

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Meeting of the European Forum: Saturday, 6 August 2011, Baden-Baden Germany

The meeting started at 8.30 a.m.

1 **Welcome:** Eija Paukkuri (Chairman) welcomed members to the Forum.

2 **Business meeting:**

Introduction of reporters: Diane Billam (GB) and Anu Ariste (Estonia), Kate York (GB) will proofread the final version; timekeepers: Vivian Repko (The Netherlands) and Catherine Bringselius-Nilsson (Sweden); and organisers of attendance sheets: Mette Heiberg (Norway) and Mette Plug (Denmark).

Eija introduced the other members of the European Forum Committee: Ingibjörg Jónasdóttir from Iceland and Christa Dunker-Hopferwieser from Germany,

In memoriam: deceased members were honoured. Kate York expressed words of compassion to our Norwegian members.

Minutes of Spokane 2010: Eija asked if there were any questions arising regarding the minutes. There were none. Minutes of the EU Forum meetings can be read on the society website.

Matters for AOB/proposals: there were no matters arising

European Director Kate York: Kate stressed how important it is for Europe as a region to communicate and keep in touch with each other. The growth of technology is helping us to do it, for example, with the help of Skype a lot of the preparatory work for this conference was carried out. State presidents can keep in touch through online meetings via GoToMeeting. Kate said that Europe is the most multinational region - we must make it effective, we must communicate and grow.

European Achievement Award: Catherine Bringselius-Nilsson presented **Marianne Skardéus** as the recipient of the 2011 European Achievement Award, and said that she is recognized for her contribution to the growth and expansion of DKG in Europe – she has been actively involved in the installation of new member countries, such as Denmark and Estonia, as well as initiating new chapters in her home country, Sweden. Marianne Skardéus, in accepting the award, said: “We should support each other, when you come from a meeting like this, you’ll feel that you’ve been growing”.

Other business: Kate thanked Eygló Björnsdóttir who has done a great job with the European website. Unity Harvey (GB) asked how many people had actually seen the Minutes on the website. Eygló explained to the members how they can register on the homepage to find and receive information. The importance of a common website cannot be underestimated.

Kate explained the aim of the Emergency Fund - it is available to any member who has been afflicted by a natural disaster. In case of emergency the state president should be contacted who will forward the information to the headquarters.

International committee members who were attending the meeting were introduced.

Close of the business meeting: Eija Paukkuri closed the meeting at 9.05 a.m.

Numbers attending: 109 European members and 10 American guests.

3 **Words of Inspiration:** Sigrun Jóhannesdóttir (Iceland) was introduced by Ingibjörg Jónasdóttir (Iceland). Sigrún Jóhannesdóttir gave an inspiring presentation with the title: *How are we doing in Delta Kappa Gamma?* All present were invited to submit suggestions for the future in writing after the presentation.

4 **Words from Dr. Dorothy Haley:** Dr. Dorothy Haley 'took the floor' and spoke to members. She reminded the members of how the Europe region has developed and said that the work of increasing the strength and importance of DKG Europe needs to be continued.

Close of the European Forum Meeting: Eija Paukkuri closed the meeting at 10.15.