

Minutes of the 2014 Members' Meeting of the European Association of Methodology (EAM)

Location: Conference venue, room: Ruppert Blauw

Date: July 24, 2014, 16:45 to 18:45

The meeting was announced via email to all EAM members on June, 7, 2014.

The agenda of the members' meeting consists of:

1. Accepting the agenda of the meeting
2. Accepting the minutes of the 6th EAM Members Assembly in Santiago de Compostela, July 19, 2012
3. Election of election chairs and auditors
4. President's report (Tamas Rudas)
5. Report on negotiations with the publisher (Helfried Moosbrugger)
6. Treasurer's report (Johannes Hartig / Helfried Moosbrugger)
7. Change in membership fee structure (Tamas Rudas)
8. Editors' reports (Joop Hox, Edith de Leeuw)
9. Next conference (Julio Sanchez Meca)
10. Proposal for and vote on honorary membership (Tamas Rudas)
11. Report of the auditors (Auditors)
12. Vote on release of responsibility
13. Proposal for EC membership (Tamas Rudas)
14. Elections (Election Chair)
15. Remarks from the new president

35 members attend the meeting.

President Tamas Rudas welcomes the participants.

1. Accepting the Agenda for this meeting

Compared to the agenda announced via email on July, 19, 2014 a new topic "Change in membership fee structure" was introduced after the treasurer's report. This modified agenda was unanimously approved.

2. Accepting the minutes of the 6th EAM Members Assembly Members Assembly in Santiago de Compostela, July 19, 2012

The minutes of the 6th EAM Members Assembly Members Assembly in Santiago de Compostela, July 19, 2012, which are available on the EAM website at www.eam-online.org, were unanimously approved.

3. Election of chair and auditors

Philip Doebler was proposed as election chair for 2014 and Helfried Moosbrugger for 2016. Peter Lugtig and Vicente Ponsoda were proposed as auditors. Since Peter Lugtig was not present, Rüdiger Mutz was proposed as auditor instead of him. All proposed persons were unanimously approved.

4. President's report

Tamas Rudas gives an overview of the activities over the last two years:

- Journal: The very good news is the increase of the impact factor of the journal *Methodology* to 0.935. A new editor is being looked for. Joop Hox and Nekane Balluerka will give a more detailed report.
- Book series: For the book series, too, a new editor is searched. Edith de Leeuw will report on the book series in more detail.
- Conference: The conference in Utrecht is the biggest conference up to now, very successful and highly visible
- Membership: The membership of the EAM is steady. There are of about 370 paying members. According to the EAM policy, about 20 members were suspended last year since they had not paid the membership fees.
- Financial situation: As a result of the new agreement with the publishing company Hogrefe, the financial situation has been stabilized. A balance of about 6,000 Euro is expected at the end of this year.
- Negotiations with Hogrefe: Helfried Moosbrugger and Johannes Hartig negotiated new conditions for the journal with Hogrefe. Only electronic versions will be available with options to print on demand and to provide open access.
- Sponsoring: The EAM sponsored a session at the 2013 conference of the International Federation of Classification Societies. This conference was organized by Franca Crippa, the title of the session was: Reconsidering methodologies in inequalities indicators: the case of gender studies.

The president's report was unanimously approved.

5. Report on negotiations with the publisher (Helfried Moosbrugger)

Helfried Moosbrugger provides an update on the negotiations with Jürgen Hogrefe and Robert Dimpleby of the Hogrefe company regarding the journal *Methodology* which he conducted together with Johannes Hartig. These negotiations were very successful. Up until now, most

of the membership fees had to be used for the costs of the journal *Methodology*. E.g. the costs in 2013 were about 16.000 Euro. The main result of the negotiations are: In the future, only electronic versions will be available. The minimal number of subscriptions is 300. The fixed price for up to 500 subscriptions amounts to 9000 Euro plus VAT = 10,700 Euros. For each subscription beyond 500 a price of 18 Euros has been agreed on. This is a very considerable reduction of costs. A printed version is available by demand.

The result of the negotiations was unanimously approved.

6. Treasurer's report (Johannes Hartig/Helfried Moosbrugger)

Joahannes Hartig was not able to attend the conference, so instead Helfried Moosbrugger and Janine Buchholz gave an overview of the financial situation. The financial status is very delighting.

The most important figures are summarized in the following table.

Revenues and Expenses of the EAM from 2012 to 2014

Date	Debit	Credit	Balance
31 12 2013	16,542.35	19,465.79	2,923.44
31 12 2013	18,341.01	20,446.67	2,105.66
17.07 2014	240.08	8,827.40	8,587.32
31.12 2014 (expected)	22,303.50	10,163.42	12,140.08

The current members of the EAM amount to 368. (For further details of the financial situation and the membership structure, see the long version of the treasurer's report attached to these minutes).

The treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

7. Change in membership fee structure (Tamas Rudas)

Tamas Rudas proposes a change in the membership fee structure. Retired members should receive a 50% reduction of the membership fee. The list of low income countries of the United Nations does not contain certain Eastern European countries. However, the income in these countries is very low. Thus the list should be revised and still include these countries. Then members from these countries will also pay a lower membership fee. This change may be cancelled

This proposal was unanimously approved.

8. Editors' reports (Joop Hox, Edith de Leeuw)

Joop Hox gives a detailed report on the development of the journal *Methodology*. Altogether, the development of this journal is fine. It is indexed in the main institutions and in 2012 it received an impact factor of 0.935, which is a tremendous increase compared to 0.333 in 2011. Joop Hox informs everyone about a special session at the conference where the editors of several important methodological journals give a presentation. Here, the editor of *Methodology* will also be present.

The editors have introduced a length restriction of 6000 words for the articles since longer articles were not very attractive.

In the last four years, 47 manuscripts were accepted and 71 rejected.

Hogrefe sponsors a special issue of *Methodology* with contributions of the conference. Furthermore, Hogrefe should be asked whether this sponsoring could be repeated. The term of new editors should be two years with an option for two further years.

The policy of the journal was unanimously approved.

Edith de Leeuw gives an overview of the development of the history of the book series. She will step down after four years and thus a new editor is searched. She encourages enthusiastic persons to apply for this position.

9. Next conference (Julio Sanchez Meca)

The next congress will take place in Palma de Mallorca in 2016. Julio Sanchez-Meca introduces the venue and Palma de Mallorca and presents a movie.

An alternative venue was not proposed.

Palma de Mallorca as next congress location was unanimously approved.

10. Proposal for and vote on honorary membership (Tamas Rudas)

Jacques Hagenars has been proposed as an EAM Honorary member. Tamas Rudas gives a short overview of his career and excellent scientific performance.

The honorary membership of Jacques Hagenars was unanimously approved.

11. Report of the auditors (Auditors)

The auditors checked the balances and records related to the balances. They could not find any inconsistencies and report that the balances and all other documents are in perfect order.

12. Vote on release of responsibility

The release of responsibility of the Executive Committee was unanimously approved.

13. Proposal for EC membership (Tamas Rudas)

Jose Muniz and Helfried Moosbrugger declare to step down as members of Executive Committee. The members' assembly thanks Jose Muniz and Helfried Moosbrugger for their excellent work over a period of ten years. The EAM Executive Committee has decided to invite Jose Muniz and Helfried Moosbrugger to the future sessions of the committee and chooses to extend that invitation to all past presidents.

Mirjam Moerbeek and Karin Schermelleh-Engel have been proposed as new members. As a further candidate Julio Olea Diaz was proposed at the members' meeting.

Thus, the following nominations were made at the members' assembly:

President: Joop Hox

Vice President: Constantino Arce

General Secretary: Heinz Holling

Deputy General Secretary: Julio Sanchez-Meca

Treasurer: Johannes Hartig

Members:

Mirjam Moerbeek

Karin Schermelleh-Engel

Tamas Rudas

Rolf Steyer

Julio Olea Diaz

14. Elections (Election Chair)

Candidates	Number of Votes
Joop Hox for president	31
Constantino Arce for vice president	31
Heinz Holling for general secretary	31
Julio Sanchez-Meca for deputy general secretary	31
For EC members:	
Mirjam Moerbeek	21
Karin Schermelleh-Engel	19
Tamas Rudas	20
Rolf Steyer	20
Julio Olea Diaz	17

Thus, the candidates for president, vice president, general secretary and deputy general secretary have been elected and Mirjam Moerbeek, Karin Schermelleh-Engel, Tamas Rudas and Rolf Steyer have been selected as EC members.

15. Remarks from the new president

Joop Hox thanks all members of the Executive Committee and also those stepping down for their activities. Former members will continue to be on the mailing list and may give advice and participate in the discussions.