

Minutes of the Members' meeting of the EAM and SMABS business meeting, July 20, 18:30, University of Jena

The meeting, which was announced via email to all EAM members 6 weeks before the meeting, was attended by 15 EAM members and 12 other participants of the SMABS conference. The meeting was chaired by the EAM-President Rolf Steyer who also organized the joint SMABS-EAM conference. The minutes were taken by Tamas Rudas, the EAM General Secretary.

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

1. Accept minutes of the 1st EAM members meeting in Frankfurt/M., Febr. 27, 2004
2. President's report
3. The two associations (EAM and SMABS)
4. Appointing the Chair of the EC Elections 2006
5. Membership issues (fees)
6. Future issues
7. EAM journal
8. Book series
9. Next conference
10. Other

1. The minutes of the 1st members meeting in Frankfurt were approved.
2. The president reports the main points of the founding meeting of the EAM in Frankfurt and the main ideas concerning the structure of the EAM as materialized in the statutes. He showed the home page of the EAM and asked for suggestions to improve it. The actual number of members at this point is 240. The Spanish national group aemcco joined the EAM with 190 members. The Journal will be published by Hogrefe-Huber, having 4 electronic issues per year. The four issues will be printed in one volume at the end of each year.
3. Three options concerning the relationship between the EAM and the SMABS are discussed.
 - a) leave it as it is, that is, have a joint conference again in 2006
 - b) dissolve SMABS and organize only an EAM conference
 - c) form a SMABS thematic group within EAM.

Options a) and c) were favored the most in the discussion. After an extensive discussion, option a) was favored by the majority. Hence, the next EAM-conference will be organized again as a joined conference of the EAM and the SMABS.

4. It was decided to ask Prof. Eckart Klieme (DIPF, Frankfurt/M.) to serve as a chair again in the next elections for the EC. (In the meantime he did not take over this task. However, his assistant, Dr. Johannes Hartig, agreed to chair and organize the 2006 elections for the EC.
5. Rolf Steyer proposes the following membership fees: 10 Euros for 2004, since there is no journal in this year, 70 Euro per year as the normal fee (including the journal). For large existing groups such as the Spanish aemcco, the proposed fee is 10 Euro plus journal price for the EAM (at present this price amounts to 40 Euro, however, this price can increase if the journal will have more pages than planned now). Hence, the aemcco will pay 50 Euro per year for each of its 190 members, under the presently planned number of pages for the journal. Low income members: minimum 10 Euro,

journal included. This policy will continually be evaluated and eventually be changed if the financial situation of the EAM makes such a change necessary. Among the low income members may be unemployed, students, and colleagues from countries with low incomes. The fees for 2004 will be collected at the end of the year, together with the fee for 2005.

6. Future plans: the most important task will be to increase the number of members over 300 in order to reach the number based on which the Journal-contract with Hogrefe-Huber has been signed. Other important issues mentioned were joint teaching on research methods. The workshop videos already available in the internet at the University of Jena can be used for this. Teaching cooperation can lead to joint master and PhD programs.
7. Journal: The first contributions in “Methodology. European Journal of Research Methods in the Behavioral and Social Sciences” are already available as pre-publications in the internet. Special issues are planned, one issue every year.
8. Book series. Joop Hox, negotiated with Lawrence Earlbaum. Rotating Editorial Board (2/4years). Scientific Advisory Board: Joop Hox, Edith de Leeuw, Anouska Ferligoj
9. Budapest is proposed. Tamas Rudas and Andras Varga accept, but with a common responsibility of the EAM and the local organizers for the funding. For 2008 José Muniz (Oviedo) offers to organize the EAM conference.
10. Others issues: 2 EAM-prizes for young scientists were decided. a) Best junior scientist presentation at the EAM-conference; b) Best junior scientist article prize. The criterion for “junior scientist” was fixed as follows: no dissertation yet or dissertation submitted no longer than two years ago.

The meeting was closed at 21:00.

Tamas Rudas, Budapest
Rolf Steyer, Jena