



FISP

Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de Philosophie
International Federation of Philosophical Societies

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Annonce. Ouverture d'un bureau de la FISP à Paris

Un bureau de la FISP, mis à disposition par le Conseil international de la philosophie et des sciences humaines, a été ouvert à Paris depuis le 1er novembre 2008.

Mlle Emiliya Ivanova – la secrétaire administrative de la FISP – y assure désormais deux permanences hebdomadaires, les mardi et vendredi.

On peut la joindre par e-mail (emilie_vel@yahoo.com) ou par téléphone (+33 1 45 68 48 86)

Announcement. Opening of a FISP office in Paris

A FISP office, made available by the International Council of Philosophy and the Human Sciences, has been opened in Paris beginning on November 1, 2008.

Ms. Emiliya Ivanova, the Administrative Secretary of FISP, can henceforth be reached there twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Fridays.

She may be contacted by e-mail or by telephone, as noted above.

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1.1. ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF FISP

to the Opening Session of the World Congress

In Seoul (Seoul National University)

July 30, 2008

Rethinking Philosophy as Power of the Word

Opening Speech at the XXII Congress of Philosophy on the Theme :

Rethinking Philosophy.

By Peter Kemp

President of the Congress

Why are we philosophers coming together in a world congress for a whole week? What can we offer the world by our papers, symposia, lectures and discussions? Is all that nothing but sheer words, words and words? How can these words be important for the world today?

Other researchers and scholars have special research fields, they represent special disciplines, special orders of research and education. But we philosophers have no special discipline. We can have discussions with researchers from all fields, and not only with researchers but also with technicians, with artists, with moralists and so forth. We can enter their fields, but our activities do not belong to any of them. We are everywhere and nowhere. Our strength is not that we have to do with a particular area of research and thinking and that we can produce results by working in these particular fields, but it is our capacity to speak rationally about everything, to consider the role of everything in the whole. More than any other researcher and any other theorist we have only language, only speech, only the word. By using the philosophical concepts and discourse we have learnt and we remember from the thoughts of philosophers before us, we try to speak philosophically in our way, according to the conditions of our time, we try to rethink philosophy today, when we describe, analyse, argue, criticise, teach, propose and so on. And if we discover a danger for humanity, for the world or for the individual or for a vulnerable group, we may feel it as a duty to propose a way of preventing the evil or the catastrophe, and we may warn humanity against hidden destructive forces or carelessness that might be disastrous, etc.

But whatever we do the only power we have is the power of the word, the power of language, of speech, as teachers, educators, lecturers, reviewers, opinion makers. A great philosopher of the XXth century said: "The word is my kingdom - la parole est mon royaume - and I am not ashamed of it".

Sometimes political leaders and heads of institutions try to make us ashamed of it; they cannot see why they should support and make room for philosophy, since philosophy does not have a technical goal, and since it does not simply contribute to increasing the production of material goods or strengthening our technical capacity. Sometimes philosophers are even removed or excluded from universities and higher education because they are considered as useless if not dangerous for the established order. But nevertheless there are today many signs of the vivacity of philosophy, and philosophical thinking still plays an enormous role in the world.

The attendance at this congress shows it. The strong life of philosophical societies all over the world shows it. The creation of new centres for philosophy and of new philosophical societies shows it. The enthusiastic participation in the annual International Philosophical Olympiads where high school pupils from many countries compete to write the best philosophical essay shows it. And last, but not least: the continuing high level of publication of philosophical works in all important languages shows it. All over the world philosophers play their roles inside and outside scientific institutions, and they are well received in most places. Thus, if 'power' means cultural and political influence, philosophy has become a global world power. Truly, on our planet where wars and conflicts increase, the power of philosophy manifests itself by defending the freedom of thought, the freedom of expression of great values, the freedom of criticism of injustices, and freedom of dialogue crossing all cultural and national frontiers – in short, philosophy appears everywhere as the power of maintaining the will to peace. And maybe the world would be a worse place for human life without philosophy.

It follows that power does not necessarily equal domination of others, but can be liberating, give space for new possibilities, open new horizons, unveil hidden forces and chances.

One often forgets that the economical, technological and military powers do not possess the monopoly of power in the world. Philosophical argumentation and reflection constitute a non-economic, non-technological and non-military power through the word that is capable of challenging the other powers, exposing lies and illusions, and proposing a better world as a dwelling place for humanity.

Often the power of the philosophical word has been ignored when philosophy was seen as pure description, pure reference, an innocent mirror that forgets itself and makes us present to things. This idea of philosophy as a mirror of nature has therefore been criticized both from a hermeneutical point of view and from a pragmatic point of view: Hans-Georg Gadamer showed in *Truth and Method* (1960) that there is no description without interpretation of the historical situation in which we describe something, and Richard Rorty declared in *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature* (1979) that philosophy must focus on action that changes the world.

But already in 1955 the Oxford philosopher J. L. Austin gave lectures on speech acts. They were published in 1962 in the booklet *How to do things with words*. He showed that a proposition that presents a meaning is an act, he called it a locutionary act, and he claimed that the locutionary act cannot be completely separated from what he calls an illocutionary act having a certain force in saying something. In other words, the total situation in which the utterance is issued, and which Austin calls the total speech act, is always both locutionary and illocutionary. Already by selecting something we want to say and omitting other things we do not consider as important we have a certain influence on those who read or hear what we write or say. Thus, the word always has a force in the world.

That means that philosophizing is never totally neutral. We philosophers have a responsibility to know how we do things with words.

However, if philosophy has the power of the word, not all kinds of philosophizing are necessarily good for humanity. In the XXth century we have learnt how destructive and disastrous nationalistic, fascist and other totalitarian thinking can be for humanity. It can be very seductive for a group and give food for mass suggestion, making appeal to the worst part of ourselves. And this part of ourselves is not only formed by our egoistic drives but it is also constituted by what Tomonobu Imamichi has called the "nosistic" drives, an egoism in the plural (from Latin: nos, we), a group-egoism that divides humanity into positions and considers as potential enemies everybody else or every foreigner belonging to another group, another nation or another culture.

But the illocutionary element of language is not sufficient for an understanding of how our speech can be both good and evil. In the speech situation we not only find that the word has an influence by carrying a meaning from one person to another, by giving information about something to someone or by asking a question, by making an appeal to someone, giving an order or offering an excuse.

A speech act can intend to form the other, for instance in order to dominate, to subjugate, to humiliate. Therefore there is a third aspect of speech acts, which the perspicacious J. L. Austin has mentioned but not developed very much, and which we have to give more attention to. This is the perlocutionary act that he defines as « the achieving of certain effects by saying something ».

Today this perlocutionary act may be the most important kind of speech act we philosophers have to examine. But in all the philosophy of language we have developed in the XXth century I do not find enough analysis of how language can achieve certain effects and touch the other by saying something to the other.

It is true that since the linguistic turn in philosophy to which J. L. Austin contributed in the 1950s many philosophers have been occupied with trying to understand language. There were for instance the analyses of ordinary language

by Ludwig Wittgenstein and others, the phenomenology of language by Martin Heidegger, Maurice Merleau-Ponty and others, the hermeneutical reflections on interpretation of speech and text by Hans-Georg Gadamer and others, the reflection on poetic symbols, metaphors and narratives by Paul Ricœur and others, and many other forms of philosophy of language, whether in analytic or synthetic philosophy, whether inside or outside European culture.

Thanks to this linguistic turn, to this attention paid to language, we have learnt to understand how philosophy in itself may not only enlighten and liberate, but also seduce and manipulate. To promote enlightenment and liberation and to avoid seduction and manipulation have been the aims of philosophy since Plato prescribed reasonable talk, i.e. talk that we can agree on in a dialogue where every interlocutor is honest to himself and honest to others. Certainly, to Plato and later in particular to Søren Kierkegaard irony, too, and what Jacques Derrida has called philosophizing in the margin may be reasonable. But seduction and manipulation, even when they may be called philosophy, that tend to reduce people to blind instruments of an ideology or a flock with a leader who thinks for them can never bring them to reason.

However, the reason for having philosophers is that they are the guardians of reason. Therefore it can only be counterproductive if philosophy is practised as an anaesthetic or, what is provocative but not better: hate-talk, speech of hatred. Indeed, the good philosopher is involved in his or her cause, speaks with enthusiasm about what he or she believes, and is sober-minded even in the hardest criticism. But hate-talk that uses insult and defamation against others, whether they are other philosophers or they are non-philosophers, for instance politicians, reduces the arguments to violence and makes philosophy into an egoistic or nosistic warfare.

Today, philosophy has lost its innocence; we cannot philosophize without reflection on our linguistic practice. Therefore more understanding of the perlocutionary act is needed in order to make us more conscious of how in every communication from the most intimate to the most political sphere we can both encourage and hurt, can both stimulate and repress others.

Not only because philosophers have the very visible power of the word and therefore are challenged by society to account for what they are doing by educating in philosophy and speaking in the public space, but also because they cannot explain their own activity without a reflection about the power of the word in general. And thereby they must recognize that this power is enormous. They cannot explain the illocutionary and the perlocutionary roles of philosophy today without taking into account what we are doing to each other by speaking and writing as ordinary people and not only as philosophers in a world that we perhaps more than ever shape by our words.

I consider this account as one of the most urgent tasks for philosophers today who want to rethink philosophy and who want to apply their capacities in analysis and criticism of the most urgent problem we have in our time: How do we avoid by our words “the clash of civilizations” that Samuel P. Huntington has seen as the greatest threat to humanity in our century?

It follows that we philosophers are not only called to understand ourselves, the power of our philosophical word. We must also contribute to developing an understanding of the power of the word more generally. As members of the kingdom of the word we are responsible for teaching and explaining what words can do among people, not only in a single country but also among all people in the world belonging to different nations, different cultures, different languages, traditions and religions.

Let me take as an example the effects achieved by the publication in September 2005 in the Danish Newspaper Jyllandsposten of some cartoons of the Prophet Muhammed presenting him as a terrorist, for instance with a bomb in his turban. These cartoons were attended by some words of the editor saying that they should teach the Muslims to endure “disdain, insult and ridicule”. The reaction in the Muslim world to this aggressive offence was heated and sometimes very violent; Danish flags were being burnt in many places and even some diplomatic residences were burnt down.

At that time most other Danish newspapers refused to publish the cartoons, but the Danish Prime-Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen, instead of presenting a clear opposition to the publication in Jyllandsposten, declared that in Denmark there is freedom of speech and that the government could not and should not intervene in decisions that the newspaper was responsible for. When he was asked to excuse the publication of the cartoons, he understood this as a demand to take the responsibility for something that the government had not done, and he refused to make any excuse. Few people thought that it was a legal question and that the cartoons should have been forbidden by law, but many saw it as a moral question. But in the beginning the Prime Minister did not see it either as a legal question or as a moral question. However, when this year a Dutch filmmaker, Geert Wilders, constructed a short movie, called FITNA, on the internet that was extremely aggressive against Muslims and then came to Denmark and thought he could have the support of our Prime Minister, the latter took the sharpest distance from the movie, so such a moral distance could also have been taken toward the Danish newspaper. Why did he not do that?

The cartoons were defended in Denmark in the name of the right to freedom of speech. And more recently the Danish intelligence service told the press that three young people – a Dane and two foreigners – might have planned to murder the cartoonist (for security reasons proofs were not published), Then no Danish newspaper considered these three people as simple criminals, but nearly the whole Danish press were seized by a kind of war logic and published the offensive cartoons in order to defend Denmark - the “country of freedom of speech” - against all its enemies. The result was not long in coming; it was a bloody suicide attack on the Danish Embassy in Pakistan.

But I would ask: Was this unhappy story not the consequence of bad philosophy?

The idea of freedom of speech appears in the first Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America from 1791 that declares that “Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech or of the press”. This was proclaimed in order to protect the possibility of criticism of those in power. One and a half centuries later the freedom of speech was conceived as a human right in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights from 1948: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression”.

However, in the wake of the French Revolution, thanks to the free speeches of courageous citizens, the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of Citizen of 1789 did not proclaim a right to free speech without limits. The reason given was that there is no freedom without responsibility; this corresponds to its definition of freedom in article 4, which says that freedom consists in the right to do everything that does not harm another, and that the limits to this right must be determined by law.

Truly an absolute freedom of speech and expression is problematic. This is already true in the case of the claim of freedom of religion that historically precedes the claim of freedom of speech. Religious freedom has been claimed as a freedom of faith, and this has been claimed as a human right, but not without limits; because freedom to practice a religion that includes violence in order to force people into a particular confession has never been generally accepted as a human right. In other words freedom of religion is a right as long as it does not prevent everybody else from having the same freedom.

But also freedom of speech and expression is problematic if it is claimed without limits; it may be practised as violence if it is a perlocutionary act that hurts and humiliates others in order to dominate, repress or oppress them.

There is a much more fundamental human right than the right of freedom of speech, and this is the right of freedom of thought. This freedom of thought was claimed by Voltaire in his Philosophical Dictionary of 1764 and by many other European philosophers in the age of Enlightenment. The right to this freedom can be considered as absolute, if by thought is meant an inner conviction or a faith that does not include violence against others. Thus, there is an absolute freedom of thought, but not an absolute freedom of expression of thought.

The cult of public freedom of expression in a country such as Denmark is peculiar in comparison to what is normally admitted in Danish family life. Everybody knows that in a family or amongst friends you may think what you like about your wife or your partner, about your parents and your children, and about your closest friends. But if you want a good life together with them, you must always take care about the way you tell them your thoughts. Then you do not use the word as a weapon against them. How should this use of freedom be otherwise in the great family we call humanity?

As members of this humanity, as citizens of the world, we must recognize that humiliation of others may be the most brutal violence we can practice without directly killing. Economic exploitation of a large part of the world's population by a smaller, richer part is a big problem, but not the greatest problem; the greatest problem is the problem that consists in the lack of mutual recognition between peoples from different cultures, with different languages, different histories, different races, different religions. It would cost us Europeans and Americans nothing in money or capital to give this recognition. Nevertheless it seems to be much more difficult for us to practice than any renunciation of material goods. It demands a humility we do not possess.

The opposition between recognition and humiliation is indeed very instructive. To recognize the other is not only to accept the sheer existence of the other, but to refrain from violence against this person. Humiliation on the other hand is an attitude that is intended to give the other a feeling of inferiority, to injure the self-esteem of the other and the self-respect of a cultural community. When one's self-esteem is wounded it is the very relationship to the other human being that is hurt, because, it cannot unfold itself without the other. Humiliation destroys our “living together” not only in personal relationships but also in social life.

Humility is the opposite of pride and arrogance: it is to consider oneself as equal with every other human being. By contrast, humiliation of the other is not a virtue, it is a vice – being the attempt to dominate the other by forcing him

or her to be humble. But enforced humility can never be true humility for that must come generously from the proper character of the individual and not from the outside or out of fear of the other. Humility is humbleness before the community to which we belong. In this sense, it is not a feeling of inferiority, but a feeling of belonging. And it consists in the conviction that none of us have our identity without what we receive from others. In fact, a human identity in the modern world is a synthesis of identities. As Amartya Sen says: "In normal lives, we see ourselves as members of a variety of groups - we belong to all of them".

Today we have several big problems we must resolve together. Therefore we must be cosmopolitan, and this is no more a romantic dream but a very concrete task. Let me only mention three concrete problems: the problem of global warming and the environment in general, the problem of intercultural co-existence, and the problem of financial globalisation. No peaceful solutions to these problems can be carried out if we do not learn to behave peacefully by language, i.e. to use language as a peace instrument and not as a weapon. We live with these problems in a technological conjuncture, but we cannot master this conjuncture if we cannot master our language. Thus, we must rethink philosophy according to an eco-ethics, an ethics of our world as oikos, as dwelling for our good life together.

Therefore we need philosophy, we need the power of the word. This need is the deepest drive we have. A young Chinese man wrote to me, when he had given up trying to find money to attend our congress: I cannot come to the World Congress of Philosophy, but "philosophy will go on in my heart!"

He belongs to the kingdom of the word. He has the conviction that has brought us all together here in Seoul. He is with us in our burning wish: Long live philosophy!

1.2. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF FISP

to the Steering Committee

In Seoul (COEX International Hotel).

July 29, 2008

Dear Members of the Steering Committee!

Today is our last Steering Committee meeting the day before the big World Congress of Philosophy that we together have prepared during the last five years. I have prepared a more substantial report for this period to the General Assembly that will take place on Sunday August 3rd.

As usual I have divided my report to you into two parts: the first part concerning the past, the second part concerning the future. But the planning of the next world congress and all the activities linked to that is not our task: A new Steering Committee and a new leadership shall take care of that. Therefore I shall only briefly tell you about what has happened concerning FISP in the year since our previous Steering Committee meeting at Mali Lošinj and add some more general remarks.

1. The Steering Committee Meeting at Mali Lošinj

Our meeting at Mali Lošinj in Croatia on June 14, 2007 took place in connection with the Lošinj Days of Bioethics June 13-14, and we were invited by The Croatian Philosophical Society. The most important decisions were proposals to raise the fees and to eliminate delinquent member societies. Our Treasurer Guido Küng was asked to prepare these proposal(s) to be presented at our meeting today in Seoul.

Moreover, Konstantine Boudouris informed the committee that an invitation to have the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy (2013) held in Athens was being prepared. He handed over a letter of support from the Greek authorities to the president.

Jinho Kang was present and informed us about the preparation of the World Congress in Seoul.

2. Meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee at Harvard University

On September 16, 2007 there met respectively the Board and the Executive Committee at Harvard University, Cambridge, invited by Tu Weiming, who also organized a conference on Rethinking Humanity: Global Philosophical Reflections in the Twenty-First Century with special emphasis on Western-Asian dialogue. At the meeting of the EC where all members were present, the committee recognized that to ensure simultaneous translations from and to all official languages of the World Congress was too expensive. Therefore it was accepted that the KOC would assure translation of the opening and closing sessions and plenaries (both ways) only in English, French, Chinese and Korean. Also the KOC accepted to pay for the travel of plenary chairpersons. Finally, it was accepted not to claim payment of the Congress fee from speakers and presidents of plenaries, symposia and endowed lectures.

A number of Invited Sessions and Round Tables were approved.

3. Meeting of the Executive Committee in Seoul on May 25, 2008

One of the committee's co-chairmen, Gilbert Hottois, was not able to attend this meeting, and the other co-chairman, Myung-Hyun Lee, asked me to chair the meeting.

A supplementary number of Sessions and Round Tables, a plan for the Opening Ceremony and some guidelines for the closing ceremony were approved.

The invitations to Fred Dallmayr as replacement for Luc Ferry and to Jean Greisch as replacement for Alain Badiou were approved, and Tu Weiming was chosen as alternate to Greisch.

It was decided to invite the Director of UNESCO, Mr. Matura, to give a speech at the opening session of the Congress or -- if he should be unable to come -- to request him to send a video giving some opening remarks to the Congress participants.

It was also decided to invite the President of Korea to give a speech at the opening session or to request that he send a video.

4. Latest Decisions

In the middle of July Peter Sloterdijk announced that he would not be able to come and give the Maimonides lecture. It was therefore decided by the EC to invite Tu Weiming, who agreed to replace him.

Two speakers who could not attend the Congress for health reasons were asked to send a video to be shown at their sessions.

5. Society Meetings

The number of society meetings has grown considerably at our Congress over the Congress in 2003. The main reason is that the Korean Organizing Committee wanted to organize its own sessions in the Congress. We could not agree to that in the Executive Committee. The ultimate solution to this problem was that the Korean Philosophical Association would organize a series of sessions as society meetings. And it was agreed that the financing of the Congress should be strictly separated from the financing of these meetings. I hope that for the next World Congress of Philosophy such a solution will not be necessary and that the national committee responsible for the practical organization of this Congress can have its wishes fulfilled in the programme of the Congress itself. If the Congress were to be split up into society meetings, it would be the death of FISP.

6. The work of the FISP office in Copenhagen

The support from my university, The Danish School of Education in Copenhagen, now integrated into the University of Aarhus, has continued and has been confirmed by the new dean of our School, Lars Qvortrup, and also supported by my successor as the head of the department of philosophy of education, Ove Korsgaard. I am grateful for this important support as I am in debt to the former rector of the Danish University of Education, Lars-Henrik Schmidt, who supported FISP during his whole term. In this way, I have been able to continue to have the daily assistance of Chief Secretary Hannah Mia Hendriksen as the administrative secretary for FISP. My thanks go also to the Board of FISP which approved the financing of our secretarial work. And thanks to Mia herself for the marvellous work she has done for us.

7. The IPO in Iași

The 16th International Philosophy Olympiad was held in Iași in Romania from May 18 to 22, 2008. It was, like the previous Olympiads, a great success, and from the side of FISP the past president Ioanna Kuçuradi, our Secretary General, and I myself participated.

8. The XXIII WCP

Next Sunday the GA also has to decide the meeting place of the next WCP. We know already that our Greek colleagues will repeat their proposal of Athens as the venue of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy in 2013, and I would personally be very happy if this proposal should be accepted.

9. FISP and the Press

For the support of FISP we need to have our World Congress of Philosophy receive press coverage. Therefore I recommend to every member of the Steering Committee who has the opportunity to write in a newspaper or a journal about the Congress to do so. Or, to make contact with a journalist in your country and propose that he or she write about the event.

10. Adieu

In this farewell report I want to thank all of you in this committee for the support during our five years period and in particular our Secretary General Bill McBride who has been the intelligent energy of our work, has been spending an enormous amount of time on FISP matters and has been a perfect and loyal collaborator from the beginning until now.

I am happy to know that he is the only person nominated for election as our next president, thus ensuring him as the next President of FISP. With him FISP will be in good hands.

Peter Kemp

President of FISP 2003-2008

1.3 REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF FISP 2003-2008

To the General Assembly

August 3, 2008

When I presented my report as Secretary General of FISP to the General Assembly in Istanbul in 2003 I expressed my goal for FISP in the next five years by saying that it was important that it should continue to be a really philosophical international organization, having good philosophers not only as speakers at the World Congresses, but also in its Steering Committee and in its different commissions. In this way FISP could continue to bring together philosophers from all trends, all countries and all cultures. To be really international for me meant, and still means, that it is not only open for philosophers from the whole world, but is guided by an international team and works in the two languages of English and French. English is unavoidable, but French could have been replaced by German, Spanish, Russian or Chinese, if FISP had had other historical roots than it actually has; but now, since FISP has a French name and was born in France, it must be French, not only for historical reasons, but also as a sign of its international character.

Since the Congress in Istanbul we have worked in FISP in keeping with this goal. We have held our meetings and contributed to international conferences and symposia in North and South, East and West. In his report the Secretary General tells more in detail about this and about the important work of the different commissions. And we have used both English and French in all meetings of the Steering Committee, while some FISP conferences have been totally in French and some of them both in English and French. And at the last International Philosophy Olympiad both languages were used. But we have also emphasized the multi-linguistic character of our World Congress by adding Chinese to the official languages, which traditionally include not only English and French but also German, Spanish and Russian, and I hope that the Chinese language will remain among the official conference languages. Moreover there can be no doubt about the role of this XXII World Congress of Philosophy for strengthening transnational philosophical discussion in the world today by virtue of the fact that it is organized in an Asian country. Perhaps some cancellations have occurred due to the long distance from Europe to Korea, but on the other hand we have this time a much stronger participation from Asian countries than before; so if the next World

Congress is held in Europe – and personally I hope that the offer to organize the XXIII World Congress on the part of Greece, which has repeated its offer from 2003, will be accepted this time – then many Asian philosophers may attend that Congress. To this globalization of philosophical encounters, the remarkable Interim World Congress in Delhi in December 2006 also contributed substantially.

In her report to the General Assembly of FISP during the XXIst World Congress of Philosophy my predecessor, President Ioanna Kuçuradi, mentioned a list of goals for FISP expressed by member societies when after the World Congress in Boston in 1998 she solicited the societies to communicate their ideas.

Let me mention the first five and for me most important goals on the list:

The first one is to continue the work of FISP in human rights as a basic sine qua non. There has been a focus on these rights both in our previous Congress in Istanbul and this time here in Seoul. However, if we want to strengthen their importance, we must participate in an open debate without dogmatism about their value for humanity; they should not be a creed without justification. For instance, numerous times in the last five years FISP has been involved in conferences that in one way or another focused on dialogues between different cultures or between East and West, but this focus that we all want on global dialogues implies that we not interpret the right to free speech in such a way that dialogues between cultures and traditions are no longer possible.

The second goal is to promote women, so that they can occupy the place they should in their countries and at the international level. I have tried to contribute to this promotion of women by proposing at the first meeting of the new Steering Committee at Istanbul in 2003 two women as vice-presidents, Bhuvan Chandel and Myrto Dragona-Monachou, and they were elected by the Committee. This was not a revolution, because previously we have had a woman as Secretary General and later as President. But FISP has continued to give the signal to the world that amongst philosophers at the international level women play an important role as they should in society in general. I would like to add that in the Program Committee for this Congress a female Korean philosopher, Eun-su Cho, has played a crucial role and our collaboration was a great pleasure.

The third goal is to promote multi-disciplinarity. If that means that philosophers take up subjects from many different fields where they work together with researchers from these disciplines, it is my impression that many philosophers involved with FISP are of that kind. They are not thinking in the air, but they focus on world problems that demand multi-disciplinary efforts. Moreover FISP is a member of the International Council for Philosophy and the Human Sciences, CIPSH, and the Secretary General of FISP and I participated as delegates of FISP in the XXVIIth General Assembly of CIPSH in Beijing in 2004.

The fourth goal is to promote the teaching of philosophy and ethics in the high school. Here we have had two scientific conferences since our previous World Congress, one in Copenhagen in 2004 on History in Education, and one in Dakar in 2006 on Rethinking education in philosophy (*Repenser l'enseignement de la philosophie*). Moreover, FISP has strongly supported the continuation of the yearly International Philosophy Olympiad for high school students and has contributed to new regulations of the IPO according to which FISP, together with UNESCO, is a sponsor of the meetings and participates actively in the evaluations.

The fifth goal, the last I will mention, is to strengthen cooperation with UNESCO in general and more specifically with its sections which deal with value problems and human rights. This cooperation has taken place in two ways: on the one hand, the conference in Dakar organized by Sékou Pathé Guèye was endorsed both by UNESCO and by FISP, and the Deputy Director of UNESCO Pierre Sané took the floor and stressed as I did in my speech the importance of our collaboration; on the other hand FISP has strongly supported the continuation of the celebration of the Day of Philosophy and in particular a World Philosophy Day every year in November. Remember that the first “Day of Philosophy” was celebrated as a result of a proposal from FISP; it took place in the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on the third Thursday of November 2002, and in the same year in many other places in the world as well. We also collaborated with UNESCO in Paris in the Days of Philosophy of November 2003 and 2005. For several reasons which are not totally clear this collaboration was not practiced in 2004 and in the most recent years, but I think that it would be to the advantage of both UNESCO in Paris and FISP if we were jointly to encourage the celebration of the Day of Philosophy in all countries and find a way to organize together the World Philosophy Day, which can be anywhere and not necessarily in Paris, in order to fulfill the hope expressed by President Ioanna Kuçuradi in her report to the General Assembly in Istanbul of a continuation of the cooperation between FISP and UNESCO.

Let me add that the fourth Day of Philosophy also testified to our close connection with the International Institute of Philosophy, our mother institute, which drew up our statutes in 1948. We organized a program together for the Day of Philosophy in 2005, and I hope that other occasions for collaboration will be taken up in the future. CIPSH also participated in organizing that Day of Philosophy, and when the Secretary General of FISP and I participated in the

XXVIIth General Assembly of CIPSH in Beijing in 2004 we contributed to a symposium linked to a Day of Philosophy organized by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and UNESCO in Beijing.

The new Steering Committee we are going to elect today will meet already tomorrow and not the day after the Congress as was the case in Istanbul. The reason for this change is that the day after the Istanbul Congress several new members did not attend the meeting of the Steering Committee since they could not know that they would be elected and had already ordered their flights home on that day.

It is true that most of the time during the five years since the World Congress in Istanbul we have been working on the preparation of this Congress here in Seoul. This preparation required not only the work of the Secretary General, the Treasurer, and myself, but also the annual meetings of the Steering Committee, several meetings of the Board, two meetings of the Scientific Program Committee and two meetings of the Executive Committee for the World Congress. And all these meetings, which were nearly always connected to a conference or a symposium, were made possible only thanks to the invitations of different institutions or societies: the Danish University of Education, the University of Helsinki, The Korean Philosophical Association together with the Korean Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, the Institute of Philosophy at the Vietnamese Academy of Social Science, the Croatian Philosophical Society, and finally the Harvard-Yenching Institute in Cambridge. On behalf of FISP I express our deep gratitude to all these sponsors and organizers. Their efforts show how strongly philosophy is supported in the world today.

In all these meetings the hardest work was that of the Scientific Program Committee. I thank all its members and in particular its Chair, Gilbert Hottois, who took his job very seriously and was always well prepared.

Special thanks also to the Korean Organizing Committee for their hard and committed work for this Congress. Our collaboration has not always been easy, partly because of the geographical distance between us, which meant that we could have very few physical meetings and were obliged to rely on e-mail correspondence, partly because at a certain moment we disagreed on the role of the Korean Organizing Committee, which wanted to organize its own sessions in the Congress. But both parties wanted to maintain the dialogue, and we agreed finally to a solution according to which these sessions were organized as society meetings, i.e. sessions of the Korean Philosophical Association. We have learnt from this discussion that future agreements between FISP and a philosophical society about a World Congress of Philosophy should be very clear on this point. In my view the most perfect collaboration would be that the wishes of the philosophical society which is in charge of the practical and technical organization of the Congress be satisfied with the way the program of the Congress itself is established and not on the margin of the official Congress program.

In particular I want to thank Professor Seon-Wook Kim, with whom we have worked most closely in the last period. There can be no doubt about his commitment and his very hard work, and if this Congress is going to be remembered as a success he has a part of the responsibility for that.

Finally I want to thank my two closest collaborators in the work we have had to do in our five year period: my Secretary General, Bill McBride, and the FISP Administrative Secretary, Hannah Mia Hendriksen. Without them I would have been totally lost in my job as President.

It has been suggested that the practice of the election of the President of FISP might be changed in such a way that he or she would also be the president of the national organizing committee responsible for the World Congress and be appointed by that committee. I think that this would not be best for FISP, because such a procedure might make too strong the temptation to concentrate on the promotion of one's own country and to give less attention to the fact that our World Congress first of all should reflect a common effort of all our member societies. It is also important that the president who is elected should have considerable experience of working in FISP. This was the case when my predecessor was elected president in 1998, and I think she was elected because of her great experience as Secretary General in FISP for ten years, not mainly because she was going to chair the national Turkish committee for organizing the World Congress in Istanbul. Thus, I would recommend that we continue the democratic election of our president. This corresponds to the fact that FISP is not a highly academic institute, but a federation of philosophical societies, some of the members of which are not necessarily professional philosophers. We are a democratic movement, and we show this image to the world not only by our papers and discussions, but also by the way we organize ourselves. I am very proud of having been president of such a movement, and I thank all our member societies and in particular all individuals in our federation who have supported me as president. To be entrusted with this job has been a pleasure – most of the time.

Peter Kemp

President of FISP 2003-2008

RAPPORT DU PRÉSIDENT DE LA FISP 2003-2008

à l'Assemblée Général à Séoul

le 3 Août 2008

Quand en tant que secrétaire général de la FISP à Istanbul en 2003 je faisais le rapport à l'Assemblée Général de la FISP, j'exprimais l'objectif de la FISP pour les prochaines cinq années en disant que c'était important qu'elle devrait rester une organisation véritablement internationale, avec de bons philosophes non seulement comme conférenciers aux congrès mondiaux, mais encore comme membres de son Comité Directeur et de ses commissions différentes. Par là la FISP pourrait continuer de rassembler des philosophes de toutes les écoles, de tous les pays et de toutes les cultures. Être véritablement international était et reste toujours pour moi un signe indiquant que la FISP n'est pas seulement ouverte pour des philosophes du monde entier, mais qu'elle est aussi guidée par une équipe internationale et qui travaille dans les deux langues – l'anglais et le français. L'anglais est aujourd'hui inévitable, mais le français aurait pu être remplacé par l'allemand, l'espagnol, le russe ou le chinois, si la FISP aurait eu d'autres racines qu'elle n'a; mais maintenant, étant donné que la FISP porte un nom français et qu'elle fut née en France, l'autre langue de travail doit être le français, pas seulement pour des raisons historiques, mais comme signe de son caractère international.

Depuis le Congrès Mondial à Istanbul nous avons travaillé dans la FISP selon cet objectif. Nous avons tenu nos réunions dans le monde entier, et nous avons contribué à des conférences internationales et à des symposiums internationaux au Nord et au Sud, à l'Est et à l'Ouest. Le Secrétaire Général va les rapporter plus en détail et il parlera aussi du travail important des différentes commissions. Et nous avons utilisé à la fois l'anglais et le français dans toutes les réunions du Comité Directeur, tandis que quelques conférences de la FISP ont été tenues exclusivement en français et d'autres à la fois en anglais et en français. Et à la dernière Olympiade Internationale de Philosophie les deux langues étaient utilisées. Or en plus, nous avons souligné le caractère multilinguistique de notre Congrès Mondial en ajoutant le chinois aux langues officielles du congrès qui traditionnellement ont compté non seulement l'anglais et le français mais encore l'allemand, l'espagnol et le russe. J'espère que le chinois va rester parmi les langues officielles des futurs congrès mondiaux.

En plus, il n'y a pas de doute sur le rôle de ce XXII Congrès Mondial de Philosophie en renforçant la discussion transnationale dans le monde aujourd'hui par le fait qu'il est organisé par un pays asiatique. Peut-être l'annulation de la participation de quelques conférenciers est due à la longue distance de l'Europe en Corée, mais de l'autre côté cette fois le congrès a une participation plus forte que jamais des pays asiatiques, de sorte que si le prochain congrès mondial de philosophie va être tenu en Europe – et personnellement j'espère que l'offre d'organiser le XXIII Congrès Mondial de la part de nos amis de la Grèce qui en ont renouvelé leur proposition de 2003 sera acceptée cette fois – alors de nombreux philosophes asiatiques pourraient venir à ce congrès. Aussi, à cette mondialisation des rencontres philosophiques, le Congrès Mondial Intérimaire qui a eu lieu à Delhi en décembre 2006 a contribué de façon essentielle.

Dans son rapport à l'Assemblée Générale de la FISP en 2003 mon prédécesseur, la Présidente Ioanna Kuçuradi, a mentionné une liste de buts pour la FISP exprimés par des sociétés membres lorsque, après le Congrès Mondial à Boston en 1998, elle avait demandé aux sociétés de lui communiquer leurs idées.

Je reprends ici les cinq premiers buts qui sont pour moi les plus importants.

Le premier but c'est de continuer l'œuvre de la FISP dans le domaine des droits de l'homme comme fondement sine qua non. Nous avons focalisé sur ces droits à la fois dans notre congrès précédent à Istanbul et ici même à Séoul. Cependant, si nous souhaitons renforcer leur importance, nous devons participer dans un débat ouvert sans dogmatisme sur leur valeur pour l'humanité; ils ne devraient pas être une confession de foi sans justification. Par exemple, de nombreuses fois dans les cinq dernières années la FISP a été impliquée dans des congrès ou des symposiums qui d'une manière ou d'une autre traitaient du dialogue entre des cultures différentes ou entre l'Est et l'Ouest, mais cette visée sur le dialogue global que nous souhaitons tous implique que nous n'interprétons pas le droit à la libre parole d'une telle manière que le dialogue entre cultures et traditions différentes devient impossible.

Le second but c'est de promouvoir les femmes, de sorte qu'elles puissent occuper la place qu'elles devraient avoir dans leurs pays et au niveau international. J'ai essayé de contribuer à cette promotion des femmes en proposant à la première réunion du nouveau Comité Directeur à Istanbul en 2003 deux femmes comme vice-présidentes, à savoir Bhuvan Chandel et Myrto Dragona-Monachou, et elles ont été élues par le CD. Cet événement n'était pas une révolution, puisque autrefois nous avons eu une femme comme d'abord Secrétaire Générale et ensuite comme

présidente. Mais la FISP a continué à signaler au monde que parmi les philosophes au plan international les femmes jouent un rôle important comme elles doivent le faire dans la société en général. J'aimerais ajouter que dans la commission de programme pour ce Congrès une philosophe femme, Eun-su Cho, a joué un rôle crucial, et collaborer avec elle était un grand plaisir.

Le troisième but c'est la promotion de l'inter-disciplinarité. Si cela signifie que les philosophes s'occupent de sujets de nombreux domaines différents où ils travaillent avec des chercheurs de ces disciplines, j'ai l'impression que beaucoup de philosophes attachés à la FISP sont de telle sorte. Ils ne pensent pas futillement dans l'air, mais ils focalisent sur des problèmes mondiaux qui exigent des efforts multi-disciplinaires. En plus, la FISP est membre du Conseil International de la Philosophie et des Sciences Humaines, CIPSH, et le Secrétaire Générale de la FISP et moi-même avons participé comme les délégués de la FISP à la XXVII-e Assemblée Générale du CIPSH à Pékin en 2004.

Le quatrième but c'est de promouvoir l'enseignement de la philosophie et de l'éthique dans les lycées. Pour cela nous avons eu deux conférences scientifiques depuis notre congrès mondial précédent, l'une à Copenhague en 2004 sur l'Histoire de l'Education, l'autre à Dakar en 2006 sur Repenser l'enseignement de la philosophie. En plus la FISP a fortement soutenu l'Olympiade Internationale de Philosophie pour lycéens, qui a lieu chaque année, et a contribué aux nouvelles règles de l'IPO selon lesquelles la FISP, conjointement avec l'UNESCO, est le parrain de ces réunions, participant activement dans les évaluations.

Le cinquième but, et le dernier que je vais citer ici, c'est de renforcer la coopération avec l'UNESCO en général et en particulier avec sa section pour les problèmes des valeurs et des droits de l'homme. Cette coopération s'est effectuée de deux manières: d'une part, la conférence à Dakar organisée par Sémou Pathé Guèye était parrainée par l'UNESCO et par la FISP en commun, et dans son discours le vice-directeur de l'UNESCO Pierre Sané a souligné, comme je le faisais dans ma propre intervention, l'importance de notre collaboration; d'autre part, la FISP a vigoureusement soutenu la poursuite de la célébration de la Journée de la Philosophie et en particulier d'une Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie chaque année en novembre. Rappelons-nous que la première "journée de la philosophie" fut célébrée à la suite d'une proposition de la FISP; elle a eu lieu au quartier général de l'UNESCO à Paris le troisième jeudi de novembre 2002, de même que simultanément dans de nombreux autres endroits dans le monde. Nous avons aussi collaboré avec l'UNESCO à Paris en 2003 et 2005. Pour plusieurs raisons qui ne sont pas complètement évidentes cette collaboration ne s'est faite ni en 2004 ni dans les toutes dernières années, mais je pense que ce serait au bénéfice à la fois de l'UNESCO à Paris et de la FISP si nous réunissions notre engagement pour la célébration de la Journée de la Philosophie dans tous les pays et si nous trouvions une manière d'organiser ensemble une Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie, qui pourrait avoir lieu n'importe où et pas forcément à Paris, en vue de réaliser l'espoir exprimé par la Présidente Ioanna Kuçuradi dans son rapport à l'Assemblée Générale à Istanbul d'une continuation de la coopération entre la FISP et l'UNESCO.

Ajoutons que la quatrième Journée de la Philosophie en 2005 témoigne aussi notre lien étroit avec l'Institut International de Philosophie, notre institut mère, qui a préparé nos statuts en 1948. Ensemble nous fixons le programme de la Journée de la Philosophie en 2005, et j'espère que dans l'avenir nous pourrions profiter d'autres occasions pour reprendre une collaboration. Le CIPSH aussi a participé dans l'organisation de cette Journée de la Philosophie, et quand le Secrétaire Général de la FISP et moi-même prenions part à la XXVII Assemblée Générale du CIPSH à Pékin en 2004 nous avons participé aussi dans un symposium lié à une Journée de la Philosophie organisée par l'Académie Chinoise des Sciences Sociales et l'UNESCO à Pékin.

Le nouveau Comité Directeur que nous allons élire aujourd'hui se réunira déjà demain et non pas au lendemain de notre Congrès comme c'était le cas à Istanbul. Nous avons décidé ce changement parce qu'au lendemain du Congrès à Istanbul plusieurs nouveaux membres du CD n'ont pas participé à la réunion du comité puisque bien entendu ils ne pouvaient pas savoir d'avance qu'ils seraient élus et par conséquent ils avaient déjà commandé leurs billets de vol de retour à leurs pays pour ce jour-là.

Il est vrai que la plupart du temps pendant les cinq années depuis le Congrès Mondial à Istanbul nous nous sommes occupés de la préparation de ce congrès ici à Séoul. Cette préparation a exigé non seulement le travail du Secrétaire Général, du trésorier et de moi-même, mais encore les réunions annuelles du CD, plusieurs réunions du Bureau, deux réunions de la commission scientifique du programme et deux réunions du Comité Exécutif du Congrès Mondial. Et toutes ces réunions qui étaient presque chaque fois liées à un congrès ou à un symposium n'étaient rendues possibles que grâce aux invitations qui nous ont été offertes par de différents instituts ou de différentes sociétés: l'Université Danoise de l'Education, l'Université de Helsinki, l'Association Coréenne de Philosophie en commun avec le Conseil Coréen de Recherches pour les Sciences Humaines et Sociales, l'Institut de Philosophie de l'Académie Vietnamienne pour les Sciences Sociales, la Société Croate de Philosophie et finalement l'Institut de Harvard-Yenching à Cambridge aux Etats-Unis. Au nom de la FISP je tiens à exprimer notre

profonde gratitude à tous ces parrains et organisateurs. Leurs efforts montrent combien la philosophie est soutenue dans le monde d'aujourd'hui.

Dans toutes ces réunions le travail de la commission scientifique de programme était le plus lourd. Je remercie tous les membres de cette commission et en particulier le président de la commission, Gilbert Hottos, qui a exécuté sa fonction de façon très sérieuse et qui était toujours très bien préparé.

Mes remerciements en particulier aussi au Comité Coréen d'Organisation pour leur travail dur et engagé pour ce Congrès. Notre collaboration n'a pas toujours été facile, partiellement en raison de la distance géographique entre nous, ce qui a signifié que nous étions obligés de nous limiter à quelques réunions et que pour le reste nous devions faire nos communications par courriel, partiellement parce que à un certain moment nous étions en désaccord sur le rôle du Comité Coréen d'Organisation qui souhaitait organiser ses propres sessions dans le congrès. Mais nous étions d'accord pour maintenir le dialogue, et finalement nous sommes convenus à une solution selon laquelle ces sessions s'organiseraient sous forme de réunions de sociétés, c'est-à-dire des sessions de l'Association Coréenne de Philosophie. De cette discussion nous avons dégagé la leçon que les accords futurs entre la FISP et une société de philosophie devraient être plus clairs sur ce point. A mon avis la collaboration la plus parfaite serait que les souhaits de la société de philosophie responsable de l'organisation pratique et technique d'un congrès mondial soient satisfaits par la manière dont le programme même du congrès est établi.

En particulier je tiens à remercier le professeur Seon-Wook Kim avec qui nous avons travaillé le plus étroitement dans la période précédant le congrès même. Il n'y aucun doute de son engagement et de son grand travail, et si ce congrès sera retenu comme un succès c'est en grande partie à son honneur.

Finalement je tiens à remercier mes deux collaborateurs les plus proches dans le travail que nous avons dû accomplir dans notre période quinquennale: mon Secrétaire Général William McBride, et la secrétaire administrative de la FISP, Hannah Mia Hendriksen. Sans eux j'aurais été totalement perdu dans ma fonction comme président.

On a proposé que la pratique de l'élection du président de la FISP soit modifiée de telle sorte qu'il ou elle soit le président du comité national d'organisation responsable pour le prochain Congrès Mondial et désigné par ce comité. Je ne pense pas que cette procédure soit la meilleure pour la FISP, parce qu'elle pourrait créer chez le comité national une tentation trop forte à se vouer à la promotion de son propre pays et ainsi à faire moins attention au fait que notre Congrès mondial doit avant tout refléter l'effort commun de toutes nos sociétés membres. Aussi il est important que le président élu possède une expérience considérable aux affaires de la FISP. C'était le cas lorsque mon prédécesseur était élue présidente en 1998, et je pense qu'elle était élue en raison de sa grande expérience en tant que Secrétaire Générale de la FISP pendant dix ans, et non pas principalement parce qu'elle était désignée présidente du comité national turc pour l'organisation du Congrès Mondial à Istanbul. Ainsi, je voudrais recommander que nous continuions l'élection démocratique de notre président. Cela correspond au fait que la FISP n'est pas une institution hautement académique, mais une fédération de sociétés de philosophie dont certaines comptent des membres qui ne sont pas nécessairement des philosophes professionnels. Nous sommes un mouvement démocratique, et nous montrons cette image non seulement par nos communications et discussions, mais encore par la manière dont nous organisons nous-mêmes. Je suis très fier d'avoir été président d'un tel mouvement, et je tiens à remercier toutes nos sociétés membres et en particulier toute personne dans notre fédération qui m'a soutenu comme président. Avoir été confié à cette charge m'était un grand plaisir – la plupart du temps.

Peter Kemp

Président de la FISP 2003-2008

1.4. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The past five years in the history of FISP have been characterized by growth and by a number of initiatives and meetings that I consider to have been successful and valuable. A number of new societies were approved for membership during this time, and some of them have turned out to be exceptionally dynamic. These new additions, together with some readmissions, have been as follows:

Association Internationale des Professeurs de Philosophie (AIPPh)

Association of Philosophers from Southeastern Europe

The British Philosophical Association

Chinese Association of Philosophy in Taiwan, China (readmitted)

Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (CRVP)

Croatian Philosophical Society

Danish Philosophical Association

Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children

Institute of Philosophy of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

International Association of Centers for Peirce Studies

International Society for Universal Dialogue (ISUD)

International Society for Value Inquiry

Korean Association of Social Scientists

Mulla Sadra Islamic Research Institute (SIPRI)

Philosophical Society of Macedonia

Philosophical Society of Nepal

Sociedad Académica de Filosofía (Spain)

Ukrainian Philosophical Foundation

At least one additional society will be considered for membership at the Steering Committee meeting immediately preceding the World Congress. Some Member Societies that had not participated actively in recent years have “regrouped” and become more active, while, sadly but almost inevitably, there are a few societies that have been inactive for so long that there will need to be a vote at the General Assembly on whether to discontinue their memberships. But on the whole our trajectory appears to be upward in this respect.

I shall first review chronologically the principal FISP and FISP-related meetings of the period from the last World Congress in Istanbul to the present, then deal with other activities and issues. At the meeting of the new Steering Committee immediately following that Congress, three Vice-Presidents were elected – Bhuvan Chandel, Myrto Dragona-Monachou, and Enrico Berti – and I was nominated by President Peter Kemp to be Secretary General and elected to that position. Peter Kemp met with Korean colleagues in Seoul in November 2003 to work out our agreement with them for the 2008 Congress. This agreement was, after a few modifications, ratified at the Steering Committee meeting of March 27, 2004, in Copenhagen, at the Danish University of Education. There, initial decisions were made with respect to the theme of the Congress, “Rethinking Philosophy Today,” and to the constitution of the FISP half of the Program Committee: Gilbert Hottois, Chair, and Betül Çotuksöken, Jean Ferrari, Thalia Fung Riverón, Sékou Pathé Guèye, and William Sweet, members. As is the custom with FISP Steering Committee meetings, there was also an accompanying conference, this one on the topic “History in Education,” to which some Steering Committee members and Danish philosophers contributed. (The papers from this conference were published a year later by The Danish University of Education Press, Copenhagen, edited by Peter Kemp, with the same title.)

The first meeting of the Program Committee took place in Seoul in April 2005, and this, too, was complemented by a conference involving some Program Committee members and some Korean philosophers, with the theme “Dialogues among Different Cultures.” The initial proposals from this meeting were among the topics considered at the subsequent meeting of the Steering Committee, in late May 2005, in Helsinki at the University. The conference accompanying this meeting had as its theme “Metaphilosophical Reflections: On Current Challenges of Philosophy.” (Incidentally, the minutes of this and of the next two Steering Committee meetings have been included in the Newsletters posted following them on the FISP website and in the printed versions of these Newsletters.)

The Program Committee met once more in Korea, this time in Daegu immediately following a meeting of the Korean Philosophical Association in late May 2006. The theme of that conference was "Toward a New Dimension in Cross-Cultural Philosophical Dialogues." The decisions made there were then discussed and in a few matters modified at the meeting of the Steering Committee the following weekend in Hanoi, under the auspices of the Institute of Philosophy of the Vietnamese Academy of Sciences. This completed the work of the Program Committee and began the work of President Kemp of sending out invitations to those chosen to be World Congress speakers and chairs in symposia and plenary sessions. The conference connected with the Hanoi meeting, said to have attracted the largest number of foreign philosophers ever to a conference in Vietnam, and involving not only Vietnamese philosophers but also colleagues from several other Asian countries, had as its theme "Rethinking the Role of Philosophy in the Global Age," anticipating the Seoul World Congress theme.

Meanwhile, in late February 2006, a conference at the University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar was organized by Sémou Pathé Guèye in conjunction with the FISP Committee for the Teaching of Philosophy. Several FISP Steering Committee members, along with a number of colleagues from Senegal and several other countries of Francophone West Africa, contributed papers there on the theme "Rethinking the Teaching of Philosophy, in the Context of Globalization, for the Dialogue of Cultures and a Durable Universal Peace." The Director of the Section for the Human and Social Sciences at UNESCO, Pierre Sané, was among the speakers.

During the Hanoi meetings, Professor Chandel announced that an interim World Congress would take place from December 15 to 17 of that same year, 2006, at Delhi University in New Delhi under FISP sponsorship. It was duly held, with the theme "Philosophy in the Emerging Age of Global Society," and was generally deemed very successful, especially given the relatively short preparation time. Philosophers from all over India and from many other countries attended, numbering approximately 1000. FISP was well represented there.

The final Steering Committee meeting prior to the one to be held immediately before the Seoul World Congress took place in mid-June 2007 in Mali Lošinj, Croatia, at the invitation of the Croatian Philosophical Society, in conjunction with the annual international "Lošinj Days of Bioethics." The discussion centered primarily, but by no means exclusively, on the World Congress that was then just a little more than a year away.

With one exception, the meetings of the FISP Board, which consists of the President, three Vice-Presidents, immediate Past President, Secretary General, and Treasurer, took place in conjunction with, and prior to, the full Steering Committee meetings during the period in question. The exception was a meeting in mid-September 2007 held under the auspices of the Harvard-Yenching Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and arranged by its Director, Tu Weiming. This also provided an occasion for the three non-Korean members of the Executive Committee of the World Congress (the successor to the Program Committee), Peter Kemp, Gilbert Hottois, and myself, to confer on World Congress program details (particularly proposals for Round Tables and Invited Sessions) with their Korean counterparts, Myun-Hyung Lee, Samuel Lee, Kihyeon Kim, and Jinho Kang. The accompanying conference, in which some American colleagues and Chinese scholars also took part, had as its theme "Rethinking Humanity: Global Philosophical Reflections in the Twenty-First Century," with special emphasis on Western-Asian dialogue.

Finally, most recently, Peter Kemp and I made a brief trip to Seoul in May of 2008 to confer once more with our Korean colleagues concerning World Congress arrangements. This constituted the final meeting of the World Congress Executive Committee.

This completes my first chronology. I shall now mention some other activities in which FISP has been involved or at least represented. First, there is the annual World Philosophy Day, originally begun by UNESCO at the initiative of the then-President of FISP, Ioanna Kuçuradi. Always in late November, in its earliest years the official international commemoration was held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, and there was a FISP panel on "Global Justice: Philosophy Confronting Problems of the Twenty-First Century" at the November 2003 gathering. But, due to miscommunication, there was no formal FISP participation (although one or more members of the Steering Committee participated as individuals) in November 2004. It was then decided to hold subsequent UNESCO commemorations in other countries, beginning in Santiago de Chile in 2005. However, because there was initially some incertitude about this, it was decided that FISP would organize a session in Paris, in conjunction with the International Institute of Philosophy (IIP) and the International Council for Philosophy and the Human Sciences (CIPSH), commemorating three deceased philosophers, Paul Ricœur, Jean-Paul Sartre, and Raymond Aron, one week prior to the meeting in Santiago; this Paris conference was ultimately endorsed by UNESCO and held under its auspices. There was no official FISP session either in Santiago or at the World Philosophy Day held the following year in Rabat, Morocco, although in both cases several Steering Committee members were invited and came by virtue of their affiliation with FISP. Then, in Istanbul in November 2007, the UNESCO Philosophy Day did include a FISP session as well as another jointly sponsored by FISP, IIP, and the CIPSH, and the FISP presence was emphasized in other ways as well, including a ceremony marking the publication of the final volumes of Proceedings

(13 in all) from the Istanbul World Congress of 2003. It seems likely that FISP will be more central in the UNESCO World Philosophy Days of the near future. The next two are scheduled for Palermo in 2008 and for Moscow in 2009.

Another important annual activity of FISP is its sponsorship of the International Philosophy Olympiad, a philosophy essay competition open to high school students. Each participating country sends two students, many of whom have been the winners in national contests, together with a teacher and an IPO representative. The relationship between FISP and the IPO organization has become stronger in the past few years, and I worked with some of the IPO leadership to draw up new governing statutes, regularizing this relationship, at a meeting in Istanbul in September 2006. The May 2004 Olympiad – May is the chosen month for this event – , at which FISP was represented by Professor Chandel, took place in Seoul. I was present at the 2005 Olympiad in Warsaw, and Ioanna Kuçuradi and I represented FISP in 2006 in Cosenza, Italy. We were joined by President Kemp and by Jean Ferrari, the Chair of the FISP Committee on the Teaching of Philosophy, in Antalya, Turkey, in 2007, while three of us were present at the most recent Olympiad in Iași, Romania. If I am not mistaken, this was the largest yet, with 23 countries represented.

As a federation, FISP belongs to the International Council for Philosophy and the Human Sciences, which I have already mentioned, and of which one of our Steering Committee members for the past five years, Luca Scarantino, is Deputy Secretary General. CIPSH, as the French acronym would have it, meets once every two years; its past two meetings, in Beijing in November 2004 and in Alexandria, Egypt, in November 2006, have been held jointly with CISS, its counterpart organization for the social sciences. In the past, CIPSH was a conduit for modest but real funds for initiatives by individual societies, but its recent funding by UNESCO has been very meager because of UNESCO's own financial constraints. However, one may hope that the future is more promising in this regard; in any case, the opportunity to meet with colleagues involved in organizations in other disciplines that are parallel to FISP is of value. The joint CIPSH/CISS meeting this coming fall will take place in Cape Town, South Africa.

Peter Kemp and I have been asked to represent FISP officially at various special philosophy meetings. Particularly memorable examples of this type of activity, over the past five years, have been his participation in the 50th anniversary celebration of Parahyangan Catholic University in Bandung, Java, Indonesia in January 2005; and mine in the 50th anniversary celebration of the Philosophy Department of Fudan University, Shanghai, in 2006; at the annual meeting of our member society, the Sociedad Argentina de Filosofía in Córdoba in fall 2007; and, together with Past President Kuçuradi, at the biennial meeting of the Asociación Filosófica de México in Guadalajara in 2005.

I should also mention two other points à propos of meetings other than the quinquennial World Congresses. First, we are committed to encouraging the holding of interim Congresses, global and regional, such as the one that took place in New Delhi. To this end, a clearer set of guidelines for such meetings was drawn up by the Committee on General Policy and adopted by the Steering Committee; it may be found on our website. My second point is that an especially active Member Society engaged in sponsoring meetings and then publishing the proceedings in many parts of the world has been the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy under the leadership of George McLean. The Steering Committee at one of its meetings passed a resolution expressing its in principle approval of these initiatives, some of which have to my mind been quite remarkable.

FISP publications since the last World Congress, in addition to the Proceedings of that Congress already mentioned and the proceedings of several of the conferences in which Steering Committee members have participated (most notably History in Education, mentioned earlier), include *La différence anthropologique à l'ère des biotechnologies*, a distant outcome of the 2002 conference in Lyon and published by the Faculty of the University Jean Moulin there, and *Teaching human rights from a philosophical perspective*, published in Athens by Hellena Grammata, and edited by Myrto Dragona-Monachou, in Greek with English summaries. The most ambitious FISP publication undertaking of the past five years other than the World Congress Proceedings, however, has been the initiative by Maija Küle, the Chairperson of the FISP Committee on International Cooperation and Philosophical Encounters, entitled *Philosophy Worldwide: Current Situation*, now published in an expanded Second Edition by the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the University of Latvia, and also available on the FISP website in two of the recent Newsletters. The new edition contains twenty articles recounting the current situation of philosophy around the world, though of course many countries and regions are still lacking. I consider it a very valuable and unique enterprise, deserving of much more widespread attention within our profession than it has as yet attracted.

I come now to my own principal publication efforts, as editor of the Newsletter. Over the past five years the emphasis has been placed increasingly on this Newsletter as a more-or-less ongoing website activity, although for archival purposes and at the request of some of our Member Societies we have continued to publish and distribute printed versions, thanks to the good offices of Professor Kuçuradi in Ankara, and although earlier website versions are also available beginning with the issue of the winter of 1995. I had hoped to publish them biennially beginning with the spring of 2004, which would have yielded nine issues; instead, there have been only seven, due to a variety

of reasons. One reason is the very uneven flow of news from Member Societies, which has been quite encouraging at least at times, but which I would like to see expanded in the future.

Other endeavors involving publications are tentative and in the planning stage. These include an expanded third edition of *Philosophy Worldwide*, a new volume or volumes in the FISP series entitled "Ideas Underlying World Problems," and a project being investigated by George Leaman of the Philosophy Documentation Center to make as many as possible of the earlier World Congress Proceedings available on the Web.

There are at present five active FISP committees, three of which, the one on the teaching of Philosophy, the one on International Cooperation and Philosophical Encounters, and the one on General Policy, I have already mentioned. The others are the Committee on Human Rights and the Committee for the Ethics of Science and Technologies, Especially Bioethics. They have met regularly and undertaken future planning. I should also note that a set of proposals from the General Policy Committee for some changes in the FISP Statutes has been circulated in advance and will be voted on by the General Assembly.

At present, there is no committee on finances, as there used to be, because no new initiatives were being proposed in this regard. To me, this seems a very serious problem: Although the FISP Treasury is, in my opinion, in excellent hands under the wise direction of Guido Küng, who has now held this position for 25 years, FISP as a worldwide organization is to my mind quite underfunded, being much less well-off than, for example, some of its own Member Societies. I know that the functions of FISP, as a society of societies and not of individual members, are quite different, and so it may not require the same day-to-day attention as do some member societies. (But in fact it probably requires more year-round attention than do some others.) In any case, the need for FISP to try to find some new funding sources, in addition to Member Society dues, has been a repeated theme in my annual reports to the Steering Committee, and so I think it important to repeat it here in my final report as Secretary General.

I very much appreciate the opportunity that was given to me, initially by Peter Kemp when he nominated me, to serve in this capacity. I have sometimes been accused of being a Leibnizean – or congratulated for it, if you prefer – but I reject this epithet because I do not believe that this current world is the least bad of all possible worlds. But I do think that the notion of possible worlds, which is of course a recurrent theme in many a philosophical tradition, remains a useful one and can well be applied to drawing a comparison between the current state of FISP – which is not bad at all, as this World Congress attests – with its possible future state, which could be even better in several important respects. The philosophers still have a world to win – or something like that.

RAPPORT DU SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL DE LA FISP 2003-2008

Les cinq dernières années dans l'histoire de la FISP ont été caractérisées par un accroissement et par des initiatives et des réunions que je regarde comme valables et comme des réussites. Pas mal de nouvelles sociétés ont été approuvées comme membres pendant cette période, et quelques-unes parmi elles se sont montrées exceptionnellement dynamiques. Les nouvelles Sociétés Membres, y compris quelques-unes qui ont été réadmisses, sont les suivantes:

Association Internationale des Professeurs de Philosophie (AIPPh)

Association of Philosophers from Southeastern Europe

The British Philosophical Association

Chinese Association of Philosophy in Taiwan, China (readmitted)

Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (CRVP)

Croatian Philosophical Society

Danish Philosophical Association

Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children

Institute of Philosophy of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

International Association of Centers for Peirce Studies

International Society for Universal Dialogue (ISUD)

International Society for Value Inquiry

Korean Association of Social Scientists (readmitted)

Mulla Sadra Islamic Research Institute (SIPRI)

Philosophical Society of Macedonia

Philosophical Society of Nepal

Sociedad Académica de Filosofía (Spain)

Ukrainian Philosophical Foundation

Au moins une société de plus va être considérée comme candidat pour devenir un nouveau membre à la réunion du Comité Directeur qui aura lieu tout de suite avant le Congrès Mondial. Quelques sociétés membres se sont réinventées, pour ainsi dire, et sont devenues plus actives, tandis que, malheureusement mais presque inévitablement, il y en a quelques-unes dont le manque d'activité a été d'assez longue durée pour qu'il fasse voter dans l'Assemblée Générale sur l'annulation possible de leurs statuts en tant que membres. Mais en général notre direction semble être positive à cet égard.

Je vais d'abord résumer en ordre chronologique les réunions principales de la FISP, ou liées avec la FISP, dans la période à partir du dernier Congrès Mondial à Istanbul jusqu'à présent, puis traiter d'autres activités et questions. À la réunion du nouveau CD qui a eu lieu à la suite de ce Congrès-là, on a élu trois Vice-Présidents – Bhuvan Chandel, Myrto Dragona-Monachou, et Enrico Berti – et Peter Kemp m'a nommé comme Secrétaire Général, poste auquel on m'a élu. En novembre 2003 Peter Kemp s'est réuni avec nos collègues coréens à Séoul afin de préparer un accord sur le Congrès de 2008. Cet accord, quelque peu modifié, a été ratifié à la réunion du CD qui a eu lieu le 27 mars 2004 à l'Université Danoise d'Éducation à Copenhague. On y a pris des décisions préalables à propos du thème du Congrès, "Repenser la philosophie aujourd'hui," et à propos de la composition de la moitié du comité de programme qui viendrait du côté de la FISP: Gilbert Hottois, Président, et Betül Çotuksöken, Jean Ferrari, Thalia Fung Riverón, Sé mou Pathé Guèye, et William Sweet, membres. Comme d'habitude à l'occasion des réunions de la FISP, il y avait aussi une conférence liée, celle-ci sur le thème de "L'histoire dans l'enseignement," à laquelle plusieurs membres du CD de la FISP et plusieurs philosophes danois ont contribué. (Les communications données à cette conférence ont été publiées un an plus tard par The Danish University of Education Press de Copenhague, dans un livre rédigé par Peter Kemp, sous le titre *History in Education*.)

La première réunion du Comité de Programme a eu lieu à Séoul en avril 2005, accompagnée elle aussi d'une conférence dans laquelle quelques membres du Comité de Programme et quelques philosophes coréens ont participé; son thème: "Dialogues entre des cultures diverses." Les suggestions initiales venant de cette réunion ont fait partie de l'agenda de la réunion suivante du CD, qui a eu lieu vers la fin de mai 2005 à l'Université d'Helsinki. Le thème de la conférence liée avec cette réunion fut: "Réflexions métaphilosophiques: à propos des défis actuels de la philosophie." (À propos, les procès verbaux de cette réunion du CD et des deux réunions qui l'ont suivie se trouvent dans des Bulletins sur le site web de la FISP et dans les versions imprimées de ces Bulletins.)

Le Comité de Programme s'est réuni une fois de plus en Corée, cette fois à Daegu, à la suite d'une réunion de l'Association Philosophique Coréenne (son thème: "Vers une nouvelle dimension des dialogues trans-culturels") à la fin de mai 2006. Les décisions qui y ont été prises ont été discutées et modifiées à quelques égards à la réunion du CD, tenue sous l'égide de l'Institut de Philosophie de l'Académie Vietnamiennne des Sciences, le week-end suivant à Hanoi. Avec cette discussion les travaux du Comité de Programme ont touché à leur fin, et Peter Kemp a commencé son travail d'envoyer des invitations à ceux qui ont été choisis comme des conférenciers ou comme des présidents des symposiums et des sessions plénières. Le thème de la conférence liée avec cette réunion, une conférence dans laquelle, a-t-on dit, a participé le plus grand nombre de philosophes étrangers dans l'histoire du pays, comprenant des philosophes vietnamiens et des collègues de plusieurs autres pays de l'Asie, fut "Repenser le rôle de la philosophie dans l'époque globale," anticipant le thème du Congrès Mondial de Séoul.

Entre-temps, à la fin de février 2006, une conférence, organisée par Sé mou Pathé Guèye et avec la participation de notre comité pour l'enseignement de la philosophie, a eu lieu à l'Université Cheikh Anta Diop à Dakar. Plusieurs membres du CD de la FISP, avec beaucoup de collègues du Sénégal et d'autres pays de l'Afrique occidentale

francophone, y ont donné des communications sur le thème “Repenser l’enseignement de la philosophie, dans le contexte de la mondialisation, pour un dialogue des cultures et une paix universelle durable.” Le Directeur de la Section des Sciences Humaines et Sociales de l’UNESCO, M. Pierre Sané, y a prononcé un discours.

Au cours de la réunion de Hanoi, la Professeur Chandel a annoncé qu’un Congrès Mondial intermédiaire aurait lieu du 15 au 17 décembre de cette même année, 2006, à l’Université de Delhi sous l’égide de la FISP. Il a eu lieu comme prévu, ayant comme thème “La philosophie dans l’âge naissant de la société mondiale.” On l’a prononcé une grande réussite, surtout si l’on considère le peu de temps qu’il y avait eu pour le préparer. Y ont participé des philosophes de toutes les régions de l’Inde et de beaucoup d’autres pays – un millier, plus ou moins. La FISP y a eu plusieurs représentants.

La dernière réunion du CD avant celle qui a précédé le Congrès Mondial a eu lieu en mi-juin 2007 à Mali Lošinj en Croatie. La Société Philosophique Croate nous y a invités dans le contexte des “Journées de la Bioéthique à Lošinj,” une réunion annuelle qui est internationale. La discussion du CD s’est concentrée surtout (mais pas entièrement) sur le prochain Congrès Mondial, éloigné d’un peu plus d’une année.

Entre 2003 et 2008 les réunions du Bureau de la FISP – le Président, les trois Vice-Présidents, l’ancienne Présidente, le Secrétaire Général, et le Trésorier – ont eu lieu en liaison avec, et immédiatement avant, les réunions du CD. Il y avait une exception à cette règle: une réunion du Bureau en mi-septembre 2007 sous l’égide de l’Institut Harvard-Yenching à Cambridge dans le Massachusetts, organisée par son Directeur, Tu Weiming. Cette occasion a permis également une réunion des membres non-coréens – Gilbert Hottois, Peter Kemp, et moi-même – du Comité Exécutif du Congrès Mondial (qui a succédé le Comité de Programme) avec les membres coréens – Myung-Hyun Lee, Samuel Lee, Kihyeon Kim, et Jinho Kang – pour décider certains détails, surtout l’acceptation des propositions pour des Tables Rondes et des Sessions Invitées. La conférence qui a accompagné ces réunions, dans laquelle des collègues américains et chinois ont participé, a pris comme son thème “Repenser l’humanité: réflexions philosophiques mondiales au XXIe siècle,” en soulignant le dialogue Asie-Ouest.

Enfin, en mai dernier Peter Kemp et moi sommes allés à Séoul pour discuter l’organisation du Congrès Mondial une fois de plus avec nos collègues coréens. Cette réunion a été la dernière du Comité Exécutif du Congrès.

Ma première chronologie étant terminée, je vais maintenant mentionner d’autres activités dans lesquelles la FISP a participé ou auxquelles elle a au moins été représentée. D’abord, il y a la Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie, commencée par l’UNESCO à la suite d’une initiative de la Présidente de la FISP à l’époque, Ioanna Kuçuradi. Ayant lieu toujours vers la fin de novembre, la commémoration officielle s’est tenue pendant les premières années au siège de l’UNESCO à Paris. À la réunion de novembre 2003, la FISP a donné un colloque sous le titre “La justice globale: la philosophie face aux problèmes du 21e siècle.” Mais, à cause d’un problème dans nos communications, la FISP n’a pas participé formellement dans la “Journée” de novembre 2004 (tandis qu’un ou deux membres du CD de la FISP y ont parlé comme des individus). Après, on a pris la décision de tenir les Journées de la Philosophie dans des pays différents, en commençant avec le Chili en 2005. À cause d’une incertitude initiale à cet égard, la FISP avait décidé, avec la collaboration de l’Institut International de Philosophie (IIP) et du Conseil International pour la Philosophie et les Sciences (CIPSH), d’organiser une conférence à Paris, une semaine avant la réunion de Santiago de Chili, pour commémorer trois philosophes décédés, Paul Ricœur, Jean-Paul Sartre, et Raymond Aron; en fin de compte, cette conférence s’est tenue aussi sous l’égide de l’UNESCO. Il n’y avait pas de colloque de la FISP ni à Santiago ni à Rabat, au Maroc, le site de la Journée de 2006, tandis que dans ces deux cas des membres du CD y ont été invités en tant que représentants de la FISP. Puis, à l’occasion de la Journée qui a eu lieu à Istanbul en novembre 2007, il y avait une session de la FISP et une autre de la FISP conjointe avec l’IIP et le CIPSH; la présence de la FISP y a été reconnue dans d’autres manières aussi, notamment dans une cérémonie pour fêter la publication des derniers tomes des Actes du Congrès Mondial de 2003 (13 tomes en somme). Il me semble probable que la FISP continuera à jouer un rôle important dans les Journées Mondiales de la Philosophie de l’UNESCO dans les années prochaines. La Journée de 2008 aura lieu à Palerme, celle de 2009 à Moscou.

Entre-temps, il faut souligner que la Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie est censée être quelque chose de beaucoup plus large qu’une seule conférence de l’UNESCO. L’on espère qu’elle sera commémorée dans des pays et dans des régions partout dans le monde. Pas mal des Sociétés Membres de la FISP ont organisé de telles Journées dans leurs pays, souvent dans une manière impressionnante, et nous avons publié dans notre Bulletin les récits qu’ils nous en ont envoyés. J’espère qu’il sera possible pour la FISP d’encourager davantage de telles activités dans l’avenir.

Une autre activité annuelle importante de la FISP est son soutien de l’Olympiade Philosophique Internationale, une compétition pour des lycéens qui doivent composer des essais philosophiques. Chaque pays qui y participe y envoie deux étudiants, qui sont souvent les gagnants dans des compétitions nationales, avec un enseignant et un représentatif à l’IPO. Le lien entre la FISP et l’IPO est devenu plus fort dans ces dernières années. À une réunion à

Istanbul en septembre 2006, j'ai travaillé avec quelques représentants de l'IPO dans le but de modifier leurs statuts, y compris ceux qui concernent la FISP. Ces Olympiades ont lieu toujours au mois de mai. Celle de mai 2004, à laquelle la Professeur Chandel a représenté la FISP, s'est tenue à Séoul. J'ai assisté à celle de 2005 à Varsovie, il y avait la Professeur Kuçuradi et moi à Cosenza en Italie en 2006, et Peter Kemp et Jean Ferrari sont venus pour nous rejoindre à celle d'Antalya, en Turquie, en 2007. Cette année-ci, l'Olympiade a eu lieu à Iași en Roumanie, où le Président Kemp, la Professeur Kuçuradi, et moi avons assisté. Si je ne me trompe pas, cette Olympiade fut la plus grande Olympiade jusqu'à présent: des représentants de 23 pays y ont participé.

En tant que fédération, la FISP appartient au Conseil International pour la Philosophie et les Sciences Humaines, que j'ai déjà mentionné. Un membre du CD actuel de la FISP, Luca Scarantino, en est le Secrétaire Général adjoint. Le CIPSH se réunit tous les deux ans; aux deux dernières réunions, à Pékin en 2004 et à Alexandrie en Égypte en 2006, il s'est agi des réunions conjointes avec le CISS, l'organisation semblable pour les sciences sociales. Autrefois, c'était au moyen du CIPSH que l'on a obtenu des fonds, modestes mais réels, pour subventionner certaines initiatives de nos Sociétés Membres individuelles; mais récemment l'UNESCO a pu lui donner très peu d'argent à cause des problèmes financiers de l'UNESCO même. On peut espérer un avenir plus positif à cet égard; on verra. En tout cas, il y a une valeur dans une réunion bisannuelle avec des collègues qui appartiennent à d'autres organisations disciplinaires qui sont semblables à la FISP. La prochaine réunion conjointe aura lieu en automne prochain à Cape Town, en Afrique du Sud.

De temps en temps on nous a invités, Peter Kemp et/ou moi, à représenter la FISP dans une manière officielle à des réunions philosophiques diverses. Parmi les exemples les plus mémorables de cette espèce d'activité, pendant les cinq dernières années, je peux citer la participation de Peter Kemp dans la commémoration du 50e anniversaire de l'Université Catholique Parahyangan à Bandung en Indonésie en 2005, la mienne dans la commémoration du 50e anniversaire du Département de Philosophie de l'Université Fudan à Shanghai en 2006, et deux réunions philosophiques auxquelles j'ai assisté en Amérique Latine: celle de la Sociedad Argentina de Filosofía à Córdoba en automne 2007, et celle de l'Asociación Filosófica de México à Guadalajara en 2005, dans laquelle notre ancienne Présidente Kuçuradi a participé également.

Je voudrais ajouter deux remarques à propos des réunions autres que les Congrès Mondiaux quinquennaux. D'abord, nous voulons encourager l'organisation des congrès intermédiaires, soit mondiaux soit régionaux, tels que celui qui a eu lieu à New Delhi. Dans ce but, notre comité de la politique générale a préparé des règles concernant de telles initiatives; ces règles ont été adoptées par le CD et se trouvent sur notre site web. Deuxièmement, je voudrais souligner les efforts de l'une de nos Sociétés Membres très actives, le Council for Research in Values in Philosophy, sous la direction de George McLean, qui a organisé des réunions dans plusieurs parties du monde et en a fait publier les Actes. Le CD, à une de ses propres réunions, a voté son approbation en principe à l'égard de ces initiatives, dont quelques-unes ont été assez extraordinaires.

Les publications de la FISP depuis le dernier Congrès Mondial comprennent les Actes de ce Congrès que j'ai mentionnés déjà; les Actes de plusieurs conférences dans lesquelles des membres du CD ont participé (notamment la publication, déjà mentionnée, *History in Education*); un livre qui s'intitule *La différence anthropologique à l'ère des biotechnologies*, qui est le résultat de la conférence de 2002 à Lyon et qui a été publié par la Faculté de l'Université Jean Moulin de Lyon; et *L'enseignement des droits humains d'une perspective philosophique*, en grecque avec des résumés en anglais, publié à Athènes par Hellena Grammata et rédigé par Myrto Dragona-Monachou Mais, à part les Actes du Congrès Mondial, la publication la plus ambitieuse de la FISP des cinq dernières années a été le livre rédigé par Maija Küle, la présidente de notre comité de coopération internationale et des rencontres philosophiques, qui s'intitule *Philosophy Worldwide: Current Situation*. Sa deuxième édition est beaucoup élargie par rapport à la première. Les deux éditions ont été publiées par l'Institut de Philosophie et Sociologie de l'Université de Lettonie et se trouvent aussi sur le site web de la FISP dans deux Bulletins récents. La nouvelle édition contient vingt articles sur la situation actuelle de la philosophie autour du monde, tandis qu'il y a encore, bien sûr, beaucoup de pays et de régions qui y manquent. Je le considère comme quelque chose de très valable, qui mérite beaucoup plus d'attention de la part de notre profession qu'il n'a encore obtenue.

Maintenant je voudrais parler de ma propre publication principale au service de la FISP, le Bulletin que je rédige. Pendant les cinq dernières années on a traité ce Bulletin comme quelque chose de plus ou moins continu sur le site web, tandis que, afin de mieux garder les archives, et aussi parce que certaines Sociétés Membres le veulent, on publie et distribue toujours des versions imprimées, grâce aux soins de la Professeur Kuçuradi à Ankara. (Il faut remarquer aussi que des versions électroniques des Bulletins antérieurs à partir de l'hiver 1995 existent sur le site web.) J'avais espéré publier un Bulletin deux fois par an à partir de celui du printemps 2004, ce qui en aurait produit neuf numéros; au lieu de quoi, il n'y en a eu que sept, pour des raisons diverses. Une de ces raisons, c'est que les Sociétés Membres envoient leurs nouvelles à une vitesse irrégulière; parfois c'est très rassurant, mais je serais content si l'on en recevait davantage dans l'avenir.

Il y a d'autres projets de publication qui restent incertains. On peut mentionner une troisième édition, plus ample, de *Philosophy Worldwide*; un ou plusieurs nouveaux tomes dans la série de la FISP qui s'intitule "Ideas Underlying World Problems"; et une initiative de George Leaman, du Philosophy Documentation Center, pour mettre autant que possible des Actes des Congrès Mondiaux précédents sur le site web.

Actuellement il y a cinq comités de la FISP qui sont actifs, dont j'ai déjà mentionné trois: le comité pour l'enseignement de la philosophie, le comité de coopération et des rencontres internationales, et le comité de la politique générale. Les deux autres sont le comité pour les droits humains et le comité pour l'éthique de la science et des technologies, surtout la bioéthique. Ils se sont réunis régulièrement et ont fait des projets pour l'avenir. Il faut noter aussi que le comité de la politique générale a formulé quelques propositions concernant des changements dans les Statuts de la FISP; elles ont été circulées d'avance et seront votées par l'Assemblée Générale.

Pour le moment il n'y a pas de comité des finances, tandis qu'il y en avait un autrefois, parce que personne n'a proposé de nouvelles initiatives à cet égard. Ceci me semble un problème sérieux. Tandis que la trésorerie de la FISP est, à mon avis, très bien administrée par le sage Guido Küng, qui tient ce poste depuis 25 ans, la FISP, en tant qu'organisation mondiale, reste assez appauvrie, ayant beaucoup moins de fonds, par exemple, que quelques-unes de ses propres Sociétés Membres. Je sais que l'on pourrait dire que la FISP, étant une société des sociétés au lieu d'être composée de personnes individuelles, a des fonctions bien différentes des sociétés de cette espèce-ci, fonctions qui n'exigent pas la même attention quotidienne. (Mais en réalité la FISP exige probablement plus d'attention au cours d'une année que n'exigent quelques-unes de nos Sociétés Membres.) En tout cas, j'ai toujours insisté, dans mes rapports annuels, sur la nécessité de faire un effort pour trouver de nouvelles ressources financières en dehors des cotisations annuelles payées par nos Sociétés Membres; ainsi, il me semble important de répéter la même chose dans mon dernier rapport comme Secrétaire Général.

Je suis très reconnaissant de la possibilité qui m'a été offerte, d'abord par Peter Kemp quand il m'a nommé, de tenir ce poste. On m'a parfois accusé – ou, si vous préférez, félicité – d'être un leibnizien – mais je rejette cette étiquette parce que je ne crois pas que ce monde actuel est le moins mauvais des mondes possibles. Je crois néanmoins que ce concept des mondes possibles, qui est un thème commun à beaucoup de traditions philosophiques, reste valable, et que l'on peut en servir en faisant une comparaison entre l'état actuel de la FISP – qui n'est pas du tout mauvais, comme témoigne ce Congrès Mondial – avec son état futur possible, qui pourrait être meilleur à plusieurs égards. Les philosophes ont encore un monde à gagner – ou quelque chose de semblable.

William L. McBride

1.5. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Welcome address (Peter Kemp)

2. Approval of the agenda

3. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly of 2003 (Istanbul)

4. Report of the President

5. Report of the Secretary General / Steering Committee

6. Report of the Treasurer and Budget 2008-13

7. Report of the auditors

8. Proposals from member societies:

(a) from the Philosophical Society of Nepal, to support the formation of a cooperative society for philosophical development in South Asia

(b) from the Istituto Italiano per Gli Studi Filosofici, to present the guidelines of the projects of UNESCO and of CIPSH to the Assembly, as a way of encouraging members' participation in such initiatives. Announcement of a new UNESCO initiative concerning research in philosophy worldwide

(c) from the Russian Philosophical Society, a request to FISP that it formulate some guidelines to aid in the commemoration of the World Philosophy Day

9. Modifications of statutes and bye-laws (already sent to Member Societies)

10. Invitation for the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy

11. Election of the President of the Federation

12. Election of new members of the Steering Committee

13. Varia

14. In memoriam Venant Cauchy (Evandro Agazzi, William Sweet)

15. Adjournment

1. Mot de bienvenue (Peter Kemp)

2. Approbation de l'ordre du jour

3. Approbation du procès-verbal de l'Assemblée Générale de 2003 (Istanbul)

4. Rapport du Président

5. Rapport du Secrétaire Général / Comité Directeur

6. Rapport du Trésorier / Budget 2008-13

7. Rapport des vérificateurs

8. Propositions des Sociétés - Membres:

(a) de la Société Philosophique du Népal, pour la formation d'une société coopérative pour avancer l'évolution philosophique en Sud-Asie

(b) de l'Istituto Italiano per Gli Studi Filosofici, pour présenter à l'Assemblée les esquisses des projets de l'UNESCO et du CIPSH, afin d'encourager la participation des membres dans ces initiatives. Avis concernant une nouvelle initiative de l'UNESCO à propos de la recherche philosophique à l'échelle globale

(c) de la Société Philosophique Russe, une demande à la FISP qu'elle formule des recommandations pour la commémoration de la Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie

9. Modifications des Statuts et des Règlements de la FISP (déjà envoyées aux Sociétés - Membres)

10. Invitation en vue de l'organisation du XXXIIIe Congrès Mondial de Philosophie

11. Election du Président de la Fédération

12. Election de nouveaux membres du Comité Directeur

13. Varia

14. In memoriam Venant Cauchy (Evandro Agazzi, William Sweet)

15. Levée de l'Assemblée

DELEGATES, ALTERNATES, AND OBSERVERS

National Society Members:

Allemagne	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Philosophie	Stefan Gosepath Rolf Elberfeld
Argentine	Sociedad Argentina de Filosofia	Lourdes Velazquez
Belgique	Belgian Soc. for Logic & Phil. of Science Société Philosophique de Louvain	Anne Fagot-Largeault Nicolas Monseu
Bulgarie	Bulgarian Philosophical Association	Plamen Makariev
Canada	Canadian Philosophical Association	Donald Ipperciel Frank Cunningham
Chine	Institute of Philosophy of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Institute of Philosophy of the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences	Jigang Shan Yuanmeng Yu
Corée du Sud	Chinese Association of Philosophy in Taiwan Korean Philosophical Association	Cristal Huang Samuel Lee Hyung Chul Kim
Croatie	Croatian Philosophical Association	Mislav Kukoc
Cuba	Sociedad Cubana de Filosofía	Hector Samour
Danemark	Danish Philosophical Association Filosofisk Forum	Finn Collin Jacob Rendtorff
Espagne	Sociedad Académica de Filosofía	Angel Faerna
Etats-Unis	American Philosophical Association	David Schrader Nicholas Smith Lijun Yuan
Finlande	Charles S. Peirce Society Philosophical Society of Finland	Sami Pihlström Sami Pihlström
France	Société Française de Philosophie	Jean-Jacques Wunenburger
Grande Bretagne	British Philosophical Association Royal Institute of Philosophy	Mark Evans Robin Attfield
Grèce	Greek Philosophical Society Fondation de Recherche et d'Édition Philosophique Néohellénique Société Hélienne d'Études Philosophiques	Panagiota Rapti Evangelos A. Moutsopoulos Evangelos A. Moutsopoulos
Hongrie	Hungarian Philosophical Society	Attila Pató
Inde	Centre for the Study of Civilizations Indian Council of Philosophical Research Indian Philosophical Congress All India Philosophy Association	S. K. Singh K. Ramakrishna Rao S. K. Singh S. P. Dubey
Iran	Sadra Islamic Philosophy Research Institute	Musa S. Dibadj
Irlande	Royal Irish Academy (Philosophy Committee)	Julia Jansen
Italie	Associazione Filosofia Ligure Centro di Studi Filosofici di Gallarate Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici Istituto Italiano di Studi Filosofici 'Enrico Castelli' Società Filosofica Italiana	Lourdes Velazquez Evandro Agazzi In Suk Cha Riccardo Pozzo
Japon	Japan National Committee for Philosophy, the Science Council of Japan	Keiichi Noe Hiroshi Marui
Lettonie	Inst. of Phi. & Sociology, Univ. of Latvia	Rihards Kulis
Maroc	Association Marocaine de Philosophie (AMP)	Samad Tamouro
Mexique	Asociacion Filosofica de México	Gabriel Vargas Raymundo Morado
Nepal	Philosophical Society of Nepal	Yubraj Aryal
Pologne	Polski Towarzystwo Filozoficzne	Aleksander Bobko
Roumanie	Section of Phil., Theology, Psychology, and Pedagogy of the Romanian Academy	Marin Aiftinca
Russie	Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences Russian Philosophical Society	Vladislav Lektorsky Abdusalam Guseinov Vyacheslav Stiopin Aleksander Chumakov
Suisse	Société Suisse de Philosophie	

Turquie	Schweizerische Philosophische Gesellschaft Philosophical Society of Turkey	Francis Cheneval Sevgi Iyi
<i>International Society Members:</i>		
	Académie Internationale de Philosophie des Sciences	Fabio Minazzi
	Afro-Asian Philosophy Association	S.K. Singh
	Asociación de Filosofía y Liberación (AFYL)	Enrique Dussel
	Association des Sociétés de Philosophie de Langue Française (ASPLF)	Evanghelos Moutsopoulos
	Association Internationale des Professeurs de Philosophie (AIPPh)	Werner Busch
	Association of Philosophers from Southeast Europe	Plamen Makariev
	Conseil Interafricain de Philosophie	P.J. Bamougou
	Council for Research in Values and Philosophy	George F. McLean
	Gottfried-Wilhelm-Leibniz Gesellschaft	Wenchao Li
	Institut International de Philosophie	Peter McCormick
	International Association of Greek Philosophy	Maria Adam
	International Society for Chinese Philosophy	Chung Ying Cheng
	International Society for Metaphysics	Noriko Hashimoto
	International Society for Universal Dialogue	Edward Demenchonok
	International Society for Value Inquiry	Robin Attfield
	Internationale Assoziation von Philosophinnen (IAPh)	Bettina Schmitz
	Tomonobu Imamichi Institute for Eco-ethics	Tomonobu Imamichi
	World Union of Catholic Philosophical Societies	Oliva Blanchette
	International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies	Jean-Luc De Paepe (observer)

1. Welcome Address

Professor Kemp welcomes the delegates of the member societies of FISP and the CD members, thanks them for being there and for participating in the Congress, and proposes to try to have the General Assembly finish before lunch.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is unanimously approved.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the General Assembly of 2003 (Istanbul)

The minutes are unanimously approved.

4. Report of the President

The President presents his report distributed in English and in French to the GA members. The report is unanimously approved.

5. Report of the Secretary General

The Secretary General reads his report in English and in French. To the report's list of new member societies, he adds: Some of these societies are not new members as such but re-admitted member societies. Moreover, the list has the Charles S. Peirce society as a new member whereas the new member is in fact the International Association of Centers for Peirce Studies. The first society is indeed a member and has been for quite a while. The Secretary General urges member societies to send news of their activities for publication on the FISP website and in the FISP News-Letter. Ivan Kaltchev, Bulgaria expresses his satisfaction with the report; however, he would have appreciated having a presentation of each of the new member societies. K. Ramakrishna Rao, India congratulates FISP for all the activities that have been arranged during the past 5 years; however, he requests even more activities and suggests that each year of the coming 5 year period a symposium, a conference or a seminar be arranged on a different continent forming an international global forum for discussion towards a better world on each of the 5 continents. The Secretary General replies that indeed FISP always encourages efforts from member societies to initiate activities. Bertrand Bamougou, Camérroun proposes the creation of a committee of the arts. Pató Attila,

Hungary expresses his thanks to both the present and the past president for the support of the International Philosophical Olympiads. Peter Kemp urges member societies to promote the IPOs by encouraging teachers and pupils to participate in the IPOs. Yubraj Aryal, Nepal expresses the need for support of member societies' activities. The President responds that FISP always supports all philosophical activities.

The Report of the Secretary General is unanimously approved.

6) & 7) Report of the Treasurer and budget 2008-2013/Report of the Auditors

The Treasurer Guido Küng has had to refrain from participating in the World Congress for health reasons. Gerhard Seel replaces him. He presents the Treasurer's report that was earlier distributed. The Report proposes to drop from membership the following societies that have not paid their fees for many years and from which FISP has no received no response to requests for contact for a long time:

- Société de Philosophie du Québec
- Société philosophique de Kinshasa (SOPHIK)
- American Catholic Philosophical Association
- Association Marocaine de Philosophie
- Mongolie : Institute of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Sciences
- Peru : Instituto de investigaciones filosoficas
- Sociedad Peruana de Filosofia
- Arab Philosophical Society
- Internationale Hegel-Gesellschaft e.V.

Evandro Agazzi suggests postponing the elimination from the members' list of Instituto de investigaciones filosoficas, Peru, and William Sweet does the same regarding Société de Philosophie du Québec.

The CD recommends approving the Treasurer's proposal except that concerning Association Marocaine de Philosophie, which now has a totally new direction and with which there have been recent contacts. The President mentions that it may be better for a society to be excluded and have its debt abolished and then perhaps be readmitted later after application.

David Evans claims that it is important not to weaken the discipline of enforcing FISP rules.

The report and the proposal to drop the societies listed except for Association Marocaine de Philosophie is approved with one abstention.

Note: Subsequent to the World Congress, contact was renewed with the Société de Philosophie du Québec, the American Catholic Philosophical Association, and the Internationale Hegel-Gesellschaft e.V.)

The Treasurer's Report proposes to change the basis of FISP accounting from Swiss Francs to Euros. O. Blanchette suggests that the change to Euros gives FISP a Western flavour; however, he has no alternative proposal to offer. The proposal is put to vote: against 5, abstention 2; the proposal is approved.

The Report proposes an increase of fees as follows:

- for Corresponding Members with 0 votes: 80 EUR
- for Full Members with 1 vote (societies with 100-500 members): 150 EUR
- for Full Members with 2 votes (societies with 500-1500 members): 300 EUR
- for Full Members with 3 votes (societies with 1500-3500 members): 600 EUR

- for Full Members with 4 votes (societies with over 3500 members): 900 EUR

The proposal is approved.

Upon request by K. Ramakrishna Rao, India it is advised that the budget proposed is based on the fees valid until today, i.e. not including the increase that has been proposed and approved. In that case he suggests that a new budget be made including the income from the increased fees in order for the delegates to see the activities to be covered by the proposed budget. David Schrader, USA reminds the Assembly that a budget is a guess, an estimate.

The budget is put to vote: Against 0, abstentions 0; the budget is unanimously approved.

The Report proposes Gerhard Seel and Edouard Marbach to continue as auditors and approval of the Treasurer's Report as a whole. Peter McCormick, Canada requests to know if the FISP accounts are audited by a public/professional auditing company. G. Seel advises that that is not the case. He explains the procedures according to which the accounts have been kept until now and informs the Assembly of the fact that the auditing of the accounts by such a company is very expensive. The President stresses that what is important is that the auditors are considered to be honest and intelligent people, and that paying professional auditors to do the work seems unnecessary. He asks P. McCormick if he wishes to propose that FISP accounts be audited by professional auditors. P. McCormick says that he does not, and expresses his satisfaction with the response. The proposals of the two auditors and approval of the Treasurer's Report as a whole are put to vote: Objections 0, abstentions 0; the proposal is unanimously approved. The reports are approved.

8. Proposals from member societies:

(a) from the Philosophical Society of Nepal, to support the formation of a cooperative society for philosophical development in South Asia.

(b) from the Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici, to present the guidelines of the projects of UNESCO and of CIPSH to the Assembly, as a way of encouraging members' participation in such initiatives. Announcement of a new initiative from UNESCO concerning research in philosophy worldwide.

(c) from the Russian Philosophical Society, a request that FISP formulate guidelines for the observance of World Philosophy Day.

Re (a): The President remarks that as earlier stated it is in the nature of FISP to support such initiatives. He stresses that as a FISP member society, the Society has the full support of FISP, hence no vote is needed.

Re (b): A School of Freedom - Maija Kūle's edited collection of essays should be utilized in the new initiative – contributions by the end of this year. The President remarks that this is an announcement rather than a proposal so no vote is necessary.

Re (c): The President suggests that Marietta Stepaniants propose the matter to the new President and the new CD.

George McLean speaks in support of strengthening the importance of philosophy in the world.

9. Modifications of Statutes and Bye-Laws (already sent to member societies)

David Evans is asked to present the proposal.

The matter of the Statutes: No comments, no objections; the proposal is approved.

The matter of the Bye-Laws: abolishes the age limit and makes other modifications. No comments, no objections; the proposal is approved.

10. Invitation for the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy

The Greek Philosophical Society's President, Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou, presents the invitation to have the XXIII World Congress held in Athens.

No objections, no abstentions and hence, the proposal is approved.

11. Election of the President of the Federation

William McBride presents his candidacy as future President of FISP. As there are no other candidates proposed there is no need for vote, so he is elected with applause.

12. Election of new members of the Steering Committee

The delegates are asked to deliver their ballots. W. McBride advises the assembly that the count of votes will be made after the General Assembly. The count will be made by Jean Ferrari, David Evans and Gilbert Hottos. The results will be published at the information desk in hall B73 and if possible at the main hotels.

The President advises the Assembly that the delegates may vote for as many candidates as they wish, but that if they vote for everyone, the ballot has in reality no influence.

(The names of those elected are posted on the FISP website, www.fisp.org, under "Administrative Bodies".)

13. Varia

No remarks.

14. In Memoriam: Honorary President Venant Cauchy (Evandro Agazzi, William Sweet)

E. Agazzi reads an obituary for V. Cauchy.

W. Sweet makes a short speech in memoriam of Honorary President Venant Cauchy (see below).

15. Adjournment

Peter Kemp wishes to thank all members of the C.D. who are now terminating their membership of the C.D. for the work they have done for FISP. Many of them have done marvellous work.

The General Assembly adjourns at 12.30 p.m.

PK & HmiaH

Venant Cauchy

I would like to say a few words in memoriam Venant Cauchy (18 May 1924 – 30 March 2008), Honorary President of FISP and Professeur émérite in the Department of Philosophy at the Université de Montréal, who passed away on 30 March.

Venant was a major figure in building philosophy and philosophical dialogue in Canada and around the world.

He was born in North Bay, Ontario, but completed his studies at the Université de Montréal, where he obtained his doctorate in 1947, at the age of 23. After teaching for several years in the United States, he moved to Montreal in 1957. He was a specialist in ancient Greek philosophy, and his major publications were on the difficult question of the modal syllogism in Aristotelian logic.

But Venant is best known to us all as a builder and a promoter of dialogue

He was among the founders of the Canadian Philosophical Association, of which he later served as President. He was a co-founder and founding editor of the Canadian philosophical review, appropriately called Dialogue. He was a founder of the Société philosophique du Québec. And, drawing on the support of his large family, and especially his wife Denyse, he was the principal organizer of a number of major philosophical conferences that sought to enlarge the philosophical community.

In 1971 he organised the 15th Congress of the Association des sociétés de langue française. In 1983, he was the principal organiser of the 17th World Congress of Philosophy, and in 1992 he invited some 1500 researchers to participate in the World Congress on Violence and Human Existence.

And though he received many honours, including an honorary doctorate from the University of Athens in 1987, he never sought personal recognition.

Venat was active until shortly before his death, and among his last work was his editing of the volume on Philosophy of Culture(s) that forms part of the Proceedings of the XXI World Congress of Philosophy.

Venat always sought to promote dialogue across the philosophical community, He was committed to the universality of philosophy – but to a universality that was always rooted in the particular. He will be greatly missed by us all.

William Sweet

1.6. Minutes of the Meeting of the Steering Committee (July 29th, 2008)

William McBride (Secretary General), Gerhard Seel (replacing Guido Küng (Treasurer)), Bhuvan Chandel, Myrto Dragona-Monachou (Vice-Presidents), William Sweet, Tran van Doan, Basilio Rojo Ruiz, Jean Ferrari, Gilbert Hottois, Ivan Kaltchev, Maija Kūle, Herta Nagl, Thalia Fung Riverón, Konstantine Boudouris, Luca Maria Scarantino, Thomás Calvo-Martínez, Marcelo Dascal, Ilkka Niiniluoto, Hans Lenk, Hans Poser, Yao Jiehou, Marietta Stepaniants, Yersu Kim, Dermot Moran, Sengaku Mayeda.

Absent: F. Miro Quesada (Honorary President), Enrico Berti (Vice-Président), Evandro Agazzi (Honorary President), Bernard Bourgeois, Betül Çotuksöken, Sé mou Pathé Guèye, Paulin Hountondji, Rudolf Haller, Keith Lehrer.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 13-14, 2007 in Mali Lošinj

The minutes were approved.

2. Brief Review of the Activities of the Past 5 Years

A report from the President was distributed in English and was presented orally in French. A more detailed report will be presented to the General Assembly.

The Secretary General had already sent his report a while ago. He informed the CD that upon his request for guidance in this matter the Bureau had expressed a consensus that he should present his report in full to the GA, and it was suggested that he might mix the English and French parts. He added that the *L'enseignement des droits humains d'une perspective philosophique* mentioned on the report's page 11 was edited by Myrto Dragona-Monachou. Moreover, the list has the Charles S. Peirce society as a new member whereas the new member is in fact the International Association of Charles S. Peirce. The first society is indeed a member and has been for quite a while.

The reports were approved.

Marietta Stepaniants had no comments on the President's report as such, but rather on the information given that the WCP Executive Committee had accepted the KOC's request for financial reasons to eliminate Russian from the languages used in the translation of speeches at the Congress; she was very sorry about it, especially as the Russian contingent of participants is the biggest. She suggested that an explanation be given for this at the opening session, stressing that it should not be considered a definite elimination of Russian from the FISP WC official languages; the suggestion was accepted.

3. Consideration of 3 New Membership Applications: Nigerian Philosophical Association, The Self-Governing Institution Tomonobu Imamichi Institute for Eco-Ethics, and (just received) The Irish Philosophical Society

The Bureau had agreed to suggest to the CD to approve admission of the two latter societies and approval of the first only after some investigation to establish whether the University of Benin is indeed located in Nigeria. The CD empowered the Bureau to decide – before the meeting of the General Assembly – if the Association could be admitted. (The later investigation by the Bureau resulted in a decision to admit the Association.)

4. Consideration of Treasurer's Report, esp. w/ respect to proposals for Increasing the Dues and Moving from the Swiss Franc to the Euro as Basic Currency

The Treasurer's Report, including the Auditors' Report and Budget, was distributed and presented briefly by Gerhard Seel. The proposals to change FISP's accounting currency from Swiss Francs to Euros and to raise the fees as indicated in the report were approved.

It was discussed whether there was an inconsistency between the mention of both full and corresponding members in the Treasurer's report and the proposal to omit the mention of "full members" in the Bye-Laws reg. art. 11. After some discussion it was decided that there is no inconsistency.

In his report the Treasurer suggested proposing to the General Assembly the elimination of certain member societies that have not paid their dues for a number of years. After some discussion the proposal was put to vote; the result was

- exclusion of all societies except Association Marocaine de Philosophie (because L.M. Scarantino reported that the Association had reorganized itself fully since FISP was last in contact with it): 10 votes

- postponement of exclusion: 7 votes

- abstention: 3 votes

Certain CD members proposed to investigate why the societies with which they had contact had not paid their membership, and why they had chosen to risk exclusion.

5. Issues Concerning the Forthcoming General Assembly Meeting

W. McBride called for CD members who would volunteer to participate in the press conference at 2 p.m. after the Congress opening.

The proposed change of the Bye-Laws (presented at earlier Bureau and CD meetings, too) was discussed, in particular with regard to article 5 in Chapter 2 about the number of CD members allowed from each country. The article may be interpreted in 2 ways:

- a) Strict interpretation: The CD may have one additional – and only one - member of the same nationality if one member was nominated by an international member society.

- b) Liberal interpretation: The CD may have more than 2 members from the same country if the additional members were nominated by international societies.

The matter was put to vote:

- a) the liberal view: 15 votes

- b) the strict view: 8

- c) abstention: 1

It was suggested that the CD should deal with the matter further and see to it that the wording is clear and does not give rise to various interpretations.

Luca Scarantino brought forward a request to FISP from Prof. Kadachi to support a resolution made at a recent meeting in Hiroshima opposing the use of depleted uranium in military weapons.

B. Chandel suggested that someone should make a speech in memoriam for distinguished philosophers deceased since the last GA. W. Sweet accepted to do so in conjunction with E. Agazzi in memoriam of V. Cauchy (item 14 of the GA agenda).

6. Varia

Nothing to report.

PK& HmiaH

1.7. Meeting of the New Steering Committee (August 4, 2009)

Seoul National University, August 4th, 2008, 11 a.m.

Minutes

Procès verbal de la séance du Comité Directeur

Université Nationale de Séoul, 4 août 2008, 11h

Present/Présents: William McBride (President), Evandro Agazzi, Ioanna Kuçuradi (Honorary Presidents), Peter Kemp (Past President), Günter Abel, Tanella Boni, Thomás Calvo-Martínez, Bhuvan Chandel, Joseph Chemeka Achike Agbakoba, Marcelo Dascal, Thalia Fung Riverón, Ivan Kaltchev, Mislav Kuko ?, Maija Küle, Samuel Lee, Ernest Lepore, Dermot Moran, Herta Nagl, Ilkka Niiniluoto, Sé mou Pathé Guèye, Hans Poser, Riccardo Pozzo, Jacob Dahl Rendtorff, Ken-Ichi Sasaki, Luca Maria Scarantino, David Schrader, Gerhard Seel, Marietta Stepaniants, William Sweet, Tran Van Doan, Pham Van Duc, Lourdes Velázquez, Stelios Virvidakis, Xie Dikun, Warayuth Sriwarakuel.

Absent: Francisco Miró Quesada (Honorary President), Gholamreza Aavani, Betül Çotuksöken, Didier Deleule, Paulin Hountondji, Hyung Chul Kim, Basilio Rojo Ruiz, Tu Weiming.

The C.D. members gave short self-presentations.

1. Approval of the Agenda

President McBride added a supplementary item: Ratification of the positions of Guido Küng as Treasurer and David Evans as Chairman of the General Policy Committee. The agenda was approved with this amendment.

2. Election of 3 Vice-Presidents

W. McBride advised that he would like to propose Marietta Stepaniants, Herta Nagl and Betül Çotuksöken as Vice-Presidents. No other eligible candidates were proposed. Ballots were distributed; the subsequent count showed that the three candidates were elected in the order mentioned as First, Second and Third Vice-President respectively.

3. Election of the new Secretary General

W. McBride advised that he would like to propose Luca Maria Scarantino as Secretary General. He was unanimously elected with applause.

4. Election of Program Committee

It was decided to postpone the election of the World Congress Program Committee to the next C.D. meeting, to be held in Spring 2009.

4a. Ratification of the Positions of Guido Küng as Treasurer and David Evans as President of the General Policy Committee

Both positions were ratified.

5. FISP Committee Memberships

It was agreed that the current Chairpersons and members of the different consultative committees would continue at least until the next C.D. meeting. New C.D. members wishing to participate in the committees' work are expected to express their wish to be a member of one or another committee. The Chairs of the committees are then as follows:

General Policy Committee: D. Evans.

The Committee on Intercultural Research in Philosophy: W. Sweet.

Committee on Philosophical Encounters and International Cooperation: M. Küle.

Committee on the Teaching of Philosophy: J. Ferrari.

The Committee for the Ethics of Science and Technologies, Especially Bioethics: G. Hottois.

Committee on Human Rights: M. Dragona-Monachou.

The current composition of each committee may be consulted on the website of FISP, at this address:
www.fisp.org/committees.htm.

Several suggestions for creating new committees were made, particularly on the history of philosophy (H. Poser), on the arts and aesthetics (Sasaki, Boni and Seel) and for the promotion of philosophy (Tran Van Doan and Guèye). After some discussion it was decided to continue the discussion at a later meeting. Each proposal to create a new committee shall be accompanied by a clear justificatory statement.

Several suggestions for creating new committees were made, particularly on the history of philosophy (H. Poser), on the arts and aesthetics (Sasaki, Boni and Seel) and for the promotion of philosophy (Tran Van Doan and Guèye). After some discussion it was decided to continue the discussion at a later meeting. Each proposal to create a new committee shall be accompanied by a clear justificatory statement.

It was agreed that the Committee on Philosophical Encounters and International Cooperation, chaired by M. Küle, will contribute to the new UNESCO/CIPSH International Report on Research in Philosophy. The work already done by the Committee represents a good basis for the contribution of the FISP to this Report.

6. Proposal for Permanent Office and Administrative Secretary

W. McBride and L. Scarantino are investigating the possibilities of e.g. establishing a small office at CIPSH's address in Paris and of employing part-time secretarial assistance. They expect to know more during the upcoming autumn.

7. Possible Venue(s) and Date(s) for Next C.D. Meeting(s)

A meeting by early next May is preferred, in order to avoid any overlapping with the Hong Kong Conference on "Kant in Asia", to be held on May 20-23, 2009. L. Scarantino reminded the C.D. of a previous invitation from Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici to have a C.D. meeting in Naples. S. P. Guèye suggested investigating the possibilities for having another meeting in Dakar, as the meeting and conference held there in early 2006 had been very successful. However, there is much too short a time to arrange a meeting in Dakar in May 2009.

8. New Initiatives to be Proposed

W. McBride urged all C.D. members to consider what they would most like FISP to do. His own first suggestions were to have the website ameliorated and to have a philosophical calendar on the lines of the calendar maintained until a few years ago by Nancy Simco of the American Philosophical Association. D. Schrader mentioned the APA's own current website calendar.

S. Lee advised the C.D. of the plans of the Korean Philosophical Association to endow a WCP lecture on philosophical dialogue between East and West. A detailed proposal would be made at the next C.D. meeting.

H. Nagl reported that many paper contributors have asked if there are plans to have proceedings from the 22-rd WCP published. S. Lee affirmed that this was being planned, perhaps in 10 volumes. The KOC intends to get advice from I. Kuçuradi and W. McBride.

Regarding the 23rd WCP, S.P. Guèye expressed his regrets that, judging from the draft budget, the organizers did not expect any speakers from Africa. S. Virvidakis said that this was certainly not intentional and that it must be a mistake. He would make sure to have it corrected. L. Scarantino noted that in any case there were several other things that needed to be revised in the budget. President McBride remarked that the budget would be established after negotiations between FISP and the Greek Organizing Committee.

9. Varia

M. Kukoc suggested that, at the next General Assembly, it should be possible for each nominee to the C.D. to make a brief self-presentation. However, it was noted that this might raise some difficulty with the agenda, depending on the number of candidates.

1.8 Composition of the new CD / Composition du nouveau CD

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1.9. Address of the New President of FISP at the Closing Session of the World Congress

Discours du Nouveau Président de la FISP à la Cérémonie de Clôture du Congrès Mondial

LOOKING AHEAD

Another World Congress has come and gone, and it is in a way necessary, but by this time in a way superfluous, to thank our hosts once more, along with all the other contributors from FISP and elsewhere, beginning with my distinguished predecessor, Peter Kemp, for all that they have done. This event has showcased philosophy in the Republic of Korea, and on a larger scale it has showcased philosophy in all of Asia. I am confident that this source of enlightenment, *ex Oriente lux*, which is still unfortunately relatively unknown to most Western thinkers – as a result of which past World Congresses of Philosophy have been almost exclusively Western-centered and Western-based – will not at all recede just because the next World Congress is to take place back in the cradle of Western philosophy. I think that we have become irrevocably more truly global than we have ever been in the past.

While philosophies, both Eastern and Western, date from millennia, the institutions within which we are operating are of relatively recent origin. FISP was created within my own lifetime, and the first modern World Congress took place when my father was already a young child, so it is not surprising that we continue to innovate and to seek new ways of organizing and reorganizing ourselves and of reaching out to the troubled larger world of which we are a part. In this spirit I ask all here present to make suggestions to me, and to ask your colleagues who are not present

here to make suggestions to me, concerning ways in which both future World Congresses and especially FISP might be improved, might do more. I shall share your ideas with the FISP Board and Steering Committee, and I strongly hope and expect that our organization will undergo considerable evolution of a positive kind within the coming five-year period.

Among the aspirations that I personally hold highest is that we philosophers, all of us distinctive individuals but having in common the love of wisdom, however we may understand that idea, may be a dynamic force for rationality and peace. In order to have a chance to influence our world, to be a dynamic force, we need to have some sense of community – not a stifling, conformist sort of community, but community nevertheless. This can be enhanced, concretely, by such events as regional meetings and the celebration of World Philosophy Day in November each year, and also, I hope, by the existence, the presence, of FISP. I hope that you have felt some such sense of community as a result of your experience here over the past week. I hope that this sense of community, if you have felt it, will remain with you and that, to repeat, our organization will be seen by you as an ongoing resource for maintaining and strengthening it. In any case, you have my commitment to make the strongest effort of which I am capable, with the help of my colleagues on the new FISP Steering Committee and of many of the rest of you, to enhance the image and, to recall Peter Kemp's opening address on "The Power of the Word," the power of philosophy worldwide over the next five years.

VERS L'AVENIR

Encore un Congrès Mondial a eu lieu, et dans un certain sens il est nécessaire, mais dans un autre sens il est superflu, de remercier encore une fois nos hôtes, aussi bien que ceux de la FISP et d'autres personnes qui y ont contribué, en commençant avec mon prédécesseur distingué, Peter Kemp, de tout ce qu'ils ont fait. Cet événement a manifesté la philosophie dans la République de Corée, et sur une échelle plus vaste il a manifesté la philosophie de l'Asie entière. Je suis sûr que cette source des lumières, ex Oriente lux, qui reste malheureusement assez inconnue à la plupart des penseurs occidentaux – situation qui, jusqu'à présent, a produit des Congrès Mondiaux de Philosophie concentrés presque exclusivement sur l'Occident et basés presque exclusivement dans l'Occident – ne se retirera point à cause du fait que le prochain Congrès Mondial aura lieu dans le berceau de la philosophie occidentale. Je crois que nous sommes devenus vraiment et irrévocablement globalisateurs, à la différence du passé.

Tandis que les philosophies, orientales et occidentales également, datent depuis des millénaires, les institutions dans le cadre desquelles nous fonctionnons sont relativement nouvelles. La FISP a été créée pendant ma vie, et quand le premier Congrès Mondial moderne a eu lieu mon père fut déjà un jeune enfant. Il n'est donc pas surprenant que nous continuions à innover et à chercher de nouveaux moyens d'organiser et de nous réorganiser et de prendre de nouvelles initiatives dans ce monde troublé dont nous faisons partie. Dans cet esprit je demande à tous ceux qui sont ici de me faire des suggestions, et de demander à vos collègues qui ne sont pas ici de me faire des suggestions, dans le but d'améliorer les Congrès Mondiaux futurs et surtout la FISP, de les rendre plus efficaces. Je partagerai vos idées avec le Bureau et le Comité Directeur de la FISP, et j'espère que notre organisation évoluera beaucoup, dans un sens positif, pendant les cinq années à venir: je l'espère, et je l'attends.

Parmi les espoirs qui sont pour moi de la plus haute importance, c'est que nous autres philosophes, étant tous des individus distinctifs, mais ayant tous en commun l'amour de la sagesse, même si cette idée est comprise dans des manières très diverses, puissent agir comme une force dynamique pour la rationalité et pour la paix. Afin de pouvoir avoir une influence sur notre monde, d'être une force dynamique, il nous faut un certain sens communautaire; je ne veux pas dire un sens communautaire étouffant, mais un sens communautaire tout de même. Ceci peut être augmenté, concrètement, par des événements tels que des réunions régionales et la célébration annuelle de la Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie au mois de novembre, et aussi, j'espère, par l'existence, la présence, de la FISP. J'espère que vous avez éprouvé un tel sentiment de communauté pendant la semaine dernière. J'espère que ce sentiment de communauté, si vous l'avez éprouvé, restera avec vous et que, pour me répéter, vous verrez notre organisation comme une ressource continue pour le soutenir et pour le renforcer. En tout cas, je m'engage à faire le plus grand effort dont je suis capable, avec l'aide de mes collègues du nouveau Comité Directeur de la FISP et de beaucoup d'entre vous, d'améliorer non seulement l'image de la philosophie mais aussi, pour rappeler le discours d'ouverture de Peter Kemp sur "le pouvoir du mot," son pouvoir, le pouvoir de la philosophie dans le monde entier, pendant les cinq années à venir.

William L. McBride

NEWS FROM MEMBER SOCIETIES

NOUVELLES DES SOCIÉTÉS MEMBRES

(National societies are listed first, followed by international societies...Les sociétés nationales viennent d'abord, suivies par les sociétés internationales.)

CUBA

SOCIEDAD CUBANA DE INVESTIGACIONES FILOSOFICAS

INFORME A LA FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE SOCIEDADES DE FILOSOFIA (SCIF). Diciembre del 2008.

Este año devino especialmente importante para la Federación Internacional de Sociedades de Filosofía por la preparación y desarrollo del XXII Congreso Mundial de Filosofía. A dicho Congreso, por lo costoso del viaje, sólo pudo asistir la Presidenta de la SCIF. Nominada para un segundo mandato, fue reelecta con la novena votación de entre los 51 candidatos.

La Presidenta refirió a los miembros la composición del nuevo COMITÉ DE DIRECCIÓN de la FISP y se aprobó enviar una felicitación especial al presidente saliente Peter Kemp, al recién elegido William McBride y al Secretario General Luca Sacarantina, así como se comunicó que la sede del próximo Congreso Mundial sería Atenas en el 2013.

Eventos:

Por séptima vez, la SCIF convocó a la celebración del DIA INTERNACIONAL DE LA FILOSOFÍA, lo cual tuvo lugar en el Aula Magna de la UNIVERSIDAD DE LA HABANA, y en el que participaron todas las instituciones que trabajan la Filosofía en Cuba, con intervenciones de personalidades y un Panel de Filósofos que trató la ética, la bioética y la filosofía medioambiental, la filosofía latinoamericana y una ciencia política desde el sur. (Armando Chávez, Carlos Delgado, Jorge González e Ileana Capote Padrón).

También fueron dedicados al Día Internacional de la Filosofía, los Eventos "La dimensión de la filosofía y las ciencias sociales en el Patrimonio Inmaterial de los países del Mediterráneo Americano" y el Taller Internacional XI "Nueva Ciencia Política" celebrados del 19 al 21 de noviembre del 2008 que contaron con más de 100 participantes (especialistas cubanos y extranjeros).

El 16 de diciembre del 2008 se celebró la Asamblea General Anual en la cual se rindió cuentas a los asociados de las actividades de la SCIF, destacándose :

a) los Cursos impartidos a estudiantes extranjeros de las universidades de Montreal y Saskatchewan.

b) La publicación del Boletín "Problemas filosóficos" en soporte papel y digital.

c) La publicación de libros que se presentaron en el 2008 "Pistas: Filosofía política y Ciencia Política" de Thalia Fung, "Filosofía: Quo vadis?" de un Colectivo de autores. También de un Colectivo de autores coordinado por Thalia Fung "La red política: pistas", "Bioética y medioambiente", cuyo editor científico fue Carlos Delgado, y "Poder y Tecnología" de Jorge González.

d) Taller impartido a filósofos estadounidenses en junio del 2008.

e) La participación en las actividades científicas de otras organizaciones profesionales, incluido el Congreso Mundial de Filosofía (Seúl).

f) Los doctorados defendidos por los miembros de la SCIF en el año y los cambios de categorías efectuados en la docencia en los Centros de Educación Superior del país así como sus reconocimientos y medallas.

Se propusieron los objetivos para el 2009, entre los cuales se priorizaron los libros a publicar y el Proyecto a realizar con la FLACSO-Brasil.

ETATS-UNIS

INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY FOR CHILDREN

The Fall 2008 Newsletter of the Institute for

the Advancement of Philosophy for Children (IAPC; www.montclair.edu/iapc) is available at

<http://frontpage.montclair.edu/iapc/IAPCNewsletter2008Fall.pdf>

Articles in this Newsletter include:

- * P4C in Pakistan
- * Remembering Phillip C. Guin
- * Cumbrian Advanced Philosophy for Children Seminar
- * Education and the Love of Wisdom
- * New IAPC Publications & Professional Development
- * New P4C Center in Mexico City
- * Speak and Behold

GRÈCE

GREEK PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

EVENT CELEBRATING THE WORLD DAY OF PHILOSOPHY

GREECE

On November 19, 23:00, Pantelis Savvidis in the Hellenic Public Broadcasting "Anihnefseis," Channel 3 (ERT3, www.ert3.gr), hosted, with the collaboration of the President of the Greek Philosophical Society, a live panel discussion, on the occasion of the celebration of the World Day of Philosophy and of the event of the undertaking by Greece the organization of the 23rd World Congress of Philosophy in the year 2013, in Athens.

The theme of the discussion: "The Role of Philosophy Today: Education, Society, Science".

Panel participants (in alphabetical order):

- Ioannis Antoniou, Professor of Mathematics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, President of the Department of Mathematics.
- Lambros Couloubaritsis, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, Free University of Brussels, Member of the Royal Academy of Belgium, Correspondent Member of the Academy of Athens.
- Petros Gemtos, Professor Emeritus of Social Sciences, the University of Athens, former Rector of the University of Athens.

- Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou, Professor of Philosophy of Science, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, President of the "Greek Philosophical Society".
- Theodosios Tassios, Professor Emeritus, National Polytechnic School of Athens, President of the "Association for the Study of Ancient Greek Technology," Honorary President of the "Greek Philosophical Society"

MEXIQUE

SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE FILOSOFÍA

Activities:

XIV Congreso Nacional de Filosofía en la Ciudad de México, D.F. con el tema "Ética y Educación" los días 20, 21 y 22 de noviembre de 2008.

También tuvimos un Congreso local los días 27 y 28 de Marzo en la ciudad de Durango, Durango con el tema: "Educación y Valores".

Hemos tenido una Asamblea Extraordinaria en la Ciudad de México, D.F., el día 11 de noviembre de 2008 a las 17:00hrs.

y nuestra Asamblea General Ordinaria en la Ciudad de México, D.F., el día 21 de noviembre de 2008 a las 20:30hrs.

Durante nuestra Asamblea General Ordinaria planeamos dos congresos para el próximo año 2009:

1. Congreso local en Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua con el tema: "Filosofía y Comunicación", los días 16 y 17 de abril de 2009.
2. Congreso Nacional en la Ciudad de México, D.F. con el tema "Filosofía Social", los días 23, 24, 25 octubre de 2009.

Tendremos una Asamblea Local el 17 de abril de 2009 en Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua.

Nuestra Asamblea General Ordinaria se llevará a cabo en la Ciudad de México el día 24 de octubre de 2009 a las 20:00hrs.

NIGERIA

NIGERIAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION

The Nigerian Philosophical Association recently launched its new website: www.npa-edu.org

The Nigerian Philosophical Association (NPA) is the official professional association of philosophers in Nigeria and philosophically minded thinkers in the country. The NPA is a member of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP).

The association was founded in the 1970's and its first president was the late Professor Olubi Sodipo, who incidentally was the first Nigerian Professor of Philosophy.

The association's aims include:

To promote active association among all those who are involved in philosophical research and training in Nigeria and promote the cause of philosophical education in the country.

To collaborate with associations of a similar nature in promoting common objectives.

To help in maintaining professional standards in research, teaching and other related activities.

In the 1990's the NPA like many Professional bodies in Nigeria faced grave problems that are in part traceable to the military administrations that ran the country.

The Nigerian Philosophy Association was more or less moribund from around 1995 was resuscitated during the second International Philosophy conference of the Bigard Memorial Seminary, Enugu. A meeting was summoned at the behest of the former secretary general Dr. Princewill Alozie in between the sessions of the conference on the 19th of November 2002. Virtually, all departments of philosophy in Nigeria were represented in this meeting. Among those in attendance was the former president Prof. Sophie Oluwole.

ROUMANIE

ROMANIAN ACADEMY -- SECTION OF PHILOSOPHY, THEOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY AND PEDAGOGY

Report of Activity

A. Meetings:

January 27-28, 2008: Symposium: The Centenary Birth of Kurt Godel, Bucharest, Faculty of Philosophy, University Bucharest.

June 12, 2008: Symposium: How is Nowadays Max Scheler ?, Bucharest, Romanian Academy.

December 4-5,2008: National Conference of Aesthetics: The Autonomy of Contemporary Art, Bacau, International Centre for Culture and Art "George Apostu".

B. Publications:

Revista de Filosofie, N.1-2, January – April, 2008

Revue Roumaine de Philosophie, Tome 52, Nos 1-2, 2008.

Studies of the History of Universal Philosophy, Vol. XVI.

Studies of the History of Romanian Philosophy, Vol. IV.

C. Books:

Marin Aifinca, Philosophy of Culture, Bucharest, Publishing House of Romanian Academy, 2008

Mircea Flonta, Solitary Thinker . The Critical and Practice Philosophical of Ludwig Wittgenstein, Bucharest, Publishing House Humanitas, 2008.

Alexandru Surdu, Pentadic Philosophy, Bucharest, Publishing House of Romanian Academy, 2008.

Language, Shaping, Communication, edited by Gheorghe Ungureanu, Pitesti, Publishing House of University, 2008.

Grigore Smeu, The History of Aesthetics in Romania, Bucharest, Publishing House of Romanian Academy, 2008.

Mihai D. Vasile, Christian Neoplatonism, Bucharest, Publishing House of Romanian Academy, 2008.

RUSSIE

RUSSIAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Bulletin
of the Russian Philosophical Society
No. 2 (46) 2008 (240 p.)

We hereby announce publication and circulation of the Bulletin of the Russian Philosophical Society No. 2, 2008 (Editor-in-Chief, Professor A. N. Chumakov; Executive Secretary, Professor N. Z. Yaroschuk).

The Editor's Column titled Change of Paradigm outlines the Society's primary tasks, including organization of the Fifth Russian Philosophical Congress to be held in Novosibirsk from 24 till 27 June 2009 on the subject of Science, Philosophy, Society.

See Towards the Twenty-second World Congress of Philosophy for the basic information about the congress on Rethinking Philosophy Today (Seoul, Republic of Korea, July 30 – August 5, 2008) and the schedule of the Philosophy Train project. The project's participants arrived in Vladivostok from Seoul on August 8 to attend the International Conference on Contemporary Philosophy in the Context of Intercultural Communications. They also met local scholars and visited local landmarks. The event participants and the invited public figures and press persons then traveled to Moscow with stops in Khabarovsk, Chita, Ulan-Ude, Irkutsk (a boat trip to Lake Baikal included), Krasnoyarsk, Novosibirsk, Yekaterinburg, and Kazan. Conferences, round tables and other scholarly and cultural events awaited them along the route, viz. in Khabarovsk (August 11): Round Table on Sociopolitical and Humanitarian Problems of Russia's Far East; in Chita (August 13): Round Table on Man in Transborder Situation; in Ulan-Ude (August 14-15): International Baikal Philosophy Forum Dialogue in the 21st Century: Man and Nature as a follow-up of the 22nd World Congress of Philosophy); in and near Irkutsk (August 16): Ecological Expedition up the Angara river and Lake Baikal and Round Table on the problems of preservation and utilization of Baikal' unique resources; in Krasnoyarsk (August 17), in Novosibirsk (August 18-19): International Workshop Rethinking Philosophy of Science and Education Today (to serve both as another follow-up of the World Congress of Philosophy and a preparatory event envisaging the 5th Russian Congress of Philosophy to be held in the city from 24 to 27 June 2009); in Yekaterinburg (August 20); in Kazan (August 21): International Seminar on Tolerance as a Principle of Interethnic and Interconfessional Relations in a Russian Region. For all of the above places the trip program envisaged meetings with local scholars and sightseeing. The travellers arrived in Moscow on August 22, 2008.

Information from the RPhS Regional Branches and Organisations includes materials about the activities of the Pskov RPhS Branch; the next Frolov Readings to be held at the Institute of Philosophy, the Russian Academy of Sciences; the round table on provincial philosophers' interaction (Nizhny Novgorod); the Sixth Marxian Readings in Nizhnevartovsk.

See News from the Moscow Philosophical Society for information about the MPhS activities in the last year; the students' circle for philosophy and ethics at the Moscow State Juridical Academy; the round table, joined by the cultural branch of the Iranian Embassy in Moscow, on Imam Khomeini's Philosophical Ideas in the Context of the Eurasian Conception of Uniting the Peoples of the World.

Events and Comments inform about the conference Towards the 22 World Congress of Philosophy in Kazan; the 10th anniversary of the Solovyov Seminar in Ivanovo; the international workshop commemorating Karl Marx's 190th anniversary at the Institute of Philosophy, the Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow); the Youth Forum of Youth. Culture, Development in Podporozhye and Sosnovyy Bor, Leningrad oblast.

Problems of Teaching Philosophy present Prof. V. N. Porus's (Moscow) answers to the questions proposed by the Organising Committee of the Fifth International Conference on Higher Education for the 21st Century held in Moscow in November 2008.

Read Managing Education: Contemporary Approaches for Modernising Projects in Education Management Modernising Projects in Education Management by V. V. Mironov, Corresponding Member, the Russian Academy of Sciences, Vice President, the Russian Philosophical Society (Moscow).

See Scholarly Life in the Near Abroad for information about contemporary cultural research in Azerbaijan and the international conference Science Days at the Faculty of Philosophy, 2008 in Kiev Taras Shevchenko University (Ukraine).

Civil Society presents Laws and Society by T. B. Dlugach, D. Philos. Sc.

Important Talk presents Nature, Man, Society as Philosophical Subjects by Sais Shermihamedov, President, Uzbekistan Philosophical Society, and The Culture of the Informational Society: Specifics and Trends by Prof. O. B. Skorodumova (Moscow).

Published By Way of Discussion are The Sociocultural Aspect of Forming Integral Personality by A. A. Somkin (Saransk); Categories as a Contemporary Philosophical Problem by N. N. Rodnova (Moscow); The Methodological

Project of Paradigmatic Renovation of the Dialectics Theory by Prof. E. G. Vonograi (Kemerovo); Morals as the Evolving Dimension of Spiritual Life by Assoc. Prof. T. I. Koval (Moscow).

A Topical Issue is discussed in Evolution Theory and Culture's Ethical Guidelines by L. V. Fesenkova, Cand. Philos. Sc. (Moscow).

Read History and Philosophy of Science for information about the International Workshop on Modern Challenges in the Light of History and Philosophy of World Economy in Cheboksary.

Polemics present The Time of Objective Reality: Its Philosophical Foundation and Experimental Confirmation by T. P. Lolayev (Vladikavkaz) followed by a review of T. P. Lolayev's article by A. Yu. Sevalnikov (Moscow) and the author's response.

Pursuing the Topic presents Time and/or Eternity: Social Roots of 'Religious Turn' in Philosophy (Apropos the Theory of P. P. Gaidenko) by Prof. M. M. Prokhorov (Moscow).

Eurasianism: Prospects of Understanding presents Sufism and Eurasianism: Common Sources by Prof. M. I. Bilalov (Makhachkala) and Globalisation and the Ideas of Eurasianism by Prof. G. S. Tabatadze (Volgograd).

Philosophy and Culture presents The Fascination of Theatre by Prof. N. Z. Yaroshchuk (Moscow) and The Russian Dan Brown? by Prof. V. F. Druzhinin (Moscow), a comprehensive review of Alexander Katsura's novel Outlines to the Theory of Miracles.

Philosophy of Nation's Health presents an article by Ye. K. Matevosova, student (Moscow); To Be or Not to Be? (Euthanasia from the Standpoint of a Dying Person) by Prof. A. G. Pysin (Moscow); Philosophy of Health by Assoc. Prof. S. V. Turovskaya (Moscow).

Read Philosophy of Business for Globalisation Processes and Economies of Russian Regions: The North West by V. A. Galich (Petrozavodsk).

Read Continuing the Debate for Barriers in Comprehensive Education of Our Young Co-Citizens Are Inadmissible by Yu. V. Burdakov (Moscow); Theology and Divinity? by Prof. N. N. Slonov (Saratov); A Word Addressed to Men of Science by M. Ya. Zemlitskiy, Engineer (Podolsk region, Moscow oblast); Professional Education in Humanities without Theology and, Perhaps, without Philosophy? by Prof. V. N. Belov (Saratov).

See Responses to Our Publications for Does Society Need Philosophy? by A. B. Shulyndina, Cand. Philos. Sc. (Nizhny Novgorod), a response to Prof. V. N. Porus's articles; Why Did Hegel Ascribe Dynamics of Process to an Abstract Subject? by V. I. Dolzhenko (Moscow), a response to A. N. Arluchev's article.

Feedback presents an analytical review of RPhS Bulletin 2008:1 by an independent observer Pr. V. F. Druzhinin (Moscow) and RPhS Bulletin 2007:4, RPhS Bulletin 2008:1 by S. S. Peruansky, Cand. Phys. & Math. Sc. (Moscow).

The Young Philosopher's Page presents The Problem of Social Contract in Contemporary Russian Society by I. L. Alekseyev, postgraduate student (Tula) and Global Economy as a New Economic Paradigm by I. V. Login, postgraduate student (Moscow).

See Philosophy in the Internet for Social Networks: We Are Catching, We Are Being Caught by R. M. Maslennikov, postgraduate student (Tver).

New Journals presents Bulletin of the RPhS Chuvash and Mari Branches. See the last page for information about a new theoretical journal The Age of Globalisation and the contents its opening issue.

Philosophers Joke Too present parodies of Silver Age poets by Alexander Dzyura's (Norilsk) and ironic verses by Pyotr Bystrov (Moscow).

On the Poetic Page read verses by Tatiana Dubovitskaya (Sterlitamak) and Yulia Azarova (Moscow).

To Remember presents Prof. V. A. Razumny's reminiscences of meeting with J. Stalin.

Read Competition: The Results for information about winners of the Second Navigation awards (the St. Petersburg Philosophical Society).

Read Useful Information about jubilee events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the first sociological association; the International Baikal Forum of Philosophy (August 14-15, Ulan-Ude); the Russian National Conference on Intellect, Culture, Education (September 16-18, Novosibirsk); the Russian National Workshop on Ethnonational Values under Conditions of Globalisation (September 25-28, Makhachkala); the Russian National Conference on Transient and Eternal (October 21-22, Novgorod); the Russian National Conference on Science, Education, Innovations (November 10-12, the Institute of Scholarly Information on Social Sciences, the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow); the Russian National Workshop on Man Amid Social and Cultural Interactions (November 20-21, Khabarovsk - Birobujan).

Mentioned as Noteworthy is information about the conference on The Dialogue of Civilisations in the Globalised World (October, 2008, Moscow); the interuniversity round table on Cultural Identity in Northern Caucasus under Conditions of Globalisation (November 20, Maikop, to time with the Day of Philosophy).

See also book reviews, annotations, book announcements, information about books and journals available at the RPhS Presidium, doctoral (5) and candidate (37) dissertations in philosophy defended in the second quarter of 2008.

Published also are letters of congratulations on jubilees and other notable events in philosophers' lives and obituaries.

Read also requirements for the RPhS membership for 2008. As in other issues of the Bulletin it is explained that the Russian Philosophical Society counts as its members only those who have paid the yearly membership fee and have been consequently included in the current year membership list. They henceforward enjoy all the privileges of the Society members, including subscription to the RPhS Bulletin. Full membership lists are published yearly in RPhS Bulletin No. 3 for the year in question.

The Bulletin's subscription index in the Rospechat Catalogue is 79643. Please, send your e-mail messages addressed to the RPhS Presidium and the RPhS Bulletin Editorial Board to rphs@iph.ras.ru. Our Internet websites are www.logic.ru/~phil-soc; www.dialog21.ru; www.globalistika.ru. To contact the Editors, please, call (495) 609-90-76 (mark the new number!) or (495) 203-92-98.

Bulletin
of the Russian Philosophical Society
No. 3 (47) 2008 (256 p.)

We hereby announce publication and circulation of the Bulletin of the Russian Philosophical Society No. 3, 2008 (Editor-in-Chief, Professor A. N. Chumakov; Executive Secretary, Professor N. Z. Yaroschuk). This special issue deals mainly with the recent 22nd World Congress of Philosophy and the Philosophy Train cultural event. This issue is illustrated with photos the Congress' and Train's key events. The WCP on Rethinking Philosophy Today was held from July 30 to August 5, 2008 in Seoul.

The section The Congress as Seen by Its Participants opens with Pr. A. N. Chumakov's Preamble to Be Continued providing a brief summary of the Congress and the subsequent Philosophy Train event. For personal impressions and assessments of the Congress read Reflections on the Nature of Congresses of Philosophy by Pr. V. I. Krasikov (Kemerovo); The World Congress and the 'Orien Express' by L. E. Grinin, D. Phil. Sc. (Volgograd); The Congress as Seen by a Novice by Pr. Ye. Yu. Leontieva (Volgograd); Sharing Experience about Sections' Work by Pr. A. V. Dakhin (Nizhny Novgorod); Contemplating the results of the Congress by Pr. S. Shermukhamedov and Pr. N. Shermukhamedova (Tashkent); The Koreans and Seoul by Pr. I. M. Matskevich and O. V. Matskevich (Moscow).

The large section titled From Vladivostok to Moscow: The Philosophy Train informs of the trip participated by more than 80 Russian and foreign philosophers. The various conferences, round tables and other events held on the occasion are described in Philosophy Returns by Assoc. Pr. A. Yu. Moskvitin, Pr. S. V. Pishun, Pr. V. S. Funtusov (Vladivostok); The Far Eastern Perspective of Intercultural Communication by Pr. Z. R. Zhukotskaya (Nizhnevartovsk); 'The Philosophy Train' in the Amur Region by Pr. Yu. M. Serdyukov (Khabarovsk); A Point on the Map: 'The Philosophy Train' in Chita by Assoc. Pr. T. V. Bernyukevich and Pr. M. N. Fomina (Chita); Regional Discourse as a Popularising Resource for Ideas of Philosophy by S. V. Plotnikov, Cand. Cult. St. (Chita); The Baikal Philosophy Forum by Pr. V. V. Mantatov, Assoc. Pr. L. V. Mantatova, Pr. L. G. Sandakova, Assoc. Pr. S. M. Sokolov (Ulan-Ude); The Area of Free Philosophy by Yu. L. Dyunenok, a free-lance philosopher (Irkutsk); "The Philosophy Train" Makes a Stop in Irkutsk by Pr. N. S. Konoplyov (Irkutsk); From Seoul to Krasnoyarsk: The Ways We Choose

by Pr. V. I. Kudashov (Krasnoyarsk); A Stop in Novosibirsk by Pr. V. S. Diev (Novosibirsk); Yekaterinburg of the Humanities by Pr. A. V. Pertsev (Yekaterinburg); 'The Philosophy Train' in Kazan by Pr. M. D. Shchelkunov (Kazan). Read also information about the 13 'round tables' and other meetings held on route in the Philosophy Train's conference car.

The subsection titled Assessments, Opinions, Judgements presents 'The Philosophy Train' as Seen From Within by S. A. Sharakshané (Moscow), a special correspondent of The Russian Philosophical Gazette. Read also Exclusive Thoughts of the Foreign Travellers of the 'Philosophy Train': Ioanna Kuçuradi, Professor, Istanbul University, Ex-President, International Federation of Philosophical Societies (Turkey); Tomas Mariano Calvo Martinez, Professor, Complutense University of Madrid (Spain); Pr. Waltraud Ernst (Germany); Maria Teresa Reyes Perez (Spain); Pr. Zhan Baichun (China); Pr. Liu Xiating (China).

Read about the cities visited by the Philosophy Train and the scholarly events held there on the occasion in Sketches from the Philosophy Summer by Pr. Kh. A. Barlybayev (Moscow); First Impressions by Pr. A. N. Arlychev (Moscow); From Seoul to Krasnoyarsk by Assoc. Pr. V. I. Ivanov (Krasnoyarsk); A Touch of Eurasia by Assoc. Pr. O. K. Shamanskaya (Nizhny Novgorod); With Thoughts on the Past by Pr. E. A. Taisina (Kazan); The Philosophy Train: A View from Germany by Waltraud Ernst, Ph. D. (Germany). Read also letters of response and gratitude from foreign participants of the trip (in English). We take this opportunity to thank the Presidium of the Russian Philosophical Society and all those who supported the Russian participants of the 22nd World Congress of Philosophy and the trip on the Philosophy Train.

Our traditional column Information from the RPhS Regional Branches and Organisations includes materials about the principal events to be held from November 20 to November 22, 2008 within the framework of the Days of St. Petersburg Philosophy, 2008 (the Days' topic is Man the Cogniser, Man the Creator, Man the Believer); the round table at the Department of Philosophy, Irkutsk State University, participated by Pr. A. N. Chumakov, First Vice-President, the Russian Philosophical Society, discussing the ways to enhance the creative activities of social scientists in the Baikal region; the activities of the RPhS Chechen Branch; the Russian Theoretical Conference on Ethnic and National Values under Conditions of Globalisation held in the Dagestan State University (Makhachkala).

Events and Comments inform about the Free Word Club at the Institute of Philosophy, the Russian Academy of Sciences. The club is soon to terminate its activities that have lasted 20 years.

Problems of Teaching Philosophy present The Old Military Song: A Solo to the Void by Pr. V. N. Porus (Moscow).

Philosophy and Life present Towards Innovative Strategies or on the Way into Mirages? By Pr. Kh. G. Tkhangapsoyev (Malchik).

A Topical Issue is discussed in Self-Made Philosophers on the Offensive by Pr. D. I. Dubrovsky (Moscow).

Feedback presents an analytical review of some materials from RPhS Bulletin 2008:2 by an independent observer Pr. V. F. Druzhinin (Moscow).

Philosophy in the Internet presents The Internet as a Field of Battle... for Minds by R. M. Maslennikov, postgraduate student (Tver).

New Journals present The Bulletin of Leningrad Pushkin University (The Philosophy Series); and Chora, a journal of contemporary foreign philosophy and comparative studies in philosophy (Kursk).

Philosophers Joke Too present epigrams addressed to Pr. N. Z. Yaroshchuk on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

On the Poetic Page read verses by Alexander Katsura (Moscow), Lili Yegorova (Kazan), Alexander Yashin (Moscow).

Read Useful Information about the Municipal (St. Petersburg) Program for Tolerance at the Faculty of Journalism, St. Petersburg State University; the International Conference on State, Society, Church in Russian History of the 20th century to be held on February 11 and 12, 2009 in Ivanovo; the International Workshop on Corruption, the Principle Hindrance to the State of Law (April 2009, Moscow).

Mentioned as Noteworthy is information about the books published by the International Roerich Centre and by Shalva Amonashvili Publishing House.

See also book reviews, annotations, book announcements, information about books and journals available at the RPhS Presidium, doctoral (8) and candidate (48) dissertations in philosophy defended in the third quarter of 2008.

Published also are letters of congratulations on jubilees and other notable events in philosophers' lives and obituaries.

As usual, the Bulletin's third issue for each year contains information about the Russian Philosophical Society's organizational structure, which consists of the Presidium, the Inspection Committee, 99 regional branches, 43 field branches, 41 primary units of the Moscow Philosophical Society; we also publish the complete RPhS membership list (5,169 members).

The Bulletin informs of the forthcoming series Philosophy of Russia in the Second Half of the 20th century and the conditions for acquiring the issued volumes. For further information, call +7-495-334 82 42; e-mail: market@rosspen.su.

Read also requirements for the RPhS membership for 2009. Like in other issues of the Bulletin it is explained that the Russian Philosophical Society counts as its members only those who have paid the yearly membership fee and have been consequently included in the current year membership list. They henceforward enjoy all the privileges of the Society members, including subscription to the RPhS Bulletin. Full membership lists are published yearly in RPhS Bulletin No. 3 for the year in question.

COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN VALUES AND PHILOSOPHY

Recent Events

Islamic Seminar. From March 1-31, 2008 the RVP held a seminar titled: "Faith and Reason in Our Day: Living Faithfully in Global Times." Ten Islamic scholars representing 10 countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Tajikistan, Turkey) joined with local scholars in Washington DC for an intensive research effort. The resulting collection of academic papers is now in preparation for publication in the RVP series "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change."

Special appreciation goes to the Raskob Foundation which made possible this successful project.

Foundation of the International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP). At the conclusion of the above seminar, the team founded the International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP). This will bring together philosophers from across the world to continue studies on living the Islamic tradition faithfully and creatively in the circumstances of our times and contribute to other civilizations as well. Professor Gholamreza Aavani, Director of the Iranian Institute of Philosophy, has been elected President and related regional centers are foreseen for Southeast Asia and other parts of the world.

Kyrgyzstan. In July, 2008, the Kyrgyz University of Economics and the Bakieva Foundation celebrated the philosophical contribution of Prof. Gulnara A. Bakieva. In a day-long conference held at the university in Bishkek, philosophers, social scientists, economists, and scholars of folklore discussed the late-philosopher's major work, Social Memory and Contemporaneity, published by the RVP in 2007. Scholars came from across Kyrgyzstan for the conference. The RVP was represented by Maura Donohue, who edited the English translation and John Hogan who wrote its foreword. Both were invited to a private meeting with the president of the country.

China. Two conferences were held on ethics and public administration at the School of Public Administration of Quangxi University in Nanning (July 16-18) in the south of China, and the School of Philosophy and Public Administration of Helongjiang University in Harbin (July 21-22) in the north. For these colloquia the local professors and graduate students were joined by professors and chairpersons of other Chinese departments of public administration as well as participants from North America and Australia.

The overarching theme of the conferences was "The Role of Government and Citizen in the Promotion of the Common Good." Particular emphasis was placed on the ethical dimensions of developing citizen participation in the service of the public good. Coming on the heels of the strong public response to the tragic earthquake in Sichuan Province, this ethical reflection on Public Administration was most relevant.

Themes presented included: (1) Public Administration as Engaging Civil Society; (2) Engaging Citizens: A Value Ethics for Public Administration; (3) Conscience and Responsibility; (4) A Value Ethics for Public Administration; (5) The Role of Ethics in the Political and Administrative Dichotomy; (6) Ethics in Public Administration and the Good Citizen; (7) Institutional Ethics and its Value Demands; (8) Reciprocal Responsibility and Responsive Responsibility: The Limits and Potentials of Confucianism.

Korea: Philosophy Emerging from Culture.

The Theme: The major RVP event of 2008 was its July 27-29 quinquennial international conference: "Philosophy Emerging from Culture," which was organized as a "pre-conference" to the XXII World Congress of Philosophy. The RVP conference was co-sponsored with The International Society for Metaphysics (ISM) and the The World Union of Catholic Philosophical Societies (WUCPS). The special co-sponsor and gracious host institution was Soongsil University, Seoul, Korea. A debt of gratitude is owed to Dr. Hyo-Gye Lee, President of Soongsil University, with Professor Seon-Wook Kim and especially Professor Wonbin Park of the same University, who provided excellent facilities, including the lecture halls and the dormitory accommodation -- even throughout the time of the World Congress. A special thanks goes also to the friendly team of student volunteers who made the visiting professors' stay more pleasant.

Participating in the RVP pre-Congress conference were some hundred philosophers from all parts of the world. They looked deeply into the resources of their unique cultural traditions in order to discover and evolve their philosophical potentials as a much-needed haven for life in our times. The conference explored successively three topics: Modernity, Subjectivity and Culture.

These three interlocking topics constituted a progressive "bottom-up" approach to philosophy integrating the achievements of the past while moving toward a new paradigm for the global era. The entire set of abstracts (including many full papers) can be found on the RVP website (www.crvp.org). A volume of the proceedings will follow for which additional related papers are still invited (send to: cua-rvp@cua.edu).

General program: Philosophy Emerging from Culture

Plenary Sessions

1. The Dynamics of Change: What remains of modernity and why is it no longer adequate for philosophy?
 - a. an evaluation of modernity its strengths and weakness
 - b. the philosophical hermeneutics of the transition to a global era
2. The Nature of Culture and its Potential as a Philosophical Source
 - a. the subjective turn
 - b. the new awareness of values and virtues as cultures and civilizations
 - c. the emergence of philosophy from culture
3. The Challenges and Opportunities for Philosophy from the Global Interaction of Cultures and Civilizations
 - a. philosophy expanded to and by global horizons
 - b. philosophy deepened to basic meaning and values
 - c. philosophy and the integration of radical diversity: again, the one and the many

Parallel sessions in the afternoons were devoted to the day's subthemes.

The Invitation: On the last day of the conference the general "business meeting" was attended by all participants. There was great energy in the room which showed a deep commitment to furthering the work of the RVP as a resource. One result of that meeting is this newsletter, which we hope will become a resource on many levels to keep all connected. Philosophers were invited then, and also in a subsequent mailing to suggest work in their region and to volunteer their leadership.

All are invited to respond to any or all of the following questions:

- (a) What would be the most effective and efficient ways for philosophers to work together in your center/region in order to promote the collaboration of scholars and thinkers in facing the contemporary challenges?
- (b) What topics, themes and ideas are in need of philosophical research in your center/region?
- (c) Would you volunteer to set up a local team and perhaps eventually a conference involving philosophers and related scholars?
- d) What do you suggest to further the already existing network, and open new horizons of philosophical cooperations -- conceivably on the web.

Please send your recommendations to cua-rvp@cua.edu.

The World Congress of Philosophy: The philosophers participating in the RVP conferences in turn constituted a crucial five percent of the participants in the World Congress of Philosophy on the theme: "Rethinking Philosophy Today." There the RVP sponsored five round tables on "Philosophy Emerging from its Cultures" focusing serially on the five regions of Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Newly Independent States and Islam. These continued and shared more broadly the themes examined in depth during the pre-congress Conference.

Fall Seminar. From September 15 – October 17, 2008 the RVP held its Fall 2008 seminar in the seminar room of its Center for the Study of Culture and Values (CSCV) in Washington D.C. The five week seminar explored the theme: "The Sacred and the Secular: Complementary and/or Conflictual in Global Times?"

With more than 20 participants representing 16 countries, the combination of our visiting scholars, local participants and guest lecturers gave the seminar a truly international and intercultural richness of the highest order.

The seminar began from Charles Taylor's *A Secular Age* and examined the emerging attention to the religious voice in society in the later John Rawls and Jürgen Habermas. It examined H.G. Gadamer and Paul Ricoeur for deeper philosophical insights on ways in which this might be understood and accomplished.

The full text of the papers will be published by the RVP in 2009 under the title, *Sacred and Secular: Complementary and/or Conflictual?*. A philosophical summary of the work of the seminar can be read at the RVP website; it lists as well the participants by name and country.

Taiwan. The Asian Association of Catholic (now Christian) Philosophers (AACP) was founded in 1991 in Hong Kong on the occasion of a RVP colloquium with philosophers from Beijing and Shanghai. It met in Taiwan on Dec. 11-14, 2008 on "The Role of Christian Philosophy in a Global Age." Participants came from most of the Asian countries; the RVP General Secretary, Professor George F. McLean, was one of the keynote speakers and Professor Tran Van Doan, the RVP Asian coordinator, was elected President of AACP.

Forthcoming Events

Indonesia. January 4-16, 2009 the RVP in collaboration with The Islamic College for Advanced Studies (ICAS), Jakarta, will sponsor a series of 10 colloquia across the Isle of Java, Indonesia. The theme will be "Philosophy Emerging from Culture: Indonesian Culture and Islamic Thought." Its aim is to harvest the contributions of this culture to Islamic thought and to share this across the Islamic crescent from Indonesia to Morocco, and indeed with all philosophers. This is also an important initiative of the RVP and the newly founded International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP) which will hold organizational meetings on the occasion.

Major Book Mailing. In February, 2009 some 30 new titles from the RVP book series "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change" will be sent to approximately 350 university libraries world-wide. See the list of titles (www.crvp.org). Special thanks goes to the Our Sunday Visitor Foundation which has helped face the rising cost of shipping.

June-July Conferences in China. A series of conferences are being planned for China in June-July, 2009. These will focus on the ethics and public administration, the newly emerging political science, the role of religion in social life, and unity and diversity.

Southeast Asian Regional Conference in Cambodia. In the aftermath of great tragedies a new generation of Cambodian philosophers is just now emerging. One sign of this is the offer of Cambodian philosophers to host the bi-annual RVP Southeast Asia regional meeting – previously held in Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia. The papers delivered by philosophers from the region will be published in the RVP series.

Islamic Seminar: Faith and Reason: Living Faithfully in Changing Times (II). August 24-September, 18, 2009 the RVP will invite ten Islamic scholars to an intensive month long seminar in order jointly to explore "Living Faithfully in Changing Times". This will continue the work initiated with Islamic scholars in the March 2008 seminar. A description of the theme of this seminar and its provisions can be found at <http://www.crvp.org/seminar/seminar-2009.htm>.

Fall Seminar 2009: The Sacred and the Secular: Complementary and/or Conflictual (II). The RVP annual five week Fall Seminar in 2009 will be held September 28-October 16, 2009, on the relation of cultural heritages to the secular age recently described by Charles Taylor in his A Secular Age. A description of the theme of this seminar and its provisions can be found at <http://www.crvp.org/seminar/seminar-2009-fall.htm>

For more information on the works, projects and publications of the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP), please visit the website at www.crvp.org.

GOTTFRIED-WILHELM-LEIBNIZ GESELLSCHAFT

Recent lectures:

Dr. Hartmut Rudolph (Hannover):

"Daniel Ernst Jablonski und Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz – Beobachtungen

zur Wissenschafts- und Kirchenpolitik in der Frühaufklärung".

Freitag, den 21. November 2008, 19.00 Uhr.

Werner Kraft Vortragssaal der Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Bibliothek - Niedersächsische Landesbibliothek, Hannover, Waterloostr. 8.

Prof. Dr. Hans Günter Dosch (Heidelberg):

Leibniz' Seelenlehre als Grundlage für eine Philosophie der Neurowissenschaften.

Donnerstag, den 18. Dezember 2008, 19.00 Uhr.

Werner Kraft Vortragssaal der Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Bibliothek – Niedersächsische Landesbibliothek, Hannover, Waterloostr. 8.

Prof. Dr. Hans Günter Dosch (Heidelberg):

Leibniz' Seelenlehre als Grundlage für eine Philosophie der Neurowissenschaften.

Donnerstag, den 18. Dezember 2008, 19.00 Uhr.

Werner Kraft Vortragssaal der Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Bibliothek – Niedersächsische Landesbibliothek, Hannover, Waterloostr. 8.

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GREEK PHILOSOPHY (IAGP),

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF GREEK PHILOSOPHY AND CULTURE,

THE GREEK PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,

THE SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY FOR GREEK PHILOSOPHY AND THE HUMANITIES,

THE SOCIETY FOR ANCIENT GREEK PHILOSOPHY (SAGP - USA)

and other academic and cultural institutions and organisations are pleased to announce the:

21st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PHILOSOPHY

ON THE TOPIC:

« PHILOSOPHY, ART AND TECHNOLOGY».

The Conference, which is directed by an International Academic Committee and is organised in cooperation with Neapolis University of Pafos (NUP), will take place in the famous and beautiful island of Cyprus at the District of Paphos (or Pafos), the mythical birth place of Aphrodite.

The Conference will last from Tuesday 21st of July 2009 (day of arrivals) up to 27-th of July 2009.

The Conference First Session will start on the morning of Wednesday, 22 July, at 9.00 at Coral Beach Hotel and Resort in Paphos area (<http://www.coral.com.cy>)

The Official Opening of the Conference will take place in the evening of 22 of July at 19.00 o' clock. (For information concerning accommodation etc please see the relevant Conference Forms).

The Conference is open to all philosophers, including specialists in Greek philosophy and classics, and those conducting research in the fields of art and technology. It is also open to creative persons in all arts and technologies. The expectation is that they are considering ways in which art and technology raise issues regarding the possibilities and constraints of the meaning of contemporary life.

The aims of the Conference are as follows:

- a. To examine the views of Greek thinkers and philosophers on art (techne) as a characteristic of the human capacity to create.
- b. To explore the senses in which philosophy, from its inception to the present, defines, analyzes, and criticizes different approaches to and conceptions of art or technology.
- c. To inquire into the implications of artistic creations and technological advancements in relation to epistemology, metaphysics, ethics and aesthetics.
- d. To explicate conceptual positions on art and technology with emphasis on their philosophical assumptions and their interrelations.

The above aims encompass a number of issues (historical, theoretical, critical, moral, and practical) and lend themselves to the discussion and investigation of several topics, including the following:

I. The philosophy of art (The conceptual treatment of art, standards of taste, aesthetic judgments, the relationship of art to thought, action, and life.)

II. The philosophy of technology (The conceptual treatment of technology, current and emerging technologies, metaphysical and ethical considerations concerning technological progress, the relationship of technology to science, action and life.)

III. Art and technology (The relationship of art and technology from a philosophical point of view, enhancements, limitations, and impact of each field on the other, the means and ends of each.)

IV. Nature and technology (Technology and the Environment, the aesthetics of environment.)

In the broad framework of such a theme, topics and questions like the following can be discussed and investigated:

1. Classical and contemporary theories of art and philosophy. The historical background concerning the relationship of philosophy, art and technology with reference to Plato, Aristotle, F. Bacon, I. Kant, A. Comte, K. Marx and F. Engels and other modern and contemporary thinkers (M. Heidegger, A. Borgmann, etc).
2. The conceptual content of techne, art, technology and philosophy: Techne as art. The concept of poiesis in relation to arts. Philosophy and poetry. The philosophical critique of poetry and others arts. Kind of arts (for example, medicine, rhetoric (communication), economics, music, philosophy and arts).
3. (Special session) :
 - a. Medicine as art, the art of life and the medical technical achievements and tools.
 - b. Economics as the art of managing of "oikos" (household) and the ethics of bartering.
4. The concept of techne in relation to paideia, skill and knowledge.
5. Techne and "fine arts". The philosophy of specific arts.
6. The division of sciences into theoretical, practical and productive.
7. Techne and technology. Can there be a unified account of arts and technology and, if so, what would it be like? Is there still theoretical science or are all sciences directed towards technology? Technology, art and mimesis: classical and contemporary perspectives.
8. Techne and Nature. Environment and technology. Art and Technology: The case of architecture. Nature, artifice and design. Monumental art and the relationship between art and technology.
9. The concept of technology. Science and technology. Kinds of technology (natural technology, cultural technology, information technology, nanotechnology, biotechnology, etc.).
10. Technology and ethics. The metaphysics of technology. Philosophy in a technological age. Technological developments and the philosophical theories (Is philosophy capable of envisioning the future or does it merely reflect on what is and has happened? Is there an end to philosophy?).

There are the following categories of presentation:

Category a: The presentation of original academic Papers by Invited Speakers (30 min. duration).

Category b: The presentation of academic Papers for the Special Session (30 min. duration).

Category c: The presentation of original academic Papers (20 min. duration).

Category d: Short presentation of papers (15 min. duration).

Category e: The presentation of papers by Post-graduate students (Students' Sessions).

Category f: Presentation by Posters (Poster Session).

The Papers in Category a will address particular issues, evaluate research undertaken in connection with the subject they investigate in the last decade, and provide an overview and synthesis of various philosophical approaches related to the topic of research.

Participants who wish to be considered for Category a should express their interest promptly and state their preferences concerning the topic they wish to deal with, and send all the necessary information (a detailed Curriculum Vitae and a substantive Abstract of their Paper) to the Organising Committee by 15th of February 2009. Persons interested in being considered for designation as Invited Speakers should fill in and send out Form no. 1A to the Organising Committee.

The Organising Committee will cover the cost of board and accommodation for Invited Speakers during the days of the Conference. In addition Invited Speakers may attend all Conference activities (i. e., Conference Beach Party, Conference Gala Dinner and Conference Excursion) without paying any fees (this of course does not apply to the persons accompanying them. However Invited Speakers should complete the relevant forms and send to the Secretary of IAGP.

The Papers to be presented by Invited Speakers should be sent to the Secretariat of the Conference by 30th of May 2009.

However, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to provide up to 30 minutes of speaking time to members of the Conference whose expenses will not be covered as Invited Speakers.

Category e: In the framework of the Conference, there will be a special Session for Students and Post-graduate Students of Philosophy (and of other disciplines too, provided that they have philosophical interests) where they will present their papers.

The Papers should be submitted in one of the following languages: Greek, English, French or German. Papers written in Greek should be accompanied by a proper translation into another language, preferably English.

The texts to be read at the Conference in their final form should be saved on 3.5 diskette or CD and preferably on an Apple computer (Software MS Word 2000 and upward and in Times New Roman fonts or equivalent) or in Word XP for Windows (saved preferably as a Word document and in PDF format) using Times New Roman fonts or Graeca fonts for polytonic Greek texts.

More extended texts of Papers (15-20 pages) from all categories (a, b, c d, e and f) will be published in the Conference Proceedings.

Texts in their final version for publication must be on diskette or CD in accordance with the specifications above [see also FORM No. 5]. The diskette (3.5) or CD should be sent, together with two printed hard copies of the Paper, to the Secretariat of IAGP. Texts in their final version for publication may also be sent by e-mail as Word documents and in PDF format as well.

Abstracts and Papers may also be sent by e-mail as attached documents in the above formats. However, it is obligatory that hard copy (sent by mail or by fax or by e-mail in PDF format) be received as well, since many electronic documents are not compatible in some respects due to different formatting used on different computers and different fonts. Papers should be submitted in two hard copies and double-spaced.

Only papers of a philosophical nature will be accepted and included in the Programme of the Conference.

The Organising Committee and the Academic Committee of ICOGPC reserve the right to accept or reject papers that do not comply with the academic standards of the Conference. (Conference participants are reminded that only manuscripts written in acceptable English or Greek will be considered for publication. If you have any doubt about the quality of your text in this regard, and in particular if you are not a native speaker of the language in which your paper was given, please be sure that it has been scrutinized by a native speaker of that language before sending it in).

All Papers presented at the Conference and selected for publication are copyrighted by the Organising Committee and ICOGPC and cannot be republished without express permission; the exclusive copyright of papers to be published belongs to ICOGPC, unless otherwise stated.

The official languages at the Conference will be Greek, English, French and German. However, due to the prohibitively high cost of simultaneous translation, only the first two of these languages will be simultaneously translated.

Greeks who present Papers are kindly asked to submit an acceptable English translation of the latest version of their Papers which will be read at the Conference.

Applications for participation of whatever kind must be received by the 30th of December 2008 or the 30 of January 2009. Applications should be made on Participation Form No. 1 and (for Invited Speakers) Participation Form No. 1A. Participation Form No. 2 should also be sent no later than: 28 of February 2009. Participation Form No. 2 should be accompanied by an Abstract of the Paper to be presented together with an English translation in the case of

Greek scholars. The Abstract should be written in such a way as to give a clear indication of the ideas and line of argument that the finished paper will be pursuing.

All participants (except Invited Speakers) should send the full texts of their Paper for presentation (two copies) to the Organising committee by 15th of June 2009.

All participants will be notified by mail or e-mail regarding the category to which they have been assigned.

Texts in their version (Diskette or CD and hard copy-or a Word document and PDF format) with the indication: FINAL TEXT FOR PUBLICATION must be submitted no later than the 30th of September 2009.

BOOK EXHIBITION, POSTER SESSIONS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Apart from other events, during the Conference there will be an EXHIBITION OF BOOKS (FORM No. 6) and especially books on philosophy. Authors of books, particularly those connected with philosophy, are kindly requested to send copies of their books so these may be included in the exhibition .

There will also be reserved space and special panels for poster sessions. Material planned for Poster Sessions should be typed on not more than two pages (size: A5). The deadline for applications for poster sessions is 15 of May 2009. Applications submitted after this date, but before 30th of June 2009, may be accepted if there is still space available.

Publishers from Europe and all over the world are also invited to organise exhibitions of their publications at the venue of the Conference, after consultation with the President of the Organising Committee.

Correspondence related to the Conference should be sent to following address: Professor Konstantine Boudouris, President of the Organising Committee, 21st International Conference of Philosophy, 5 Simonidou Str., 174 56 ALIMOS (ATHENS) – GREECE.

Any other person who has not already received the present Circular can get information (circular, forms etc.) related to the Conference from the home-pages of IAGP: <http://www.hri.org/iagp/> or <http://www.iagp.gr>

In the belief that this Conference will present an exceptional opportunity for research into and clarification of aspects of a burning subject of great technological and philosophical significance, we hope that the Conference will also provide participants with an opportunity for true recreation and leisure (scholē). We look forward to seeing you in the famous island of Cyprus, in the very heart of the Hellenic Culture.

With kind regards

On behalf of the Organising Committee

Professor Konstantine Boudouris

President of the Organising Committee

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CHINESE PHILOSOPHY

16th Conference of the International Society for Chinese Philosophy

The 16th International Conference of the Society for Chinese Philosophy will be held from July 7th to 15th, 2009, at Fu Jen Catholic University of Taiwan (Hsinchuang City, Taipei County). Developing the theme of the 15th International Conference (held in Wuhan University of China) in 2007—"Dialogue between Chinese and World Civilizations in the 21st Century", this time the conference proposes the theme-- 2009 Towards the World: Philosophical Dialogue and Cultural Conversation, and welcomes all scholars and specialists related to Chinese philosophy from all over the world. Scholars who intend to participate may submit their essays under the following issues:

1. Modern interpretation for traditional Chinese philosophy
2. Comparison between Chinese philosophy and western philosophy
3. Comparison between Chinese culture and western culture
4. New vision for the methodology of Chinese philosophy
5. Chinese philosophy and modern Chinese civilization
6. Modern interpretation for western philosophy
7. Communication for the basic problems of philosophy
8. Global ethical issues in communication with different cultures