

International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology (IASSIST)
42nd Annual Business Meeting of the General Assembly
Bergen, Norway
Thursday, 2016-06-02

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 13:06 pm. IASSIST President T. Alaterä welcomed the membership to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

2. Approval of Minutes from 2015 Meeting

MOVED to approve the minutes of the annual general meeting of 2015 2015-06-04
Moved: T Lindsay, seconded S. Cannon. The motion CARRIED by acclamation.

3. Committee Reports

Membership Committee (Hailey Mooney)

Mooney reviewed report based on the membership database. Membership shows healthy growth and stands at 426, although the margin of error may be plus or minus 50 due to the timing of pending renewals. The report reviews membership by sector and organizational type.

The Organizational Sponsorship and Liaison Program sponsored outreach to DCC, RDAP, LIBER, IFLA during the year. Membership welcomes additional ideas for sponsors and events to attend.

An interactive poster during the conference will allow attendees to map where they are coming from.

IASSIST Fellows (Stuart Macdonald and Florio Arguillas)

Macdonald and Arguillas reported on this year's Fellows Program. Following the December 2015 call, 49 applications were received from 26 countries. The four awardees were Marijana Glavica (Croatia), Bhojaraju Gunjval (India), Ya-Chi Lin (Taiwan), Shima Moradisomehsaraei (Iran).

There was a surplus in the budget of \$2000, so two additional fellowships were offered, but the awardees could not accept. Surplus was carried over. T. Alaterä reported that the Administrative Committee will discuss in December.

Communications Committee (Marilyn Andrews)

Andrews thanked members of the committee, especially Web Editor Robin Rice (who was active all year, but could not attend the conference) and Harrison Dekker. She is thrilled that all IQ issues are now up on the web to read. Katy McNeill and Carol Perry prepared the papers for the web. Laurence Horton has been active tweeting on behalf of IASSIST. Walter Piovesan is retiring and will be giving up PDF production. The plan is to move IQ production to the Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform. Andrews reported on behalf of IQ Editor Karsten Rasmussen that IQ is always looking for new submissions and encouraged members to join and participate.

Dekker reported on the website and indicated that he would like to step down as webmaster after migration to Pantheon hosting solution. Dekker has served as IASSIST webmaster for a long time. Someone with Drupal experience is desired, and they would likely oversee a redesign of the site.

Professional Development (Amy Pienta and Paula Lackie)

Lackie reported that there is an opening for Vice-Chair of Professional Development. Amy Pienta will stay on as chair. The Committee is in transition in its role. Right now, it is coordinating with many other groups in IASSIST to support the members. Looking for new volunteers for the committee who have ideas on what the membership needs for professional development are. Bobray Bordelon was thanked for his role in coordinating the mentors program. A professional development workshop was also held in South Africa this year.

Elections (Bill Block)

Alaterä reported for Bill Block that elections for most positions will occur in the Spring, and encouraged people to join the administration of IASSIST. A call for nominations will go out in autumn and self-nominations are encouraged.

Executive Committee (Tuomas Alaterä)

Report will be available on the site.

Exec is looking to appoint a new archivist to work with IASSIST's historical documents. Please contact members of the executive committee if you are interested/have questions.

2016 Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee

Special thanks were given to the 2016 Program Committee Co-Chairs & Local Arrangements Committee for the excellent work they have done in creating this year's conference.

[all below were warmly applauded by the audience]

Amber Leahey, Florio Arguillas (Program Co-Chairs)

Katharin Peter, Samantha Guss (Workshops)

Jenny Muilenburg (Posters)

Jennifer Doty (Pecha Kucha)

Bobray Bordelon (Mentoring Program)

Heidi Tvedt, Gry Henriksen (Local Arrangements)

In particular, without the entire local arrangements team, none of the conference would have been possible, so additional thanks were given to them.

4. Interest Group Reports

Data Visualization Interest Group (Amber Leahey and Paula Lackie)

Lackie reported that the group has a low traffic discussion list, and anyone with an interest is invited to join.

Open Source Interest Group (Harrison Dekker)

Dekker reported that Open Source IG is similar, with a low traffic discussion list that anyone can join. Open Source Interest Group is affiliated with the Python and Regular Expression workshops offered at this year's conference. There is growing interest in Slack.

Geospatial Interest Group (Jennifer Moore)

Moore reported that Geospatial Interest Group just formed this spring, has a Google group, and met at a Birds of a Feather discussion for the first time yesterday.

Future groups

Linda Kellam and Mandy Swygart-Hobaugh announced that there is interest in forming a group addressing Qualitative Data in Social Sciences and the Humanities.

Michelle Edwards reported interest in a data rescue group.

5. Treasurer's Report (Tom Lindsay)

Lindsay reviewed highlights from his full report. In brief, IASSIST has money and is doing well financially in meeting its operating expenses. In 2015, the organization roughly broke even. The conference made a small profit (\$4572). Fellows, Sponsorship, and Election expenses are the largest budget items. The 2016 budget is stable, with some consideration given to raising the Fellows budget in the future. The account balance in dollars is down, but this is only due to fluctuations in the Canadian exchange rate.

6. Regional Reports

Regional reports will be made available on the website.

7. Future Conferences

The 2017 IASSIST Annual Conference will be held May 23 – May 27, 2017, in Lawrence, Kansas, USA. San Cannon of the Kansas Local Arrangements Committee was applauded for undertaking the hosting. For 2018 and beyond, expressions of interest for hosting are welcome. An announcement will be posted to the IASSIST mailing list.

8. Other Business

There was no other business brought to the meeting.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting by Kristin Partlo and seconded by Michele Hayslett at 1:35 pm. The motion CARRIED.