



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

EUROPEAN FORUM MEETING JULY 30, 2014
International Convention, Indianapolis, USA

The meeting started at 10:45

Welcome: Ingibjörg Jónasdóttir, the European Forum Chair welcomed members to the Forum. This biennium European Forum aimed to find ways to accomplish the Forum goals, to be a platform for discussions and turn them into action. Our motto has been “Activate our goals – unite European Members”.

Ingibjörg introduced the European Forum Committee members of 2012-2014.

Introduction of reporters Anu Ariste (EST) and Evelyn Goodsell (GBP), timekeepers Björg Nakling (NOR) and Astrid Skaaland (NOR) and Ingrid Christiansen (NOR), organiser of the attendance sheets.

Words of Inspiration: Anu Ariste spoke about the different roles of a teacher. There is no other profession more interesting, challenging or full of responsibility than that of a teacher. However, a teacher is just a human and even her energy resources run out eventually. Therefore the key question about teaching is – how to be, and more importantly stay bright, energetic and youthful throughout the years? How not to burn out and spend energy uselessly?

In Memoriam: deceased members were honoured, Ingrid Christiansen read a poem and a white rose was presented.

Business meeting chaired by Sigrún Klara Hannesdóttir (ISL).

1. Minutes of Forum Meeting in Amsterdam 2013: Ingibjörg noted that the minutes were posted on the European website six months ago and have been printed in the Forum booklet. The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.

2. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda: there were no matters arising.

3. Financial Accounts: Ingibjörg introduced and explained the financial statement of the European Forum of 2013-2014 and the budget for 2014-2015.

4. Matters arising from the finance: Ingibjörg noted that the Forum budget is not enough anymore. The travelling cost has risen in the last years and therefore not all travelling costs of EF Committee members can be reimbursed since some money has to be kept for other things. Addressing a question about the costs of the pre-conference in Sweden not having been included in the budget for 2014-2015 Sigrun Klara explained that there is no requirement to have one. Ingibjörg added that the next EF Committee has to decide on this. Marika Heimbach suggested that it should be clarified how and which costs of the RD are reimbursed concerning the one-Eur-per-member contribution from each European state. In the last years it has been channelled through the EF Committee treasurer. It was suggested that this matter should be discussed by the next Forum Committee.

5. European Forum Report for 2012- 2014 presented by Ingibjörg: the Forum Committee introduced a Strategic Action Plan for the biennium. Although we have not accomplished as much as we wanted, we have moved forward and started most of it. The committee worked hard at our November meeting. We had good discussions about Society as well as education matters. We focused on the SAP, there are four categories. *Service* – the committee has to plan Forum committee meetings and Forum meetings each year and a pre-conference, and so we did. *Communication* – we wanted to be more visible on the Website, to have topics, some worked, some not. But sometimes it is most difficult to start the ball rolling. We tried to encourage members to be active on our web and we started a Facebook page. It is still difficult to get members to send in material, but we had reports about State conferences, chapter projects etc. *Membership* - we discussed ideas like finding focus groups for networking, having an „associate member“. There are different ways and good ideas for each country how to gain membership and we have to remember that this is a society for women in various educational fields. We suggested expansion to some countries, i.e. Austria and Portugal, and put that forward to the Expansion Committee. *Finance* – reports and budgets were presented as expected.

We believe that the Forum has a very important task. We need as many different ways to unite the members in Europe as we can. We need to communicate, discuss and inspire each other on many levels. We believe that with more communication through the Internet we can use our network to accomplish more.

6. New DKG song: the Norwegian members presented a DKG song from Norway by Annikken Soyland and Kirsten Sodal. Marika Heimbach - the motion was passed in Amsterdam to find an alternative DKG song. Marika told about the developments, she quoted Beverly Helms, “If you start this other countries might follow”. Any member can add a song, we have to talk how to develop the procedure.

7. The Regional Director, Marika Heimbach: the RD’s report is in the convention booklet. In her report Marika states that all the State Organisation meetings she visited as a society representative “were unique in the different ways they were organized, in programmes, topics

and venues; each one was very well planned and carried out”. Marika said that she had sent a letter to European State Presidents thanking them for the support during her biennium as the RD.

8. Other business: Ingibjörg introduced the new European Forum Committee of 2014-2016. Trijny Schmitz du Moulin (NL) forwarded greetings from the new European Forum Chair, Riet Smits (NL) who thanked Ingibjörg for working on the European goals. Ingibjörg thanked EF Committee members of 2012-2014 for their contribution. The Committee members thanked Ingibjörg for her inspiration and leadership.

The business meeting closed at 11:40

Numbers attending: 31

The business meeting was followed by a lecture “Educational issues in Europe” presented by Ann-Katrin Swärd (SWE). After the lecture participants had a group discussion and exchanged ideas inspired by Ann-Katrin’s talk.