

## **Minutes of the Statutory Business Meeting of ICHRPI/CIHAE held on 13 September, 2018 at the University of Vienna, Juridicum, Top Floor.**

The President, Joseba Agirreazkuenaga, chaired the meeting, with 35 members in attendance. One minute's silence was observed in memory of the former Vice Presidents Valerie Cromwell and Tatsunori Isomi as well as for all the other members passed away last year. Apologies for absence were recorded for John Rogister (Honorary President), Henry Cohn and Jean Garrigues (Vice Presidents). After the adoption of the agenda, the minutes of the Statutory Business Meeting of 2017 in Paris were approved as published in *PER*, vol. 37, p. 360.

The President thanked warmly colleagues Gerald Kohl, Thomas Simon and Magdolna Szigeti for having organized successfully the 70th ICHRPI conference in the occasion of the centenary of the proclamation of the Republic of Austria. He also thanked all the officers of the Commission for their job and the continuous contacts with him. Then, the President presented his report praising for the development of academic networking among members. The ICHRPI website shall be improved with a list of members to be prepared in cooperation with national conveners and according to the law on the protection of personal data. The process of digitalization of volumes from the ICHRPI Series of Studies is going on, but the Commission needs to catalogue documentary and photographic archives about its history, beginning with the compilation of the full list of its seventy conferences. The Direction decided to allocate a special fund to this purpose. He finally announced that the proceedings of 2016 Palma de Mallorca Conference will be soon published. The report of the President was approved.

The Secretary General, Mario di Napoli, presented his report wishing for an increasing membership particularly in North America and non-European countries. He is going to prepare an overview on all the archives where documents and photographs related to the history of the Commission are stored, looking for the precious cooperation of officers and former officers. Then, he reported on the ICHS-CISH Assembly held in Moscow in September 2017 where he represented the Commission because of the absence of the President and of the ICHRPI-ICHS Coordinator, Maria Sofia Corciulo. Finally, he recorded that at the next year conference members will vote for the renewal of all the officers, so nominations shall be sent to him before 18 June 2019. The Report of the Secretary General was approved.

The Treasurer, Gerald Kohl, presented his report. The financial situation is good and

stable and the reserves are still increasing. The membership for 2017 is 202. He is working in order to reduce the bank charges for the money transfer. The report of the Treasurer was approved.

The Director of Publications, Alastair Mann, presented his report, recalling that 2017 was a successful year of transition and innovation for the journal with the 80th anniversary of the Commission virtual special issue, new typography and cover design, and moving to three issues per annum. He also stressed the importance of providing free on line access for members. About the Series of the Studies, he praised that volume number 100 was published with the essays collected in honor of Maria Sofia Corciulo. The volume was presented at the beginning of the conference by himself, the President and the four co-editors, Guido D'Agostino, Mario di Napoli, Sandro Guerrieri and Francesco Soddu. Then, he acknowledged the contribution to the social media of the Commission by colleagues Coleman Dennehy and Bertrand Auge and announced that the Direction confirmed John Young as Editor of *PER* for another mandate of three years. The President stressed the improving scientific quality of the journal and all the members clapped thanking the Editor for his outstanding job. The report of the Director of Publications was approved.

The Editor of *PER*, John Young, presented his report. The profile of the journal is good and we are meeting the target of three issues a year with a wider global perspective and an interdisciplinary trend. A good sign of intellectual health is that many submissions are coming from non-members. Proposals for special issues from members are particularly encouraged. Finally, the Editor announced that the deadline for the submission of articles for the Emile Lousse Prize is extended to 31 January 2019. The review editor, Coleman Dennehy, added that the reviews section of the journal is in good shape stretching across many centuries and many geographic regions, but he is looking for a greater number of books to be reviewed from the non-English speaking world. The report of the Editor was approved.

Councillor Mikel Urquijo, national convener of the Spanish Section, reported on the organization of next year's conference that will be held in Andorra, July 16-18, on the occasion of the sixth centenary of the founding privilege of the Consell de la Terra. The main theme will be: 'The evolution of representative assemblies to democratic parliaments'.

Honorary President Maria Sofia Corciulo, ICHRPI-ICHS Coordinator, reported on the organization of the 2020 conference that will be held in Poznan, in the framework of the 23rd International Congress of Historical Sciences (23-29 August). As announced in the last business meeting, she circulated through national conveners the

call for papers and sent in due time to the Secretary General of the ICHS the programme of the conference entitled 'Models and practices in the evolution of representative and parliamentary institutions'. Papers will be presented on the following themes:

- (1) From Administration to Politics: the role of representative assemblies;
- (2) Representative institutions in the governance of cities from Middle Age to present time;
- (3) Myth and reality of representation: political theories and institutional practices;
- (4) The development of representative and parliamentary institutions in Central-Eastern Europe.

Finally, she announced that the ICHS approved her proposal of a special theme that will see other members of the Commission in the panel.

For the 2021 Conference, the President read the proposal made by the national convener of the Greek Section, Georgia Karvunaki, to organize it in Athens (Sept-Oct). This proposal was endorsed by the assembly.

According to article 3 of the Constitution, the proposal made by the President, on behalf of the Direction, to fill the vacancy in the Direction appointing as Vice President Mikel Urquijo was unanimously approved.

At the end of the meeting, the Treasurer Gerald Kohl, as organizer of the conference, thanked all the colleagues for coming to Vienna. On behalf of all the members, Vice President Maria Cruz Coelho praised the conference organizers for the excellent hospitality. All the collaborators of the organizing staff were congratulated and applauded.

All items on the agenda having been concluded, the President closed the meeting.

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