



MINUTES
GEECT BOARD MEETING
Den Danske Filmskole, Copenhagen, Denmark, January 19th 2018

The 1st GEECT Board Meeting 2018 took place in Den Danske Filmskole (National Film School of Denmark), Copenhagen, Denmark, on the 19th of January 2018.

Summary of GEECT Board actions since Board meeting Zurich (October 25th 2017):

Member schools received following mails:

- November 17th 2017: a mail with subject "GEECT NEWS NOVEMBER 2017, after ZURICH" with 2 documents in attachment: (1) "MINUTES ZURICH": one PDF document with the Minutes of the GEECT Board meeting 25th October 2017 + Minutes of the Regional Association Meeting October 26th (2) "LETTER TO GEECT MEMBERS NOVEMBER 2017"

- November 30th 2017: a mail with subject "TEACHING DOCUMENTARY II (ZeLIG GEECT Conference)" about past and upcoming GEECT Conferences; with, in attachment: "Invitation TEACHING DOCUMENTARY II, ZeLIG".

- December 18th 2017: a mail with subject "Ethics Lab (CILECT project)" inviting members to express interest in the CILECT Ethics Lab project; with, in attachment: "CILECT-The Ethics Lab Project".

The announced survey about members participation in CILECT/GEECT Conferences (see Minutes Zurich Board meeting, p.2) had not been started yet.

The actual Board meeting started at 09.30am; all Board members present.

(Chair: Bert Beyens, Vice-Chair: Vinca Wiedemann, Treasurer: Manuel José Damásio, Members: Eli Bø and Guido Lukoschek).

The meeting ended at 4.00 pm.

1. GEECT Finances

Expenditure (from October until December 2017): GEECT paid the partial travelling reimbursements for the Board Meeting in Copenhagen (Brisbane agreement).
The 2nd instalment of the LMTA Vilnius Conference was paid.
The first part of financial support for Conferences was paid to ZeLIG, for the Teaching Documentary II Conference.

2. CONFERENCES

2.1. TEACHING DOCUMENTARY II

Heidi Gronauer (ZeLIG School) sent a very positive update of preparations for the Conference in BOLZANO.
Bert Beyens and Guido Lukoschek planned to attend the Conference.

2.2. DIVERSITY CONFERENCE

In Zurich 2017, the GEECT Board concluded that with 2 proposals with very similar subjects and approach (the first one from *ifs* COLOGNE, entitled *Diversity and Film making— Researching and teaching Diversity in Film Schools (coordinator Su Nicholls-Gärtner)*; and the second one from NFA AMSTERDAM entitled *All Stories need to be Told, How Inclusion in Film Schools will lead to better Storytelling and more relevant Cinema (coordinator Bart Römer)*, it was impossible to come to a decisive choice, and agreed to prepare a mail with a list of questions for more details, in order to justify a later final choice. The GEECT Board also stated that a collaboration between two schools was generally seen as very positive, but it was not a condition, and it would not be imposed. The GEECT BOARD suggested to the 2 respective schools to get in touch with each other to explore possibilities of collaboration. The Board agreed to communicate about the AUTUMN CONFERENCE 2018 by mail.

The GEECT Board sent a mail to the 2 schools on November 22nd 2018, with an attached document “Diversity Twin Conference – Feedback”, with a list of questions and recommendations. The GEECT Board expressed its enthusiasm about DIVERSITY as an extremely important subject.

A month later, on 21st December 2017, the GEECT Board received a response, with a proposal in attachment (IFS-NFA DIVERSITY DEF 211217).

During the Board Meeting, the GEECT Board focused primarily on the proposal, which was regarded as too thin, and didn't pay a lot of attention to the accompanying letter that contained important information: it said that (a) the proposal was very brief and compact, (b) a date early 2018 for a meeting would be scheduled, (c) two conferences would be developed, (d) with budgets that would stay as they are, and (e) that the questions in the GEECT mail were not answered.

Focusing on the proposal the GEECT Board felt that it only received "best intentions" and "interesting announcements" so far, and was still waiting for convincing substance! Since the GEECT Board concluded that the document did not provide the requested information, it was decided not to give a definitive consent of both conferences. As GEECT urgently needed a solution about the GEECT conference in Autumn 2018, the following two options were withheld:

- a. That the two schools would put together one single event in one single venue on the topic of 'DIVERSITY AND FILM MAKING – Film Education in a World in Motion' for Autumn 2018 as suggested by the Board in Zurich in October 2017. Considering the effort involved, if approved, the board would be ready to raise the budget for this joint enterprise.
- b. That if on consideration, the schools would prefer not to collaborate on one single event the GEECT Board would be open to re-consider the two separate proposals for Autumn 2018, in which case only one event would be chosen and only the usual budget would be available for this option.

The GEECT Board felt that with the Mumbai CILECT CONGRESS set for the 12th to the 18th November 2018, this would be an element to be taken into serious consideration. The GEECT Board believed that this CONGRESS would attract a large number of European schools because of the important upcoming Elections, and would represent a considerable financial investment for the schools, making it essential that any additional event that happens during Autumn 2018 would be clear in what it would promise and would be carefully organized.

The GEECT Board decided to give the 2 schools until 15th March 2018 to reply and refer to the questions put forward in the previous email.¹

3. CALL SPRING CONFERENCE 2019

The GEECT Board decided to launch a call for Conference Proposals for a GEECT SPRING CONFERENCE 2019.²

The Board set the deadline at May 31st 2018, and therefore decided to plan the next Board Meeting in June, FABW Ludwigsburg, Germany, during which a decision would be taken.

¹ After having received a mail on 2nd of February, from the 2 schools in reply to this negative evaluation of the situation, in which a working meeting of the 2 schools on the 7th of February was announced, the GEECT Board acknowledged to have suggested the Twin Conferences in previous correspondence. Therefore, the GEECT Board asked NFA/ifs to elaborate in detail on the upcoming Conference(s) "Embracing Diversity in European Film Schools". The GEECT Board asked to look for a balanced mix of approaches, taking inspiration from successful GEECT Conferences of the past (and also refer to the points in the original GEECT question-mail).

² This meant that there could be 3 GEECT Conferences in 2019.

4. GEECT WEBSITE

Guido Lukoschek reported on the positive evolution of visitors to the website. (Statistics give visits per country, not per school; with exception of one country, all countries have been on the website by now).

5. POITIERS

Chair Bert Beyens reported on his (personal) initiative to accept to moderate a Round Table discussion during the Poitiers Film Festival, 5th December 2017, with the title: “WHO’S FILM IS THIS? The issue of students film’s property and the distribution consequences”.

6. COST EU

Manuel José Damásio informed the GEECT Board about his plan with the Universidade Lusófona Film and Media Arts Department to promote the setup of a consortium to apply for COST (<http://www.cost.eu/>) funding under the next COST call for new Actions due 20th April 2018.

Manuel José Damásio explained COST Action:

COST Actions are pan-European, bottom-up science and technology expanding networks open to researchers from academia and industry or to policy stakeholders.

COST Actions build teams that jointly create new initiatives while reinforcing the innovation eco-system and strengthening European research and innovation capacity. Every COST Action lasts for up to four years and requires the participation of researchers from at least 7 COST Member Countries. All EU 28, plus EU candidates, Norway, Switzerland and Israel can be part of a COST action. COST does not fund research or education itself, but provides support for networking activities carried out within COST Actions.

COST funds meetings, workshops, conferences, training schools, short-term scientific missions (STSMs) and dissemination activities of a network (consortium).

Universidade Lusófona Film and Media Arts Department considers submitting a proposal that deals with some of the topics that could be key to other GEECT schools, namely:

- Digital transformation and cinema: changing production and consumption patterns;
- Pedagogies for the future of media and film arts education;
- Changing cultures, changing schools;

These topics involve many intertwined aspects that are already tackled by many of the GEECT schools in their research and educational activities.

Manuel José Damásio argued that a COST action could help in leveraging in terms of funding in networking. Considering this, he would like to ask all those interested in becoming part of this proposal to confirm their interest until the 16th of February via email.

The GEECT Board agreed that Manuel José Damásio would take this initiative, using the GEECT mailing service.

7. ETHIC LAB

The GEECT Chair reported on the situation of the Ethic Lab.

After ZURICH, the Regional Chairs were asked to contact their schools to know which schools would be interested to host an Ethic Lab workshop by Dan Geva. Eight GEECT schools had responded positively after a first mail that the GEECT Chair sent to all GEECT Schools. After a second mail with a list of questions and recommendations, only 3 schools finally remained. The GEECT Chair reported that no criteria were set to decide which school would host the Ethic Lab Workshop, conducted by Dan Geva.

The GEECT Board looked back on the way the project was initiated and concluded that seen within the CILECT mission and context the Ethic Lab posed major problems.

The GEECT Chair recalled that the CILECT Executive talked about the Ethic Lab in the Executive Meeting in Lisbon and that the Executive decided positive about it in the Executive Meeting (ECM) that took place in Zurich on Monday 23rd October, but said that he had no memory of in-depth conversations about it. The Proposal was approved on Wednesday 25th, by the General Assembly. GEECT announced it in its Regional Association Meeting on the 26th.

After lengthy discussion, the GEECT Board concluded that the project was pushed forward in ZURICH without enough discussion and thought.

It was decided that the GEECT Chair would write a mail to the CILECT President, on behalf of, and in collaboration with, the GEECT Board.

The main objection and concern of the GEECT Board was that the CILECT EXECUTIVE did not propose this project as a pilot for a new format, and that it was lacking any strategic context. The GEECT Board would accept continuation of the Ethic Lab Project, since it was approved, and because Dan Geva and several GEECT schools already put in a lot of work, but would ask the CILECT coordination group that proposed the project in Zurich³ to take care of execution and follow up.

8. NEXT GEECT Board Meeting 2018

The next GEECT Board meeting was scheduled for June 7th 2018, in FABW, Ludwigsburg, Germany.

³ From the General Assembly Minutes Zurich 2017:

[3.2. THE ETHICS LAB PROJECT](#) The Executive Director reported that the CILECT Executive Council has endorsed a project proposed by Dr. Dan Geva, Beit Berl College, Israel, and jointly developed by Dr. Dan Geva, Prof. Dr. Maria Dora Mourão and Prof. Bruce Sheridan. The goal of the project is to provide a workshop for students and teachers on the importance of ethics in the learning and teaching of the film craft as well as to create numerous video recordings of students' personal testimonies on a critical ethical moment in their filmmaking work. All testimonies will be uploaded on a special section in the CILECT website dedicated to ETHICS. The tentative schedule of the project is as follows:

A Call for Hosting of the respective workshop will be sent to all schools until 15 Nov 2017;

Dr. Dan Geva will visit at least one school per region until 30 July 2018 and will lead there a two-day workshop for students (including the video recording of the students' personal testimonies) and a one-day workshop for teachers (optionally from different schools in case the workshop is held in the timeframe of another CILECT event);

All materials will be uploaded on the CILECT website until 31 October 2018 and the results of the project will be presented at the CILECT Congress 2018. A detailed presentation of the project was delivered by Dr. Dan Geva. The General Assembly unanimously endorsed the project.