

Dear Members of DKG Europe Region,

During the first year of biennium 2020-2022 unexpected obstacles entered our lives as unwelcome guests, but they brought valuable gifts – challenges which created new opportunities to establish professionalism, decision-making quality, ability to focus on a problem and solve it. Moving the European State organizations safely through the pandemic, and dealing with a variety of issues gave opportunities to find new ways to continue moving DKG Europe forward:

- **Europe DKG States stayed closer together thanks to numerous zoom meetings.** Much larger audience was invited to the meetings including the State presidents, the Board members, Chapter presidents: more heads and more hearts to discuss the issues and vision new goals.
- **In January 2021 Europe DKG States** met with European leaders in DKG International Committees. We got to know about the work of different committees and the duties of members. Members can read about the January meetings in Regional Director February Newsletter on [dkgeurope.org](http://www.dkgeurope.org/uploads/6/9/2/9/69299701/erd_newsletter_february_2021.pdf) webpage:
http://www.dkgeurope.org/uploads/6/9/2/9/69299701/erd_newsletter_february_2021.pdf
- **In May 2021** the second round of meetings with European leaders in DKG International Committees took place. Europe State leaders met with European leaders from Editorial Board, Nomination Committee, Golden Gift Committee, Scholarship Committee and ISF Committee.

Name of the Committee	Reflection of the meeting
Janny Kisteman and Eyglo Bjornsdottir from Nomination Committee met with representatives of DKG Great Britain and DKG Norway State	The Nominations Committee members serve on four years term. The Nomination Committee is responsible for naming at least one nominee for each position on the Administrative Board, elected committees and the Educational Foundation Board of Trustees. The focus areas for the International Nominations Committee, based on Society Strategic Plan are: · Empower members to take leadership roles (3.C.2) · Identify barriers within the Society's culture (4.A.1) · Minimize barriers within the Society's structure (4.A.2) This biennium the committee has met once a month by Zoom meetings and has selected three goals to work on: 1. Create Leadership Opportunities for all Members 2. Establish Leadership Opportunities for all Members 3. Enhance Leadership Excellence Among Members To achieve these goals, the International Nominations Committee members:

	• Plan and held break-out sessions and workshops at International Conferences and Conventions as well as on state levels. • Write blogs and articles (News, Collegial Exchange) to inform members about the application process. • Update and simplify the material that is used in the application process. • Provide information about leadership and opportunities/responsibilities of elected positions. The Committee is expecting Nomination Recommendations and Endorsement Forms for International officers and Elected Committees from May till September 15.
Gitta Franke-Zöllmer from Scholarship Committee met with representatives of DKG Estonia, DKG the Netherland, DKG Finland	The DKG International Scholarship Committee supports three of the seven Purposes of the Society: 3. To enhance the professional interest and position of women in education. 5. To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member educators. 6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action. The DKG Scholarship Application will be available at dkg.org on 1st July, each year. The Scholarship committee edits the form to be more relevant as well as user friendly for all member countries. Due to the different cultures, it is possible that you cannot meet some of the requirements you find in the form such as MA graduation, transcripts, or status. It is sufficient to submit an equivalent document. The committee members are offering help with filling in the form. Gitta encouraged our European members to apply for a scholarship. Up to now only a few have tried. Generous donations such as bequests, contribution from estates, stocks, and gifts made in memory or in honour of members provide the funding for DKG scholarships. Any donation will help to stabilize the scholarship fund. The meeting was very practical either as Gitta went through the application form and explained how to fill in the information.
Charlotte Lindgren from Editorial Board met with	The Editorial Board shall uphold standards of high quality in evaluating manuscripts for Bulletin. Charlotte made such a detailed PowerPoint presentation and with her permission we recorded her presentation, and all our members can have access to it on dkgeurope.org webpage.

representatives of DKG Germany	http://www.dkg europe.org/publication.html Charlotte explains what the difference is between Collegial Exchange and International Journal for Professional Educators. She also gives guidelines where to find instructions how to submit articles for both magazines.
Margarita Hanschmidt from International Speakers Fund Committee met with representatives of DKG Iceland	Margarita introduced the focus areas of ISF Committee based on Society Strategic Plan: 1. Develop leadership connections (1.A.2) 2. Promote the use of Society resources available to members (1.C.5) 3. Expand awareness of the International Speakers Fund (2.B.2) ISF Committee's main activities are: • To promote cultural understanding, help to unite women educators. • To facilitate exchange of Society speakers among member countries. • To considers applications to become an ISF speaker. • To review requests from State Organizations for ISF speakers. • To contact references by email to learn more about the speakers. • To provide travel expenses for ISF speakers. Whether DKG members are applying to be a speaker or State organisations are requesting a speaker it is important to be aware of the deadlines: • Members apply to become a speaker from July 1- September 15 (www.dkg.org Apply/Submit) • If selected, the speaker is on a selection list for two years. • There is an option to re-apply for another 2 years. • State presidents apply to the ISF Committee on May 1 and November 1 for funding the speaker. The application form of a speaker requests the name of a professional reference who has heard the applicant speak. It is important that the applicant contacts her reference and obtains her approval to use her name. Applications are posted and become available for specific time frames to ensure that a member always has the most up-to-date application form. Becoming an ISF speaker is a rewarding experience and whether you present virtually or in-person, your memories of your travels to another country will be long lasting. Take that single step of sharing your talent and expertise around the world. Challenges offer great opportunities. Be courageous to become an ISF Speaker!

Jona Benediktsdottir – The Chair of Golden Gift Committee met with representatives of DKG Sweden	Jona introduced the focus areas of Golden Gift Committee based on Society Strategic Plan: 1. Create diverse ways to conduct leadership training (3.B.2) 2. Empower members to take leadership roles (3.C.2) 3. Provide networking opportunities for leaders and emerging leaders <i>International</i> (3.C.3) Due to the pandemic period the Leadership Seminar at Texas University has been postponed twice. The main job of the Committee – to help to organize the seminar - was cancelled either. Nevertheless, the Committee's job is to keep members interested in applying to the Leadership Seminar in 2024. Golden Gift Committee also works on amendments. The previous committee agreed on the proposal to combine the GGF committee and the Leadership committee, but the proposed amendment was not discussed at the last International Convention, so the Golden Gift Committee 2020-2022 needs to take it up again.
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- We founded **Editorial Board** in Europe Forum Committee. Marika Heimbach from DKG Germany was elected as a Chair. Editorial Board has made many changes at dkgeurope.org webpage, giving it a more contemporary look to attract and unite Europe Region members. **Europe Region webpage is the main source of information and latest news.**
- **Sharing best practices** has been one of the biennium goals. I encourage to collect best practices on our Europe webpage where members can have access to get ideas how to revitalize chapters. See: <http://www.dkgeurope.org/educational-topics.html>
We can have more uploads as European Forum Committee has called each State organisation for an educational topic be shared with all our members starting from October 2021. **The dates and topics will be uploaded on our webpage calendar by October 1.**
- **In-coming officers 2021-2023 take their position on July 1.** The training of in-coming officers takes place in-person in Atlanta, Georgia from July30 - to August 1. The virtual (recorded) training for European in-coming officers takes place in the mid-August (specific dates announced soon).
- **A new project** for European in-coming officers by positions is **Post training conversation groups** and which are planned at the end of September and at the beginning of October to share information, clarify duties and explain strategies.

State presidents are led by Ingibjörg Jonasdottir from Leadership Committee
Membership Chairs are led by Ingrid Stjernquist from Membership Committee
Educational Excellence Chairs are led by Mariane Skardeus from EEC .

Many thanks to all out-going State presidents and their teams for a wonderful co-operation. Congratulations and best wishes for in-coming State Presidents and new boards. New Europe State presidents 2021-2023 are like lantern holders that light the way for others to see the path for the biennium.

Do more than belong – participate!

Do more than care – help!

Do more than believe – practise!

Do more than teach – inspire!

Do more than give – enrich!

Do more than be friendly – be a friend!

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