THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

EUROPEAN FORUM

2004 International Convention

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Wednesday, July 28, 2004
4:15 – 6:15 PM

EUROPEAN FORUM

Constitution
Article V, Section D4
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International shall have forums as designated in the *International Standing Rules*. The plan for each forum shall be determined by its participants. These forum units serve the interests of members, insofar as they reflect the Purposes of the Society.

International Standing Rules
5.5 Forums
5.51 Annual planning meeting costs and communication expenses for the Canadian, European, Latin American and United States Forums shall be funded in the Available Fund budget. The forums shall be funded at four cents for each member within the forum's subgroups per year. No forum shall be funded at less than U.S. $2,500 per year.
5.52 The funds shall be used to communicate with state organizations and members in the forum unit and to allow each forum unit to have meetings of representative groups for the purposes of planning and may be used to take action on educational activities that are of concern to the forum unit.
5.53 The chairmen of forums shall be members other than elected officers of the International Society and shall be selected by members of each forum by a method they determine.

Goals for 2002–2004
- Strengthen the unity inside the Europe Region by offering opportunities to all members to discuss matters of special interest to European members of the Society.
- Maintain the cooperation between the regional director Europe and the steering committee of the European Forum.
- Prepare the forum session at the 2003 Regional Conference in Reykjavik, Iceland, at a planning meeting in February 2003 in Hoofddorp, The Netherlands.
- Plan the forum session at the 2004 International Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA at a planning meeting in November 2003 in Hoofddorp, The Netherlands.
- Increase communication and information among the European members through electronic newsletter and common database.
- Create and implement common projects in education with non-member countries.
- Put forward a proposal for Guidelines for the European Forum Committee.
- Develop a proposal for a budget for the regional director.
- Put forward a proposal for a change in the committee structure. Members would serve a four-year term with 50 percent changing every biennium.
- Be prepared, on invitation, to visit the European states of the Society.
- Benefit from all work done in all the committees.

These goals have been accomplished.

Cor Wolff-Heins, chairman

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

EUROPEAN FORUM

RATIONALE

The European Forum aims to fulfill the Purposes of the Society as outlined in the *Constitution,* V. D. 4, relevant to a specific European context and setting (in particular Purposes 2, 6, 7.)

PURPOSE

To unite the European members, and celebrate their diversity. To give opportunities to discuss in an open situation issues of an educational importance.

STRUCTURE (*International Standing Rules,* V. 5. 2)

The committee consists of one representative from each of the member countries. If the representative is neither the state organization president nor a member of the state organization executive board, she shall be an ex-officio member of the state organization executive board. Any representative is encouraged to assume the role of the chair of the committee if required. The regional director Europe shall be an ex-officio member of the European Forum Committee. The Forum Committee shall serve for the period of one biennium. Names of each country's representatives shall be submitted to the outgoing chairman of the European Forum by March 1st of the even-numbered years. The current chairman shall then circulate the names of the new representatives to all state organization presidents, members of the Forum and elected incoming members. The chairman of the European Forum shall be elected within the committee. The incoming members of the committee shall elect the chairman from the candidates sent in by May 1 of the even-numbered years and send the names to the present chairman of the European Forum Committee.

FINANCING

As outlined in *International Standing Rules,* V. 5. 1, the Forum shall be funded at no less than $2,500 per year. A budget in written form shall be produced for these funds, and approved by the Forum Committee. Each European Forum Committee is permitted to set up its own budget.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Each representative is accountable to and shall report regularly to their state organization president and members. There shall be a biennial review of the Forum meetings by the Forum committee based on an evaluation from participants. A statement of accounts shall be presented at the International Convention Forum Meeting.

MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN FORUM
2004 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

AGENDA

16.15 Welcome

Word of inspiration— Gloria Redston, Great Britain
Introduction of reporters and timekeepers.

16.30 Business meeting

- Minutes of Reykjavik
- 2002–2004 Annual Report of the European Forum
- Budget recommendation for the regional director
- Proposal for a change of the chairman and a 50 percent change of the members of the European Forum each biennium
- 2004–2006 Installation of officers
- Other business
- Close of business meeting

17.15 Lecture— "Old Purposes – New Measures"
Speaker—Dr. Sigrún Jóhannesdóttir, Iceland
Introduction— Sigridúr Jónsdóttir

18.15 Closing

EUROPEAN FORUM
Minutes
August 9, 2003
8:00–10:00 AM
Grand Hotel, Reykjavik, Iceland

Chairman: Cor Wolff-Heins
Reporters: Sigríður Jónsdóttir and Áslaug Brynjólfsdóttir

The program brochure handed out included:

- The *Constitution/International Standing Rules,* and European Forum Goals for 2002–2004
- Meeting Agenda
- Minutes of the European Forum meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas on July 31, 2002
- European Forum Rationale
- Recommendation Form
- Endorsement Form.

WELCOME
The meeting started with a warm welcome from Cor Wolff-Heins and she introduced the members of the Forum Committee.

WORD OF INSPIRATION: BIRGIT SVENSSON
Birgit mentioned the three regional directors since the establishment of the Europe Region. Many things have been done these five years and we have to continue and look to the future. Cooperation is important, we have a capacity even if we are few, seven countries in Europe are now member countries. They are different in many ways, the languages for instance, but we have also a lot in common, as being educators and Delta Kappa Gamma members. We all have multilingual children. Leadership is important and training is important. Let us move forward!

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

- Minutes of Little Rock, Arkansas, 2002—Cor introduced the minutes. Marianne Skardeus, chairman of the European Forum 2000–2002, pointed out that the minutes were from a decision taken at the Forum meeting at the regional conference in Malmö 2001.
- Recommendation for guidelines for the European Forum—Cor told about the Forum meeting in February where many ideas were discussed. There was an agreement there on the election procedure. It is important to have the rules, the guidelines will be used. She mentioned that it was now the second year of the biennium. She asked members and countries to send in a name of a representative they wanted to have in the Forum committee from their country. She said that new members must be elected before the International Convention in Mineapolis in 2004.
- Process of nominating new officers 2004–2006— Cor introduced the recommendation and endorsement forms and encouraged members to use them. Dorothy Haley pointed out that state organization presidents should be Forum members because it were important for them to meet and they could meet at International Conventions. Mary Wardrop said that the guidelines were not definite, they were a part of a process of change.
- Any other business—Sigrún Klara said that it was interesting to look at new rules. She mentioned that the regional directors were not very visible, they had difficulties to visit other countries. They should be able to meet state organization presidents and show up at Forum meetings, but they had no financial expenditure. It is important to look at finances for regional directors, it is not fair that they have to pay for their own tickets as they have no budget. If state organization presidents are chosen they can meet at International Conventions. Joan Carroll mentioned the importance of a motion amendment about regional directors having a budget to travel.
- Proposal from Gunhild Kihlberg—"We have, as you know, rich and useful sources of information and communication between all members of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International: The *Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin*, ΔΚΓ *NEWS* and info letters for the different member states. And we have a fairly recent on-line channel in *EuForia*. I take the opportunity to thank Joan Carroll and her team for her commitment as an editor of *EuForia*. For the benefit of all our members from all European countries and in order to strenghten the links between the member states, I suggest that each European country considers the possibility of putting on line, in addition to general information of "practical character" and if the editors accept it, a summary of current education issues of importance to the respective member states. Just to mention an example from one of the workshops conducted these days; *Challenges in Norwegian Secondary Education* by Kjellbjörg Auestad. Today's Forum shows us that there is much knowledge to share. Thank You." Gunhild Kihlberg, Alpha, Stockholm, Sweden.

LECTURE: ECO SCHOOLS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN ICELAND: Sigrún Helgadóttir
The Eco-Schools Programme was developed in 1994 on the basis of the need for involving young people in finding solutions to environmental and sustainable development challenges at the local level, as identified at the UN Conference on Environment and Development of 1992. The programme was initiated by member organizations of the Foundation for Environmental Education with the support of the European Commission. The Eco-Schools Programme aims to raise students' awareness of environmental sustainable development issues through classroom study together with school at action, and provides an integrated system for environmental management of schools. Eco-Schools were first designated in Iceland in the year 2002. The Eco-Schools Green Flag, awarded to schools achievements in their programme, is a recognised and respected eco-label for education and performance. Sigrún showed in her speech and through pictures some examples of how this programme is adapted and integrated in some Icelandic schools with a great success. Eight Icelandic schools have now managed to be awarded with the Green Flag.

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL TELL ABOUT THEIR SPECIAL ITEM—Liisa Peltomaa, Finland
Environmental education is a big issue in Finland. Eco-schools projects are in some schools and kindergartens, important that young children learn to respect their nature. Robina Scahill, Great Britain There is a law in the national curriculum to teach environmental subjects. Environmental surveys for the older children, younger children deal with how to improve the environment, make changes in the school buildings, do rain water recycling researches. Marion Huizing-van der Kroft, The Netherlands Environment is an important topic in Holland as it is the most densly populated country in Europe. Environmental education is integrated in many subjects in the curriculum in all schools. The emphasis more than ever now. Ingrid Stjernquist, Sweden Environmental studies are not only biology but also a policy. The question is what kind of people we want for the future. There are multi-disciplinary studies at university level, living forest, clean water and so on. Environmental studies are integrated in other subjects in the schools. There are environmental goals for the whole society.

CLOSING—At the end of the meeting the chairman, Cor Wolff-Heins, thanked the speaker for a very interesting speach and the members in the panel for their contribution. She also thanked the members of the Forum committee for their good work and cooperation.

Concept approved by the members of the European Forum, Hoofddorp, November 14, 2003.

It will be approved at the European Forum meeting during the International Convention in Minneapolis, July 2004.

Cor Wolff-Heins, Chairman

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR REGIONAL DIRECTOR

PROPOSAL

For the financing of the regional director's work (travel costs, etc.):

- The state treasurer shall send 1.= euro per member before **October 1** directly to the regional director.
- The regional director presents a financial report before **July 1** each year to the state organization presidents.
- The state organizations are responsible for the hosting of the regional director.

RATIONALE

- The Europe regional director has no budget and this proposal would make it possible for her to have a better and more direct contact with the member countries.

If this is passed by all European countries then a system needs to be established for collecting and accounting the dues. This could possible be done by the next European Forum Committee. If this is put into practice then each country will need to recognize it in it's by-laws.

PROPOSED TERM OF OFFICE FOR FORUM MEMBERS

PROPOSAL

- Each biennium three members (50 percent) and the chairman are replaced instead of all seven members of the Forum.

RATIONALE

- Expertise is carried on into the European Forum Committee for the next biennium.

2004–2006 EUROPEAN FORUM MEMBERS

The 2002–2004 European Forum members are proud to introduce to the incoming members for the 2004–2006 biennium.

- Finland .... Marja-Liisa Lehikoinen
- Germany .... Gisela Baronin von Engelhardt
- Great Britain .... Sandra Blacker
- Iceland .... Sigridúr Jónsdóttir
- Norway .... Berit Theien
- The Netherlands................ Ria Bleeker
- Sweden .... Birgit Svensson, Chairman