

**Minutes of the Member's meetings of the EAM, Monday, July 3, 2006, 18:10 and 19:20
Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Budapest**

The meeting, which was announced via email to all EAM members 6 weeks before the meeting, was attended by 32 EAM members. The meeting was chaired by the EAM-President Rolf Steyer. The minutes were taken by Tamas Rudas, the EAM General Secretary.

The following topics were announced in the invitation to the meeting:

1. Accepting the Agenda for this meeting
2. Accepting the minutes of the 2nd EAM member's meeting in Jena, July 20, 2004
3. President's report (Rolf Steyer)
4. Treasurer's report (Helfried Moosbrugger)
5. Report on the Journal "Methodology" (Manuel Ato, Michael Eid)
6. Report on the EAM Book series (Joop Hox)
7. Discussing and approving the Voting Rules for the EAM Executive Committee (EC)
8. Confirming the Chair for the EC Elections 2006
9. Elections of the EAM Executive Committee
10. Electing the Chair for the EC Elections 2008
11. Future activities
12. Next conference
13. Other

First members' meeting

1. Accepting the Agenda for this meeting

Because 32 present members did not fulfil the quorum (25% of all members must be present) for the election of the Executive Committee which has been required in the Statutes, it was suggested to add another issue to the Agenda of the meeting: Changing the statutes with the aim of abolishing this quorum. The arguments were that it neither realistic for a members meeting nor for written elections. Other scientific organizations such as the Psychometric Society also do not reach a participation rate of 25% even in written (postal) elections for their executive committee. Hence, it was decided to just treat topics 1 and 2, then close the members meeting and call for a new one, one hour later in which the rest of the agenda plus the change of the statutes could be treated. This suggestion was unanimously approved.

2. Accepting the minutes of the 2nd EAM member's meeting in Jena, July 20, 2004

The minutes of the 2nd EAM member's meeting in Jena, July 20, 2004, which were (and still are) available at the home page of the EAM at www.eam-online.org were unanimously approved.

The meeting was closed at 18:20 and a new members meeting was called for 19:20 at the same place.

Second members' meeting (opened at 19:20)

1. Agenda

The agenda were fixed to be points 3 to 14 above with the additional topic of changing the statutes of the EAM with the aim of abolishing the quorum for the elections of the Executive committee.

2. President's report

The president, Prof.. Dr. Rolf Steyer, asked the members to commemorate Dr. Hans Müller (University of Erfurt, Germany), one of the founding members of the EAM, who died on June 30, 2005. (Members can read the obituary for him on the EAM home pager clicking at his name in the members list.)

The president then reported on the *members' development*. At the time of the report (July 2006), the EAM had 358 members from 37 countries. The countries with most members are Spain (190), Germany (55) and The Netherlands (19). The number of members has been increasing linearly since its foundation in 2004.

The president thanked the members of the Award Committee of the *EAM Award for the best article of a junior scientist*: Edith de Leeuw (The Netherlands), Manuel Ato (Spain) and Vasja Vehovar (Slovenia) for their work. There were 10 submissions who all submitted manuscripts of a high quality. The committee unanimously agreed on the winner: Martin Viechtbauer (University of Maastricht, The Netherlands). He received the award endowed with 1000 Euro, 300 US \$ of which was donated by Lawrence Earlbaum Publishers. The next 6 best ranking submissions received a free subscription of Methodology or another Hogrefe-Huber journal for 2006 and 2007. These subscriptions have been donated by Hogrefe-Huber Publishers. The president expressed his thanks to both publishers for supporting the EAM in this respect.

The EAM best presentation award, which was suggested in Jena 2004 to honor the best presentation at the Budapest conference, was decided to skip this year because of organizational problems. For the next conference, the organizing committee proposes a procedure to select a winner and this procedure has to be approved by the Executive committee.

The president reported that the EAM home page has been redesigned and will also continuously be improved in the future (suggestions are welcome). It has been suggested that a job market and a guide to master programs, Phd programs and summer schools should be created.

Finally, the president reports that the EAM has been recognized by the German tax authorities as a non-Prof.it organization which is important with respect to tax paying of the EAM.

The president closed his report hinting at the agreements with the *Gesellschaft für Klassifikation* and the Journal *Measurement* which can be read at the EAM home page.

3. Treasurer's report

The treasure, Prof.. Dr. Helfried Moosbrugger, delivered his report on the finances of the EAM. The most important figure are summarized in the following Table

Statement of Revenue and Expenses for the EAM, 01.09.2004 to 13.06.2006

Current Account

Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
Totals (Jan. 2004)	148.26	4,841.47	(+) 4,693.21
Totals (Jan. 2005)	17,587.01	26,529.81	(+) 8,942.80
Totals (Jan. 2006 to June 2006)	1,388.90	12,228.83	(+) 10,839.93
Outstanding amounts for 2006	16,420.00	17,780.00	
Expected balance for 2006	17,808.90	30,008.83	(+) 12,199.93

Hence, if all outstanding amounts will be paid, the EAM will have a positive balance of more than 12.000 Euro. Most of the income are due to membership fees and to the surplus of the EAM-conference in Jena (more than 9000 €).

The treasurer urgently asked all members to check if they already have paid their membership fees for 2006. Each member can check this for himself on the home page of the EAM (www.EAM-online.org), clicking on "Only for members" and then "Changing my personal data". At the very bottom you will find your payment status. If you find out that you still did not pay your fee you will find the information how to do it on the EAM home page under "How to pay membership fees".

After the treasurers report, Dr. Klaus Carstensen (Kiel, Germany) and Dr. Rainer Alexandrowicz (Klagenfurt, Austria) were appointed by the members meeting to check the balance and report on their findings later in the meeting. The agreed and reported later that the balances and the material related to the balances were in perfect order.

3. Report on the EAM Journal "Methodology"

The president reports that both editors were unable to attend the meeting and that Manuel Ato asked him to read the following report:

METHODOLOGY: European Journal of Research Methods for the Behavioral and Social Sciences has just one and a half year of life from its foundation in 2004. Each printed volume contains about 150 pages and is divided into 4 issues that are published online each quarter. The first printed version was published last February with 13 selected papers and an editorial of the editors, Manuel Ato (University of Murcia) and Michael Eid (University of Genève).

This brief report refers to the main facts corresponding to the 2005 volume. From July 2004 to December 2005, the editors received a total of 52 papers (28 Michael and 24 Manuel). The decisions concerning these articles were:

- Accepted: 14 (7 Michael Eid and 7 Manuel Ato)
- Conditionally accepted but waiting revision: 7 (5 Michael and 2 Manuel)
- Rejected: 24 (14 Michael and 9 Manuel)
- Still under review: 6 (2 Michael and 4 Manuel)

Consequently, the rejection rate in 2005 was 46%.

An important question concerns to the time elapsed between the reception of the paper and the decision of editors. The process takes usually 3 months, but there is a considerable variation. We have still the problem that many potential reviewers we contact reject to review papers and this is also true for some members of the editorial board. Moreover, we often have to remember some reviewers several times, and this makes the review process much longer than we want to have it. One message to the members of our society: We really need your help in reviewing the papers and in getting back the reviews in time!

This problem caused some severe delays in the decision of the editors, in some cases 6 or more months, but fortunately it only occurs in a few cases.

We are currently looking for good papers and we need some time to establish the journal. In order to acquire good papers, for advertisement reasons and to establish a good impact factor we have decided to have two special issues each year. Good special issues are often cited and will help to establish the journal. We will reduce the number of special issues when we have enough good papers and the journal is well established. We have planned the following special issues for the next future:

- 2006 (1) – Special issue on Social Network Analysis (editor: Jeroen K. Vermunt) – published online
- 2006 (2) – Special issue on Mixture Modeling (editor: John Reinecke)
- 2007 (1) Special issue on Multimethod Modeling (editor: Michael Eid)
- 2007 (2) – Special issue on Mixed Models (editor: Jaume Arnau)
- 2008 (1) – Special issue on papers selected from Spanish Society's Conference (editor: María Teresa Anguera)
- 2008 (2) – Special issue on Experimental Survey Designs (Editors: Peter Schmidt and Elmar Schlueter)

Of course, we both are open to new ideas and feedback from all members of EAM!

Manuel Ato and Michael Eid

This report was then discussed. Some members suggested reducing the number of special issues to 1 per year. Some members also reported about problems to access the internet version of the journal. The president told that Hogrefe-Huber promised to work on these problems in the near future.

4. Report on the EAM book series

The proposed EAM book series currently has 2 books in production. The first book in the series will be an edited volume *Contributions to "Longitudinal models in the behavioral and related sciences"* edited by Han Oud, Kees van Montfort and Albert Satorra. This is a selection of papers from the 2004 EAM/SMABS conference. This book is at the publisher. The second book will be the *International Handbook of Survey Methodology* edited by Edith de Leeuw, Joop Hox and Don Dillman. This book is currently submitted, and scheduled to appear in 2007. A third book has been proposed on psychodiagnostic methodology, this proposal is in preparation.

Series Editors 2004-2006: Michael Eid, Joop Hox, Edith de Leeuw, Vasja Vehovar.

Editorial Board: No advisory board has been established. It was proposed in the 2006 board meeting that the EAM board acts as advisory board. No decision on this was taken, discussion was postponed and will be conducted by email.

5. Voting rules for the Executive Committee

Suggestions for the voting procedure for the Executive Committee had been made by Dr. Hartig (Frankfurt/M., Germany). This proposal has been approved with the amendment that the chairperson has the right to resolve any additional issue that may arise in the voting procedure. It was also suggested that the CV and the programs of intended activities of the candidates should be made available to the members before voting. (The final voting rules are now available at the EAM home page under "Statutes/Minutes/Agreements".)

6. Statutes

It was proposed by the Executive Committee to abolish the 25% quorum for the members assembly and for the delegates assembly in the statutes of the EAM. The arguments had already been exchanged (see point 1 of these minutes of the first meeting). The proposal was approved by more than the necessary 75% of the 32 members present in meeting.

7. Discharge of the old executive committee

The members discharged the old executive committee and thanked the EC for its excellent work.

8. Election of the new executive committee

Chair is taken over by Dr. Johannes Hartig (Frankfurt, Germany) who was already appointed to chair the elections of the EC at the Jena meeting in 2004). (The general secretary continues taking the minutes.)

Nominations:

Prof. Rolf Steyer for President – accepted

Prof. José Muniz for Vice President – accepted

Prof. Tamas Rudas for General Secretary – accepted

Prof. Isabel Barbero for Deputy General Secretary – accepted

Prof. Helfried Moosbrugger for Treasurer - accepted

For EC members

Prof. Joop Hox – accepted

Prof. Peter Schmidt – accepted

Prof. Teresa Anguera - accepted

Prof. Anuska Ferligoj – not present but had declared to accept a new nomination.

Except for Peter Schmidt (University of Giessen, Germany), the candidates were already in the previous executive committee. Prof. Steyer declared that he will accept the nomination one more time but that it will be the last time. No other candidates are proposed.

The election procedure followed the statutes and the voting rules decided before, that is, the elections were secret and there were separate votes for each member of the Executive Committee except for the four committee members. Dr. Hartig and Dr. Schermelleh-Engel counted the votes. Results: 32 members took part at the elections. The numbers below are the numbers of “Yes” votes:

Prof. Steyer for President – 30

Prof. Muniz for Vice President – 29

Prof. Rudas for General Secretary – 28

Prof. Barbero for Deputy General Secretary – 28

Prof. Moosbrugger for Treasurer - 27

For EC members

Prof. Hox – 28

Prof. Schmidt – 24

Prof. Anguera - 28

Prof. Ferligoj - 25

All officers, except for Prof. Ferligoj, who was not present, accepted. She accepted in the meantime. After the voting procedure the new and old president Rolf Steyer took over the chair again.

9. Future issues

The EAM will care for Methodology Training-opportunities to be looked, further improve the home page and the accessibility of the Journal, and the EC invites ideas to serve members better.

10. Next conferences

José Muniz offered to organize the EAM conference 2008 in Oviedo (Spain). This offer was unanimously accepted. Prof. André Rupp offered to organize the EAM conference 2010 in Berlin. Also this offer was unanimously approved. The final decision about the 2010 conference has to be made at the members meeting 2008 in Oviedo.

11. Any other business

No other business was discussed. The original topic of determining the Chair for the EC Elections 2008 was not treated because the voting rules decided in this members meeting say that the chair has to be appointed by the executive committee.

The members meeting was closed by the president at 20:45.

Budapest, September 14, 2006

Jena, September 14, 2006

Tamas Rudas

Rolf Steyer