

Minutes

ENHR General Assembly (GA), Lillehammer, 26 June 2012

CHAIR: PETER BOELHOUSER

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CHAIR: CHRISTINE WHITEHEAD

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1. Opening

The Chairman, Peter Boelhouwer welcomed all attendants.

2. Annual Report ENHR Office & Treasury

a) Annual Report ENHR Office

The coordinator of the ENHR Office, Marietta Haffner explained that all documents for the GA can be found on the ENHR website. One of those documents is the Annual Report of the ENHR Office which lists the tasks that the ENHR Office took care of: the new website (for which further improvements are scheduled for the second half of 2012) and a consistent house style, the organization of the BTA competition and the nominations for the Coordination Committee. Furthermore, the fee collection started much earlier than in 2011, in December of 2011, and was almost completed by June 2012. Also, the diverse Guidelines have been updated, as well as the intentions of the Memorandum of Understanding that ENHR has signed with the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) have been realized. Last but not least, a spring campaign has been put into operation. In 16 countries over 200 potential Associated Institutional members have received an invitation by the Chairman to become an ENHR member.

b) Membership overview

The Treasurer of ENHR, Mark Stephens, presented the membership overview that is summarized in the Annual Report of the Treasury. The number of members increased in total with zero members between February 2011 and January 2012. This is the sum of a decrease of 19 individual members being compensated by an increase of 19 members via their institutions. The number of regular Institutional Members has decreased from 74 to 68, while the number of Associate Institutional members has decreased from 28 to 25.

c) Financial Statement

The Treasurer of ENHR, Mark Stephens, presented the Financial Statement for 2011 from the Annual Report of the Treasury. The positive message is that the deficit is lower than the amount of overhead. A thank you is due to OTB Research Institute that covers the deficit!

d) Proposals fee increase

As costs cannot be decreased much more and fees have not been increased since 2008, the Coordination Committee proposed to the General Assembly an increase of 5% (instead of the inflation rate of 7%) of fees for 2013 and an indexation of fees with inflation in the Netherlands for 2014 and 2015 to be evaluated thereafter. The GA agreed with the proposals.

3. Bengt Turner Award

The fifth winner of the Bengt Turner Award is: Eduardo Ascensão, Centro de Estudos Geográficos, University of Lisbon, Portugal. The winning paper is entitled: *Following engineers and architects through slums: history, policies, urban poor populations and the technoscience of slum intervention in the Portuguese-speaking landscape*. Congratulations!

4. Working Groups

The Annual Report of the Working Groups (WGs) is to be found on:

<http://www.enhr.net/annualassessment2.php>

a) Overview

There are now 21 WGs, 2 WGs in preparation and the Commissioners of Housing Research. The WG Large Housing Estates has been closed at the Lillehammer Coordination Committee (CC) meeting. Thank you to the coordinators for running this WG for 19 years: Hedvig Vestergaard, Thomas Knorr-Siedow and Frank Wassenberg! Ideas for new WGs are welcome to be discussed with the CC.

b) Ebru Ergöz Karahan introduced the newest WG in Preparation: Energy efficiency and environmental sustainability of housing. Henk Visscher is also coordinator of this WG.

5. Proposal change ENHR Charter

The CC put proposals before the GA to make the ENHR Charter consistent with practice and to make it internally consistent, as well as to remove any typos. The most important of these changes were presented and discussed during the GA. Changes based on daily practice are:

- Article I: ENHR is not only for social scientists but for all scientists engaged in housing research, regardless of disciplinary background
- Article VIII: The ENHR Treasurer will provide a statement of accounts to the General Assembly instead of an audited statement submitted by the CC
- Article IX: Secretariat is now called ENHR Office. The CC no longer appoints the Office for its next mandate period, but when needed

Changes based on internal consistency are:

- Article II: Associate membership is not only open to individual members from outside Europe but also to institutional members from outside Europe
- Article III: All members can participate in discussions instead of decisions at the General Assembly. Only paid up full members have a right to vote
- Article IV: The CC can decide to organise CC-elections via the ENHR website only instead of only using postal ballots

The GA agreed to change the ENHR Charter. For the first proposal the GA proposed not only to delete the word social, but also to delete the word scientists and to substitute those with all those. This implies that European will have to become in Europe: *The European Network for Housing Research organises ~~European social scientists~~ all those engaged in housing research in Europe, regardless of institutional affiliation, disciplinary background or school of analysis, to enhance the scientific quality and practical relevance of such housing research in Europe, and to promote contacts both within this scientific community and between researchers and practitioners in housing.*

6. News from Sister Organisation

The Chair of the APNHR, Rebecca Chiu, commented on photos of the 10th anniversary conference of APNHR entitled *Neoliberalism and Urbanization in the Asia-Pacific. Challenges and Opportunities*

for *Housing* that took place in Hong Kong in December of 2011. For the first time the best student paper award was granted.

The next conference will take on 19-22 August 2013 in Kuala Lumpur. The 2015 conference will take place in Seoul.

7. EU Cohesion policy and housing agenda

One of the two Vice Chairmen of the ENHR, Iván Tosics (MRI, Budapest) gave a presentation about the EU Cohesion policy and the housing agenda. According to Iván the EU Cohesion Policy Reform Proposals of 2011 for the Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020 will offer opportunities for housing researchers.

8. Ideas for ENHR 25 years (1988 – 2013)

The founding meeting of ENHR took place on 1 July 1988. The founding members were: Frans Dieleman, Dan Ferrand-Bechmann, Hugo Priemus, Bengt Turner, Iván Tosics and Hellmut Wollman. As in 2013 ENHR will exist 25 years, all members are asked to put forward ideas to celebrate the 25th anniversary to the ENHR Office. Organizing an ENHR event is very much welcomed. Ideas that were proposed until now: special issue of ENHR Newsletter with reports from WGs on developments on content in the WG area of research and, if possible, a description of relations with policy and practice. Other ideas are about taking into account the 25 years in the house style and organizing a bags and memory exhibition at the conference in Tarragona. Tigren Haas proposed to get a former member of the Clinton Administration to speak at the 2013 conference. Sergio Nasarre Aznar gave his ok for Tigren to find out the details.

9. Farewell stepping down CC-members

The Chairman, Peter Boelhouwer, took the opportunity to thank Sule Özüekren and Hedvig Vestergaard who would not be continuing as regular members of the CC. They had served on the CC since 1998 and 2004 respectively, and each were given a present as a sign of appreciation. Another present was for Lars Gulbrandsen who organized the Lillehammer 2012 conference. Christian Tutin who was not attending, is also not returning to the CC. Thank you all for all your good work for ENHR!

10. Elections of members of ENHR Coordinating Committee

At the deadline of 31 March, 2012, midnight, the following ten researchers were nominated to serve on the ENHR Coordination Committee until 2016: Peter Boelhouwer (the Netherlands), Lena Magnusson Turner (Norway), David Mullins (United Kingdom), Monserrat Pareja Eastaway (Spain), Richard Sendj (Republic of Slovenia), Mark Stephens (United Kingdom), Gunvor Christensen (Denmark), Terry Hartig (Sweden), Christiane Thouzellier (France), and Richard Turkington (United Kingdom). The last four candidates are newly nominated, though Christiane (Toulouse conference organizer) and Richard (loyal attendant of CC meetings) are very familiar to the CC members. As the number of nominated candidates corresponded exactly to the number of places indicated in the Call for Nominations, the GA elected these ten researchers to the Coordination Committee by acclamation.

11. Election Committee 2014

The General Assembly elected Marietta Haffner, Nils Hertting and Sarah Monk to serve on the ENHR Election Committee until the next General Assembly.

12. Closing of General Assembly

The Chair of the last part of the GA, Christine Whitehead, thanked everyone for attending.