

MINUTES OF THE EUROPEAN FORUM MEETING

Saturday 29th July 2017

Regional Conference: Tallinn, Estonia

Welcome: Kathrin Hodgson, (Great Britain), Chair 2016-2018, introduced the 2016-2018 members of the EF Committee and their input to the Society.

Words of Inspiration: Barbara Carlsen (Norway) spoke movingly; her words are worth repeating:

The attitude we have is important in all we do. It is difficult to change our feelings, but not so difficult to change our perspective, our attitude – this is a part of our brain that we can influence. The way you view the world, the meaning you place on what you observe, changes the way you feel.

In memoriam: Marianne Skardéus (Sweden) honoured those members who were not with us any more with a white rose, and thanked them for their dedication to education and our Society.

09.10 Business meeting

This was chaired by Kathrin Hodgson, Forum Chair.

Minutes of Nashville 2016

There was one item raised— attendance by Germany had been omitted. Other than this, the minutes were agreed to be a correct record of the meeting.

There were no matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda

Financial Review

These had been jointly prepared by Ria Logtenberg and Anne Marie Solstad, and presented by Anne Marie. There were no questions and the joint treasurers were thanked for their work on behalf of the Forum committee.

EF Operational Guidelines

The committee had made some proposed amendments to these guidelines, mostly involving the changing of wording. All of the proposed amendments were accepted and adopted by the members present.

Strategic Action Plan

Members were presented with an updated SAP for 2016-2018. There were no questions.

European Website

Eygló Björnsdóttir (Iceland), European Webmaster, spoke of the progress being made to change the website to a new provider—Weebly. Eygló was thanked for her continued hard work on behalf of the European Region.

EuForia:

Riet Smits (the Netherlands), Editor, gave a report on progress since she had taken over from Joan Carroll. She reaffirmed that she is reliant upon the membership to send articles for publication; these are always enlivened by photographs. Riet was thanked for agreeing to take over the reins from Joan Carroll.

Younger Members in Europe

There was discussion on how best to encourage younger teachers/educators to become members of DKG. Some countries have proved to be more successful within Europe than others, but it was felt that we each experienced similar problems in recruiting new members and need to work still in this endeavour.

Proposals

There was one proposal from the EF Committee:

Each Forum committee representative should serve for the period of two biennia. The Chair should change each biennium.

An amendment to the proposal was received just before the opening of the meeting, so that the members present were not able to see the proposal in writing. There was much discussion about both the amendment and the proposal itself. Voting was carried out—and the numbers counted twice. Both the amendment and the original proposal were rejected.

The European Achievement Award

This was presented to Liisa Peltomaa for her enthusiasm, vigour and commitment to DKG.

Liisa has been instrumental in expanding the DKG membership in Finland. Potential new members can relate to her and believe her “elevator speeches”. She has invited more members to join DKG in Finland than any other person and most women educators have accepted. She has even helped to revive a whole chapter in Oulu!

In her 41 years as a Delta Kappa Gamma member, Liisa Peltomaa has been a Gamma-chapter member and has held every possible officer’s post. She has been a member of several international committees and still continues to serve DKG as a valued membership chair in Gamma-chapter.

European members present were:

• Estonia	17
• Finland	21
• Germany	7
• Great Britain	11
• Iceland	11
• The Netherlands	10
• Norway	17
• Sweden	19

In addition, there were three members from the US and one from Canada, making a total of 117 present.

Any Other Business

There were no other items of business.

The meeting closed at 11:00 am.