

EAPS Advisory Board Meeting

Mainz (Germany), 1 September 2016, EPC 2016 at Johannes Gutenberg University, Opened 12:30

Present

Chair: Frans Willekens (NIDI)

Kirk Scott (Lund)

Tommy Bengtsson (Lund)

Gunnar Andersson (Stockholm)

Guillaume Wunsch (Louvain)

Jitka Rychtaříková (Charles University Prague)

Graziella Caselli (Rome)

Gabriele Doblhammer (Rostock)

Magda Tomasini (INED)

Wendy Sigle (LSE)

Jane Falkingham (EAPS Incoming Vice-President, Southampton)

Teresa McGowan (Southampton)

Albert Esteve (CED)

Francesco Billari (EAPS President, Oxford)

Marc Luy (EAPS Secretary-General, Vienna)

Zsolt Spéder (EAPS Council Member and Incoming President, Budapest)

1. Opening

The President of EAPS, Francesco Billari, opens the meeting, welcomes all participants and gives the floor to Frans Willekens who chairs the meeting. Frans Willekens excuses the Chair of the Advisory Board, Jim Vaupel, who is unable to attend the meeting for health reasons. The draft agenda is adopted.

2. New Chair of the Advisory Board

Frans Willekens reports that the Nominating Committee of EAPS has proposed Viviana Egidi (Rome) as the new Chair of the EAPS Advisory Board. Viviana has accepted this nomination but is not able to attend the meeting. The present members of the EAPS Advisory Board agree to the nomination and elect Viviana Egidi unanimous as the new Chair.

3. Adoption of the 2014 Report

Frans Willekens summarizes the report of the 2014 Advisory Board Meeting in Budapest. There are no comments and additions. The report is adopted.

4. Blue Skies

The Board follows up on the discussion of the 2014 meeting about the need of an EAPS award for outreach activities. After a broad discussion within the board, Frans Willekens summarizes the discussion and concludes that the main points are: (1) the criteria upon which the assessment of outreach activities should be made are still subject to debate, (2) there is need to stimulate the communication of European population scholars with journalists and the general public, and (3)

that there are different views about the best approach, i.e. an EAPS award or EAPS media activities. He also expresses the wish of the Advisory Board to present at its next meeting in 2018 a good strategy for EAPS on how to promote dissemination and that it might not be necessary to introduce a new award. The incoming Vice-President Jane Falkingham volunteers to draft a proposal related to the establishment of a working group on the issue, which will also emphasise the synergies between EAPS and Population Europe.

The second issue discussed by the Advisory Board is the need for EAPS to establish an own open access journal. Marc Luy explains that this issue originates from the discussion among EAPS members during the 2014 General assembly. Several members were unhappy with the situation that the European Journal of Population (EJP) is only supported by EAPS through providing its auspices, but owned by Springer. Moreover, he extends these arguments to the general question whether the scientific community still needs publishers with their constraining contracts. After an ample discussion, Frans Willekens summarizes and concludes that the Advisory Board recommends the new Council of EAPS to further explore the issue of a new journal and the respective possibilities of the association.

Finally, Frans Willekens opens the discussion for the suggestion put forward during the 2014 Advisory Board Meeting that EAPS should promote collaboration between the affiliated institutions. He adds that this appears to be rather a task for Population Europe than for EAPS. The Advisory Board agrees and there are no further comments.

No other issues are raised.

5. Closing

Frans Willekens thanks all participants for attending and closes the meeting at 13:30.

Francesco Billari, Marc Luy
September 2016