

## Minutes

### ENHR General Assembly (GA), Edinburgh, 2 July 2014

#### CHAIR: PETER BOELHOUWER

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#### CHAIR: CHRISTINE WHITEHEAD

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#### 1. Opening

The Chairman, Peter Boelhouwer, opened the General Assembly (GA) and welcomed all attendants and explained the agenda.

#### 2. Annual Report ENHR Office & Treasury

##### a) Annual Report ENHR Office

- The chairman of the ENHR Office, Peter Boelhouwer described the PR and communication tasks that the ENHR Office took care of in the past 2 years: ENHR [Newsletter](#) published 4x/year, [website](#) updated regularly, bi-weekly [news-bulletin](#) sent to ENHR members and published via the website, finalization of consistent house style; MoU signed with [Housing Studies Association](#) (HSA); launch of [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts; active involvement in preparations for celebration of 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ENHR.
- The administrative tasks that were listed during the meeting were: membership and financial administration, process collection of fees streamlined (Manon de Gier-de Wolff reinforced ENHR Office for these two tasks), guidelines are updated regularly, elections Coordination Committee members organised, Bengt Turner Award competition organised, elections conference location 2015 & 2016 organised.
- Marietta Haffner (coordinator ENHR Office) adds that the documents for the meeting can be found on the [website](#) behind the password. The slides will be uploaded as soon as possible.

##### b) Membership overview

The Chair of ENHR, Peter Boelhouwer, presented the membership overview that is summarized in the Annual Report of the Treasury. The number of members at year-beginning 2014 was almost 1000 individual members (also via organisational members). This number was stable from 2013 and has increased with 35 from 2012. ENHR is happy to see that the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) does not seem to have influenced membership numbers.

##### c) Financial Statement

The Treasurer of ENHR, Mark Stephens, presented the Financial Statement from the Annual Report of the Treasury. ENHR has always had a loss. Meanwhile the invoicing has been streamlined and run stricter, so that all members listed are also paying members. The fee structure was examined and the GA of 2012 put an increase in place for a couple of years

based on inflation in the Netherlands. The big question was whether membership would hold up given the economic crisis. In 2012 there was a donation from the Lillehammer conference/sponsor that helped to cover costs as time spent was much higher than expected in that year. Overall the deficit is much lower than expected, as time spent and thus costs decreased in 2013. It will always be quite a struggle to recover the costs of the ENHR Office. However, the positive message is that the deficit is lower than the amount of overhead. The direct costs of the network would then be covered. ENHR will be striving to bring costs down further. Peter Boelhouwer added that a smaller deficit will make it possible in due course for others to take over.

### 3. Working Groups (in preparation)

#### a) Overview

The Annual Report of the Working Groups (WGs) is to be found at <http://www.enhr.net/annualassessment2.php>.

There are now 23 WGs, 3 WGs in preparation. No WGs have been closed since the last meeting. The WG Policy and Research is the successor of the Housing Commissioners WG and will relaunch it. Darinka Czischke, Jaana Nevalainen and Elena Szolgayova will be the coordinators of the group. It will operate on the cutting edge of research and policy; broader than in the past.

#### b) Disability and Housing (WG in preparation)

Dianne-Dominique Theakstone (The University of Stirling; main contact person) and Clarine van Oel (Delft University of Technology) are the initiators of the group. At the moment of the GA they are organizing a meeting for potential WG members.

The Chair explains 'In preparation' means: starting, organizing a couple of meetings and built up a membership list in order to be able to become a definite WG in due course.

#### c) Southern European Housing (WG in preparation)

Elena Bargelli (Universita di Pisa), Stefan Kofner (Hochschule Zittau) and Sandra Marques Pereira (Instituto Universitário de Lisboa) are the initiators of the group. Elena Bargelli explained that the group has met before, based on a project. The idea of the WG started then. It can be regarded as the successor of the ENHR WG Housing practices in Southern Europe that operated in the mid-90s and that was focused on welfare convergence of Southern European countries (prosperity phase in the housing market). Elena Bargelli summed up three justifications (e.g. the lack of publications on Southern Europe only) for 'restarting the group'. These, as well as a list of themes, methodological approaches and output that the group will focus on can be found in the PP that is published on the [ENHR website](#).

### 4. News from Sister Organisations

- The Chair of the **APNHR**, Rebecca Chiu, shares the latest developments. At last year's conference there were 97 papers (2/3s international). It took place in Malaysia. Delegates from 20 countries attended; for the first time Africans and also South-Asians attended. The conference proceedings are available electronically and 2 special issues are planned. The APNHR-Newsletter is available at the conference reception.
- Dr. Jun Ha Kim, the organizer of next year's **APNHR** conference, introduced the conference. It will be held in South Korea. The theme is: Housing 2.0: Search for New Paradigms for Collaborative Housing. Please check the website.
- Vivianna Fernandez (University of Chile) explained that last year's challenge for **LANHUR** was to start the network again. LANHUR applied for funds in the University of Chile, unsuccessfully. Irina Molina is very happy to remain involved. Darinka Czischke from Delft University of Technology will also be more involved. Information is welcome about who works in South America and who would be interested to join LANHUR.

- Darinka Czischke together with Irina Molina (also one of the coordinators from LANHUR) are initiating/editing a special issue on housing for the International Journal of Housing Policy. The call will be published after the summer. The idea is to target leaders in Latin American research which at the moment is quite American dominated. The idea is to use the call and to tailor the invitations and try to kick-start LANHUR. Please let everyone know about this: suggestions and help is needed!

#### **5. Farewell stepping down CC-members**

Thomas Knorr-Siedow (Germany) and Viggo Nordvik (Norway) stepped down as CC-members. The Chairman, Peter Boelhouwer, took the opportunity to thank both for their input. They had served on the CC since 2010 (Thomas for the second time after a short break), and each was given a present as a sign of appreciation.

#### **CHAIR: Christine Whitehead**

#### **6. Elections of members of ENHR Coordinating Committee**

At the deadline of 31 March, 2014, midnight, the following five researchers were nominated to serve on the ENHR Coordination Committee until 2018: Jürgen Friedrichs (Germany), Stefan Kofner (Germany), Sergio Nasarre-Aznar (Spain), Kathleen Scanlon (United Kingdom) and Iván Tosics (Hungary). Kathleen and Sergio are newly nominated, though Sergio (Tarragona conference organizer) is very familiar to the CC members. The chair asked the five candidates to introduce themselves.

As the number of nominated candidates corresponded exactly to the number of places indicated in the Call for Nominations, the GA elected these five researchers to the Coordination Committee by acclamation.

The new CC is in place. Officers will be chosen on Friday during the CC meeting.

#### **7. Election Committee 2016**

The General Assembly elected Marietta Haffner and Chris Watson to serve on the ENHR Election Committee until the next General Assembly. A third member to the Committee is still welcome. Please contact Marietta Haffner, if you are interested.

#### **8. Closing of General Assembly**

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