSION: What to do with ZERO RESPONSE to CALL Spring 2016 Conference?
- 8) DISCUSSION: Do we give money to PROJECT PROPOSALS ?
- 9) DISCUSSION: Do we want a GEECT CILECT PRIZE ? (cfr Cilect Prizes CAPA en CIBA)
- 10) PRESENTATION MANUEL JOSÉ DAMÁSIO: “Geect as a research stakeholder: challenges and opportunities”, followed by DISCUSSION.
- 11) DISCUSSION: Where and when do we have our future GEECT BOARD MEETINGS ?
- 12) EXTRA (to be announced at beginning of our meeting) & VARIA (wrapping up loose ends from our meeting)

The End: 7:30 p.m.



19

¹⁹ On photo: Marc Nicolas (President La Fémis), Maria Dora Morao (President CILECT), Manuel José Damásio, Pavel Jech, Vinca Wiedemann, Viera Hladasovan Bert Beyens, Donald Taylor Black, Stanislav Semerdjiev (Executive Director CILECT)

9

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