



MINUTES

2004 EAERE Annual General Assembly of Members

Date: Monday 28th June 2004
Time: 12.00-13.00
Location: Room # 3, BUESPA, Budapest, Hungary
Chair: Frank J. Convery (FC), EAERE President
Attendance: Over 40 members of EAERE were present.

FC presented the **2004 EAERE Council**, comprised of:

President 2004-2005	Frank J. CONVERY , University College Dublin, Ireland
Vice President 2004-2005 Council member 2004-2007	Nick HANLEY , University of Stirling, Scotland
President-Elect 2006-2007	Anastasios XEPAPADEAS , University of Crete, Greece
Past President 2002-2003	Klaus CONRAD , Universität Mannheim, Germany
Council Member 2004-2005	Johan EYCKMANS , KU Leuven, Belgium
Council Member 2004-2005	Cathrine HAGEM , University of Oslo, Norway
Council member 2004-2007	Katrin MILLOCK , EUREQua-CNRS, France
Secretary General 2004-2007	Monica EBERLE , Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, Italy

FC reported that, as deliberated by the 2002-2003 EAERE Council and approved in last year's Annual General Assembly of members, the **EAERE Permanent Secretariat** has been established at the FEEM offices in Venice.

1. Minutes of the General Assembly of Members of 29 June 2003 (available on EAERE website)

Cees Withagen specified that IVM of Amsterdam offered free secretarial support not only "mainly with respect to the collection of membership fees", but also with respect to the **handling of membership files**. Paragraph 7 of the minutes of the Annual General Assembly of Members of 29 June 2003 was amended accordingly. The minutes were subsequently approved.

2. Membership of EAERE

FC reported on EAERE membership statistics updated on 21 June 2004:

EAERE Primary Members	286
EAERE Secondary Members (AERE Primary Members)	61
EAERE Secondary Members (ALEAR Primary Members)	6
TOTAL EAERE Members	353



FC specified that these figures could possibly increase after including the final accounting of new EAERE members from the Budapest conference that joined after 21 June 2004.

3. EAERE Financial Accounts 2003

The Assembly approved the EAERE accounts for 2003, prepared by Klaus Conrad, EAERE President 2002-2003. These accounts had been previously approved by Sjak Smulders and Jeroen Van den Bergh, 2002-2003 EAERE auditors, who checked the details of monetary transactions and stated their correctness.

Income and Expenditure 2003

Income

Membership fees (including fees for 2002)	€ 16,571.06
Interest received	€ 237.74
Total income	€ 16,808.80

Expenditure

Summer School	€ 5,422.40
Administration, web page	€ 1,141.00
Bank charges	€ 164.52
Postage	€ 35.38
Telecommunication, credit card processing	€ 64.96
Taxes on interest received	€ 75.24
Total expenditure	€ 6,903.50

Surplus / Deficit	€ 9,905,30
--------------------------	-------------------

Assets 31 December 2003	€ 41,851.85
--------------------------------	--------------------

On behalf of EAERE, FC expressed his gratitude for Klaus Conrad, the University of Tilburg, Sjak Smulders and Jeroen Van den Bergh for the great contribution provided to the Association in 2002 and 2003.

4. Nominations of Auditors

The appointments of Marta Escapa and Matti Liski as Auditors for calendar years 2004 and 2005 were approved.

5. Journal Matters

Ian Bateman – executive director of *Environmental and Resource Economics (ERE)* – provided statistics indicating a further improvement in quality and recognition of this journal over the last years.

FC reported on the recent negotiations with Henny Hoogervost – Kluwer's representative:

- FC was nominated the Liaison Officer between EAERE and the Managing Editorial Board, replacing Alistair Ulph, who resigned.



- The ERE subscription fee for 2005 will increase by 8%, whilst in 2006 the fee will not be raised, continuing with the fee established for 2005.
- For 2005, the bundling between EAERE membership and ERE subscription will not be mandatory. EAERE members will be given three mutually exclusive options:
 1. EAERE membership bundled with journal delivery (hard copy)
 2. EAERE membership bundled with pass word protected electronic access to journal
 3. EAERE membership on its own (without journal).

Option 1 caters for those who prefer to continue receiving hard copies.

Option 2 caters for those who prefer electronic access

Option 3 caters for those who have other access to the journal, and desire their Membership separated there from.

Cristoph Böhringer, EAERE Secretary General 2002-2003, specified that the past Council strongly recommended mandatory bundling in order to increase the number of subscribers to the Association's journal to further establish it in the academic field. Moreover, Cristoph Böhringer pointed out that many universities will only pay for the less expensive membership option, which is obviously the unbundled one. This may penalise the bundled options.

FC explained that the Council's decision to change back to optional bundling was mainly driven by a broadly expressed view by members that the electronic access to journals is rapidly becoming universal, and EAERE would lose members – especially the 30% or so who don't attend the annual meeting and who have electronic access to the journal. Giving people three options - bundling with hard copies, bundling with electronic access, and unbundled membership - is consistent with consumer sovereignty and therefore the Council believes it will maximise the Association's prospects of building membership. The Council commits itself to try to use a form of words that protects EAERE from having the bundled element of your membership disallowed.

6. Proposed 2005 Membership Fees

FC presented the proposal for 2005 membership fees. The portion of fee paid for EAERE membership fee was proposed to remain the same as 2004. As per 2004, the reduced rates apply for doctoral students, Eastern Europeans and members from less developed countries. The new fees were approved.

PRIMARY MEMBERSHIP WITH EAERE

Membership Type	EAERE	ERE	FINAL FEE
Full membership	€ 41,00	€ 0,00	€ 41,00
Full membership + ERE paper version	€ 41,00	€ 74,50	€ 115,50
Full membership + ERE on-line version	€ 41,00	€ 74,50	€ 115,50
Reduced membership	€ 12,00	€ 0,00	€ 12,00
Reduced membership + ERE paper version	€ 12,00	€ 74,50	€ 86,50
Reduced membership + ERE on-line version	€ 12,00	€ 74,50	€ 86,50



SECONDARY MEMBERSHIP (AERE AND ALEAR PRIMARY MEMBERS)

Membership Type	EAERE	ERE	FINAL FEE
Full membership	€ 20,50	€ 0,00	€ 20,50
Full membership + ERE paper version	€ 20,50	€ 74,50	€ 95,00
Full membership + ERE on-line version	€ 20,50	€ 74,50	€ 95,00
Reduced membership	€ 6,00	€ 0,00	€ 6,00
Reduced membership + ERE paper version	€ 6,00	€ 74,50	€ 80,50
Reduced membership + ERE on-line version	€ 6,00	€ 74,50	€ 80,50

7. Summer Schools

FC reported that the 2004 EAERE-FEEM-VIU Summer School in Resources and Environmental Economics will take place in Venice from the 1st to the 8th of July. This year's topic is "Dynamic Models in Economics and the Environment". Aart de Zeeuw is the School coordinator, and Partha Dasgupta, Larry Karp, Sjak Smulders and Tasos Xepapadeas will comprise the lecturing staff. 22 students will take part in the School. 52 applications were received.

The 2005 Summer School will take place in Venice from the 3rd to the 10th of July. Karl-Gustaf Lofgren, next year's School Coordinator, announced that further information on the School will be available in Autumn.

8. Future Conferences

2005: 23-26 June, Bremen, Germany - 14th EAERE Annual Conference

FC reported that the Programme Committee for the 2005 Conference will be chaired by Nick Hanley and co-chaired by Johan Eyckmans. Wolfgang Pfaffenberger was nominated Chair of the Local Organising Committee.

FC noted that EAERE is currently threatened by the emergence of regional European associations which are not affiliated to EAERE, as well as competing applied economic associations. If appropriate action is taken, this threat may also represent an opportunity. (In mid June 2004 the Spanish-Portuguese Association of Environmental and Resource Economists held its inaugural meeting; in March 2004 the UK Network of Environmental Economists held its inaugural meeting and for the first time a very successful Applied Environmental Economics conference was organised in London 26th March, 2004 in the Royal Society, which is likely to become an annual event.)

The strategy proposed by the EAERE Council for reacting to these threats/opportunities comprises the creation of two innovations to the programme of the Bremen Conference. Thematic parallel sessions and regional sessions will be organised in addition to the traditional sessions.

Four parallel thematic sessions will be organised on the following topics:



1. Emissions carbon trading
2. Renewable energy
3. Transport + the Environment
4. Biodiversity

A "headline invited paper" will open each thematic session. Two or three sequential sessions for each theme will be organised following the headline paper. The Council envisages raising funds for thematic sessions.

- Regional sessions: EAERE will offer regional groups the opportunity to organise a slot in the 2005 conference. The paper review process will be delegated to the regional groups, with prior approval by EAERE regarding the review mechanism.

FC reported that the creation of two new EAERE awards constitutes another innovation to be presented at the Bremen Conference: next year EAERE will inaugurate the "European Lifetime Achievement Awards in Environmental Economics" and the "European Practitioner Achievement in Environmental Economics". Scott Barrett, Thomas Sterner and FC will comprise a committee to select nominations of persons deserving these awards.

FC illustrated the registration fees for the Bremen conference, reporting that a levy of € 65,00 per registrant will be imposed on attendees of the Bremen and subsequent conferences. This, together with other income, will cover EAERE operating costs.

CATEGORY OF REGISTRATION FEE	EARLY REGISTRATIONS (before May 6th)	LATE REGISTRATIONS (after May 6th)
EAERE member calendar year 2005	€ 340,00	€ 395,00
EAERE member calendar year 2005 / reduced fee	€ 257,50	€ 296,00
Joining member	€ 381,00	€ 436,00
Joining member + ERE paper version	€ 455,50	€ 510,50
Joining member + ERE on-line version	€ 455,50	€ 510,50
Joining member / reduced fee	€ 269,50	€ 308,00
Joining member / reduced fee + ERE paper version	€ 344,00	€ 382,50
Joining member / reduced fee + ERE on-line version	€ 344,00	€ 382,50
Accompanying person	€ 120,00	€ 131,00

Following a discussion on the operating costs of the EAERE Secretariat, considered by some as perhaps too high, the following decisions were taken:

- The EAERE Council will explore what services IVM is willing to provide concerning payments and handling of membership fees. On the basis of this, the Council will decide how to proceed.
- As usual, the financial accounts of 2004 will be presented in next year's General Assembly. These will include a complete list of services provided in 2004 by the Permanent Secretariat and handled by FEEM, and a detailed list of the costs of each service.



- Similarly, a budget for 2005 where current and future services will be listed, together with the associated costs, will be presented in the 2005 General Assembly. FC recommends that this innovation become a standard, assuring complete transparency in the management of the EAERE financial accounts.

2006: 3-7 July , Kyoto, Japan - 3rd World Congress of Environmental and resource Economics

FC announced that the Programme Committee of the 3rd World Congress will be chaired by Hossein Farzin (University of California-Davis), Michael Rauscher (University of Rostock) and Kazuhiro Ueta (Kyoto University). Jason Shogren (University of Wyoming), Monica Eberle (FEEM) and Zulma Guzman, ODES-Colombia (ALEAR) will act as liaison members between the Local Organising Committee (chaired by Takamitsu Sawa, Kyoto University) and AERE, EAERE and ALEAR respectively.

2007: 14th EAERE Annual Conference

FC reported that the EAERE Council has decided to launch a call for applications to select a suitable venue and local organising committee for the forthcoming EAERE Annual Conferences. Guidelines containing the list of administrative, organisational and financial responsibilities to be undertaken by the Local Organiser have been prepared and will be launched together with the call for applications.

9. Communications

In view of the lack of communication between the Association and its members, FC reported that the Council decided that:

- the EAERE Newsletter (NL) will be re-launched with Katrin Millock in charge. The first issue of the new NL will be launched on September / October 2004, and will be issued twice a year. The NL will be included in the EAERE website and sent out electronically to the EAERE members.
- a communication from the President will be posted in the EAERE website and sent out electronically periodically to the EAERE members.
- the website will remain the main source of information for EAERE members.