



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIÉTÉS DE PHILOSOPHIE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETIES

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MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Moscow, Nov. 18, 2009

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DIKUN Xie	pour/to	SCARANTINO
Betül ÇOTUKSÖKEN	pour/to	McBRIDE
Thalía FUNG RIVERÓN	pour/to	ÇOTUKSÖKEN, ALT. McBRIDE.
Hyung Chul KIM	pour/to	LEE
Ernest LEPORE	pour/to	SCHRADER
Basilio ROJO-RUIZ	pour/to	CALVO-MARTÍNEZ
TRAN VAN DOAN	pour/to	SWEET
PHAM VAN DUC	pour/to	SCARANTINO
Lourdes VELÁZQUEZ	pour/to	DASCAL

EXCUSÉ/EXCUSED

Guido KUENG

Trésorier / Treasurer

MINUTES

1. WELCOMING ADDRESS BY PROF. A. A. GUSEINOV, DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHY OF THE RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

The meeting of the CD was opened with a welcoming speech given by the Director of the Institute of Philosophy of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Abdusalam A. Guseinov.

Dear friends,

It is a great honour for my colleagues and for me to greet you in our Institute of Philosophy of Russian Academy of Sciences. I have come here only to show our respect to you. We – Russian philosophers – understand maybe better than anyone else how important FISP is for the international relations between the philosophers of the world. During the period when our society was under ideological pressure, our possibilities of collaboration with foreign colleagues – especially from the West – were extremely limited. At that time the World Congresses of Philosophy used to be for us nearly the only possibility for such collaboration. Even taking part in the World Congresses was very problematic.

One of our colleagues has reconstructed the whole history of Russian participation in the World Congresses of Philosophy and Russian reasoning on these events. It is a very dramatic story. Russian philosophers took very active part in the first World Congresses. But in fact after the revolution of 1917 the Soviet philosophers did not participate in six congresses. During these difficult years, which lasted until the early fifties, each time FISP invited Soviet philosophers and did its best to create the possibilities for them to

come. That activity played its positive role. The situation absolutely changed in 1957(8) when a large group of Soviet philosophers went to Venice to take part in the Congress. So, since that time we have begun to participate in this important event regularly. And it is not accidentally that exactly since that time the new recovery of our philosophy has started and our return to the world philosophical process has begun.

Dear friends, I remind you of all that just in order to say that we have a special reason to be grateful to you. We would like to collaborate with FISP and we regard it as our organisation as well. I wish you a successful meeting!

FISP President Prof. McBride responded, expressing thanks for the wonderful hospitality of the Institute of Philosophy of the Russian Academy of Sciences shown to the CD members of FISP.

After a brief presentation of those CD members who were present, requested by Prof. McBride in order to introduce the CD to the UNESCO representative Moufida Goucha, who took part at the meeting as a supporting observer, the agenda, prepared by Secretary General Dr. Luca Scarantino, was approved unanimously with the additional proposal made by Prof. Peter Kemp to add to the agenda the question of the publication of the Proceedings from the Seoul World Congress.

2. PROXIES

The Secretary General announced the proxies, as noted above.

3. IN MEMORIAM

The President, Prof. McBride, read an In Memoriam dedicated to the memory of the longtime CD member David Evans, who died just over two months ago.

IN MEMORIAM DAVID EVANS

It is difficult for most of us here, I expect, to come to terms with the fact that David Evans and his wife Rosemary were with us at our Steering Committee meetings earlier this year, in fact just seven and a half months ago. He was his usual cheerful and helpful self, assisting, for example, in vote counting when that was needed, and exploring the Island of Ischia with Rosemary during his free time. And now he is dead. He had been ill a couple of years ago, I knew, requiring an operation, but he did not discuss his physical condition with many of us – I suspect with most or perhaps any of us here – and so news of his death certainly came as a terrible shock to me. It was Rosemary who first informed me of it, sending a one-line message, full of feeling, in what would have been the middle of the night in Ireland. It was the first message that I read when I opened my computer early on a Monday morning. The subject line read, simply, “David”.

My own sense of loss was further augmented in a dramatic way when on the very next day I found an envelope in my mailbox with UK stamps on it and a Belfast return address. Before I opened it, I knew that it must be from David. It had to do with FISP business, specifically with the General Policy Committee that David chaired for eleven years. Some suggestions had been sent to him by one of our members that he could not easily send on electronically, so he had mailed me a copy along with a brief cover letter, just over five lines, which included this sentence: “As you probably know, I have been very ill recently and out of action.” He went on to indicate his “present intention,” as he expressed it, to contact others about how to proceed. That intention, of course, was never to be realized.

It goes without saying that David was strongly committed to FISP and to global philosophy. He was a member of the Steering Committee for fifteen years, beginning in 1988 and for eight years the Chair of our Committee on Teaching Philosophy. In this context, he co-edited, with Ioanna Kuçuradi, the book entitled *Teaching Philosophy on the Eve of the Twenty-First Century*. Later, because of David’s expertise and enthusiasm, Peter Kemp as the newly-elected President of FISP in 2003 made the extraordinary proposal, warmly endorsed by the new Steering Committee, that he be invited to continue to attend our annual meetings as ongoing General Policy Committee Chair. He attended very faithfully, and he also participated in a number of other FISP-related activities during those years, such as the meeting on the teaching of the history of philosophy that took place in Dakar a few years ago. I have very fond memories of our many conversations on such occasions – such as one, for example, on the ship taking us from the Dakar port to the island of

Gorée, infamous for its old prison that once held slaves bound for the Americas. At the same time, I developed a great appreciation of David's keen intellect and grasp of important philosophical issues from the papers I heard him present at several of our meetings.

David's philosophical citizenship was indeed exemplary. His first book-length work, *Aristotle's Concept of Dialectic*, published in 1977, shows a mastery of the thought of "The Philosopher" that characterized all of David's later career. He published other books, one on logic, one simply entitled *Aristotle*, and over 100 articles. In addition, he was a member of the Royal Irish Academy and was for four years the Chair of its National Committee for Philosophy. He was a longtime member of the Council and Executive Committee of the UK's Royal Institute of Philosophy. For four years during the mid-1990s he chaired the UK National Committee for Philosophy, and he then navigated the very difficult issues surrounding the question of assessment of departments in the UK, chairing the philosophy panel charged with developing and applying appropriate criteria for this during a crucial two year period, from 1999 to 2001. He headed his own Philosophy Department at Queen's University Belfast for fourteen years, from 1978 to 1992, and in addition served as a Dean there for three years and as the Director of its School of Philosophical and Anthropological Studies for eight years. He also taught for two brief periods at American institutions and lectured in more than two dozen other countries.

To me, though, all of these extremely impressive achievements, which I have selected from a larger list, pale by comparison with the extraordinary human being that David was. His involvement with the administration of FISP antedated mine by ten years, but the period of our joint work was longer than that, and by the time of his death – indeed, long before that – I had come to hold him in the highest esteem and to regard him as a true friend. Our most heartfelt sympathy goes out, of course, to Rosemary, whose pain must be immeasurable. But let it also be recorded that our own sorrow at losing him as a colleague is truly very deep, very great.

William L. McBride
President of FISP

Prof. Ioanna KUÇURADI, former President of FISP, proposed to send a letter to David Evans's wife, Rosemary, on behalf of the CD.

[The proposal was endorsed unanimously.](#)

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE CD MEETING IN ISCHIA, ITALY, APRIL 2009.

[The Minutes from the CD meeting in Ischia, Italy, April 2009, were approved without any objections.](#)

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

President McBride presented his mid-term report.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF FISP TO THE CD

Moscow, 18/11/09

Since this is the shortest period between Steering Committee meetings in my memory, extending as it did over a summer when so many were on vacation and activities tended to be much less numerous than during the remainder of the year, and since moreover we have very little time to do our work, I intend to keep this brief.

Perhaps the first event post-Ischia that should be mentioned is the annual International Philosophy Olympiad, which took place in Helsinki in May. Despite being under heavy budgetary constraints, our Finnish hosts excelled in their hospitality, and there was a general feeling of satisfaction with what took place, although some questions were raised about the rules governing the rating process. Special thanks are owed to our colleague, Ilkka Niiniluoto, the Chancellor of Helsinki University, who chaired, and the two Finnish IPO members who were most centrally involved in the organizing of it – although there were a number of others who worked very, very hard as well – namely, Pekka Elo and Juha Savailonen. The gold medal was awarded to a contestant from Finland itself, two silver medals were awarded to participants from Poland and Bulgaria, and two bronze medals went to a Romanian and a Russian student. Especially since we are in Russia, I should mention that this is an especially significant achievement in view of the fact that there has been Russian

participation in this event for only a very few years. Honorable mentions went to students from South Korea, Turkey, and again Finland. But of course, as everyone says, and rightly so, all of the participants are winners in their own rights, and most if not all had a very rewarding time, both personally and intellectually.

FISP is, as you know, a sponsor of the IPO, and the rules require that three representatives of FISP and one from UNESCO be part of the committee that makes the final decisions. Gerhard Seel, Dermot Moran, and I served in this function, the two of them for the first time, and I know that they found it most interesting. Feriel Aït-Ouyahia represented UNESCO. I thank all three of them very much for their willingness to do this.

Since then, the problem of finding a venue for the 2010 IPO – Austria has offered to host it in 2011, so that does not seem to be a problem at least for the moment – has proved to be very vexing. It has been particularly difficult for the Israeli delegation, which had hoped until only a short while ago to be the host, for our colleague Marcelo Dascal, and for the Finnish IPO officers whom I have mentioned, who according to the bye-laws must remain in charge of the international organization until a definitive host for the next year has been found. One breakthrough was reached when the Israeli Ministry of Education gave its approval and a venue was located. But the problem of funding remained. All through the summer, through much e-mail correspondence, the hope was sustained that financing could be found. But finally, after the deadline had been extended several times by Juha Savailonen, it was admitted that it could not be. At this point there is hope that next spring's IPO can be held in Greece, and I have been in touch with the would-be organizers, but I have not yet heard anything definitive about it.

Next, I should mention the completion of the FISP *Newsletter* for spring/summer 2009. This involved, as usual, receiving news from member societies – this part was somewhat disappointing, since fewer societies contributed this time than to the previous *Newsletter* –, reporting the IPO results, and reporting on our meeting in Ischia. This was Emiliya Ivanova's first occasion as Administrative Secretary to take the notes at such a meeting and to complete the minutes – something that I think she handled well despite all the difficulties. A part of the minutes consists of my report and that of Luca Scarantino as Secretary General; re-reading the latter, which is quite long, on our website has occasioned renewed admiration for it on my part, since it is such a challenging blueprint for the future.

Although to all intents and purposes the previous *Newsletter* was completed well before the end of summer in September, we officially closed it and started the new one, fall/winter 2009, only a few weeks ago. We have already received news from several societies in response to my message about this, copies of which were sent to you, and so I am at least mildly encouraged. But I would like also to undertake a new initiative, parallel to the *Newsletters*, which would involve posting discussions about issues in philosophy as a discipline on the website as well. There are technical difficulties to be resolved, since we cannot allow our website to become what is now called a "blog;" or at least, if it is to serve some such function, then the discussions, if we are successful in encouraging them, will need to be put frequently into archives, with only the most recent appearing on the "discussion" portion of the website. I would like very much to know what you yourselves think of this possibility. The more I have thought about it, the more it excites me as one new, potentially very useful, initiative of which we may, as I hope, be capable.

At the end of August, the first meeting of the Programme Committee for the 2013 World Congress in Athens took place in Athens. Since you have received the detailed minutes of those meetings, thanks again to Emiliya Ivanova with some input by way of small emendations from Luca Scarantino, Dermot Moran, Myrto Dragona-Monachou, Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou, and myself, and since the results of this meeting will probably occupy the majority of our working day today, I shall say no more about them now.

A regional meeting under FISP auspices was held in Slovakia last month; Ivan Kaltchev represented FISP there, and I invite him to say something about it, if he wishes, after I am finished. I very much hope that there will be more such regional meetings in the next years, but of course there are severe financial and other constraints that mitigate against this; we will see.

The FISP Board, consulting by e-mail, decided to join collectively in protesting proposals by the government of the Czech Republic to curtail drastically the funding for the Academy of Sciences, including the Institute of Philosophy, and to divert funds to entrepreneurial initiatives.

Several FISP CD members – Professor Kuçuradi and Çotuksöken, who were the organizers, together with Professor Kukoc, Professor Kaltchev and myself – took part in a conference on the problems of identity and human rights within the context of Southeastern Europe that was held at Maltepe University in Istanbul,

where Professor Çotutsöken is Vice-President, in mid-July. Next week, I will again be representing FISP, as I did two years ago, at a conference of the Sociedad Argentina de Filosofía in Córdoba. Next, in mid-December, I shall be participating in, and again representing FISP at, a conference on “Traditions and the Contemporary World” at Beijing Normal University, which will be preceded by a celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of their Philosophy Department. Then, in early January, several of us will be in Dakar, Senegal, to take part in a conference on Africa in the context of globalization that will also be a memorial to our late colleague and Steering Committee member, Sémou Pathé Guèye.

Meanwhile, as we all know, another of our colleagues, David Evans, died very recently; as I said before in my eulogy, he will be very, very sorely missed.

Today, we are to consider the applications of several societies to become FISP member societies, and this pleases me enormously; I only hope that we can continue to build on this progress.

Publications are something that I would like to see us promote and endorse, but for the moment we have serious problems about even making people outside of Turkey aware of the existence of those that we already have, much less how to obtain them. We need to try to find some resolution of this problem. Moreover, I have heard very little from our Korean colleagues since our Ischia meeting concerning the Seoul World Congress *Proceedings*, which as you know they are planning to edit in disk form.

As for the future beyond the Dakar meetings, let us also postpone the discussion of our own next meetings until later in the day, but let me add that I remain both sanguine but also very much concerned about the future. I want FISP to play an ever-larger role in the global philosophical community, but it is not always easy to discern just how to do this in a constructive, positive way, especially in view of our own ongoing relative shortage of funds. At least the wise decision was reached, by the General Assembly in Seoul, not to count those funds in US dollars!

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RAPPORT DU PRESIDENT DE LA FISP AU CD

Moscou, le 18 novembre 2009

Etant donné que ceci est la période la plus courte dont je me souviens entre deux réunions du Comité Directeur, une période qui d'ailleurs a compris un été pendant lequel beaucoup ont été en vacances et les activités ont eu tendance à être moins nombreuses que pendant le reste de l'année; étant donné aussi que nous avons très peu de temps pour notre travail, je serai bref.

Le premier événement après Ischia que l'on devrait mentionner, c'est l'Olympiade Philosophique Internationale (IPO), qui a eu lieu au mois de mai à Helsinki. Malgré des contraintes budgétaires sévères, nos hôtes finlandais nous ont montré une hospitalité très généreuse, et en général tout le monde a été satisfait, tandis qu'on a posé quelques questions à propos des règles qui gouvernent le processus d'évaluation. Nous devons remercier particulièrement notre collègue Ilkka Niiniluoto, Chancelier de l'Université d'Helsinki, qui présidait, ainsi que deux membres du comité finlandais de l'IPO qui ont été au centre de l'organisation de cet événement – tandis qu'il y avait beaucoup d'autres qui ont beaucoup travaillé également : à savoir, Pekka Elo et Juha Savailonen. La médaille d'or a été gagnée par une Finlandaise, deux médailles d'argent ont été accordées à une Polonaise et à un Bulgare, et deux médailles de bronze ont été décernées à une Roumaine et à une Russe. Je voudrais signaler, surtout à cause du fait que nous sommes en Russie, qu'il s'agit d'une réussite considérable, car la participation russe dans les Olympiades date depuis très peu de temps. Des concurrents de la Corée du Sud, de la Turquie, et encore de la Finlande ont reçu des mentions honorables. Mais, bien sûr, comme tout le monde dit avec raison, tous les participants y gagnent ; et la plupart d'entre eux, sinon tous, ont eu une expérience valable des points de vue à la fois personnels et intellectuels.

Comme vous le savez, la FISP soutient l'IPO, et selon les règles de l'IPO il faut qu'il y ait trois représentants de la FISP et un représentant de l'UNESCO dans le comité qui prend les décisions ultimes. Cette fois, nos trois représentants furent Gerhard Seel, Dermot Moran et moi-même. C'était la première fois pour eux, et je sais qu'ils l'ont trouvé très intéressant. Feriel Aït-Ouyahia fut la représentante de l'UNESCO. Je les en remercie beaucoup tous les trois.

Depuis cet événement, le problème de trouver un site for l'Olympiade de 2010 – l'Autriche s'est proposée comme site pour l'Olympiade de 2011, qui ne semble donc pas être un problème, au moins pour le moment – est devenu très sérieux. Des difficultés se sont posées pour la délégation israélienne, qui avait espéré en être l'hôte jusqu'à très récemment; pour notre collègue Marcelo Dascal; et pour les responsables

finlandais, qui selon les statuts restent en charge de l'organisation internationale jusqu'au moment où le site de l'Olympiade de l'année suivante aura été établi. Un point de résolution vraisemblable a été atteint quand la Ministre israélienne de l'Education a donné son approbation et un site précis a été trouvé. Mais il y avait toujours la question de subvention. Pendant l'été entier on a continué à espérer que l'argent qu'il faudrait pourrait être obtenu. Mais, après plusieurs prorogations de la date-limite accordées par Juha Savailonen, on a dû admettre la faillite. Maintenant, on espère que l'Olympiade du printemps prochain pourra avoir lieu en Grèce. J'ai pris contact avec ceux qui comptent l'organiser, mais je n'ai rien entendu de définitif jusqu'à présent.

Ensuite, il faut mentionner le fait que notre *Bulletin* du printemps/été 2009 est terminé. Il comprend des nouvelles des sociétés-membres – un peu décevantes cette fois, parce que moins de sociétés y ont contribué qu'au *Bulletin* précédent – les résultats de l'IPO, et un rapport concernant notre réunion d'Ischia. Pour Emiliya Ivanova, c'était la première occasion en tant que Secrétaire Administrative pour préparer un procès-verbal d'une telle réunion – une tâche qu'elle a bien remplie, à mon avis, malgré toutes les difficultés. Mon rapport et celui de Luca Scarantino, en tant que Secrétaire Général, constituent une partie du procès-verbal; en relisant celui-ci, qui est assez long, sur notre site web je me suis rendu compte de nouveau de ce qu'il contient d'admirable, car il s'agit d'un projet pour l'avenir qui nous pose un défi considérable.

Tandis que, pour la plupart, le *Bulletin* précédent s'est terminé assez longtemps avant la fin d'été au mois de septembre, nous ne l'avons déclaré terminé officiellement qu'il y a quelques semaines, quand nous avons commencé celui de l'automne/hiver 2009. Plusieurs sociétés ont déjà répondu à mon message à ce propos, dont je vous ai envoyé des copies – ce qui m'encourage au moins quelque peu. Mais je voudrais en même temps lancer une nouvelle initiative, en parallèle avec les *Bulletins* : il s'agirait de discussions concernant la philosophie en tant que discipline et qui apparaîtraient aussi bien sur le site. Il y a des difficultés techniques à résoudre, parce que nous ne pouvons pas permettre que notre site web devienne ce qu'on appelle un "blog"; au moins, s'il va fonctionner un peu ainsi, les discussions, si nous réussissons à en provoquer beaucoup, devront être envoyées fréquemment aux archives, et seules les plus récentes se verront dans la section "discussions" du site web. Je veux bien savoir ce que vous pensez de cette idée. Plus j'y pense, plus j'en suis enthousiaste, parce qu'elle représente une promesse de quelque chose d'utile dont nous sommes capables, comme j'espère.

La première réunion du Comité de Programme du Congrès Mondial d'Athènes en 2013 a eu lieu à Athènes à la fin d'août. Etant donné que vous avez reçu le procès-verbal détaillé de cette réunion, grâce encore aux efforts d'Emiliya Ivanova avec quelques petits changements proposés par Luca Scarantino, Dermot Moran, Myrto Dragona-Monachou, Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou et moi-même, et étant donné que les résultats de cette réunion occuperont probablement la plupart de notre journée de travail aujourd'hui, je n'en parlerai pas maintenant.

Une conférence régionale sous les auspices de la FISP a eu lieu le mois dernier en Slovaquie. Ivan Kaltchev y a représenté la FISP, et je l'invite à dire quelque chose à ce propos après mon discours, s'il le veut. J'ai beaucoup d'espoir que l'on verra plus de telles conférences régionales pendant les années prochaines, mais il y a bien sûr des obstacles sérieux financiers et autres qui s'y opposent; on verra.

Le Bureau de la FISP, en consultation collective par voie électronique, a décidé de protester contre des projets du gouvernement tchèque qui auraient réduit d'une manière sévère les fonds de l'Académie des Sciences, y compris l'Institut de Philosophie, au profit d'initiatives privées.

Plusieurs membres du CD de la FISP – les Professeurs Kuçuradi et Çotuksöken, qui en étaient les organisateurs, avec les Professeurs Kaltchev, Kukoc, et moi-même – ont participé à une conférence sur les problèmes de l'identité et des droits humains dans le contexte de l'Europe du sud-est qui a eu lieu à l'Université de Maltepe à Istanbul, dont la Professeur Çotuksöken est Vice-Présidente, en mi-juillet. La semaine prochaine, je représenterai la FISP, comme je l'ai déjà fait il y a deux ans, à la conférence annuelle de la Sociedad Argentina de Filosofía à Córdoba. Ensuite, à la mi-décembre, je participerai à une conférence sur "Les Traditions et le Monde Contemporain" qui aura lieu à l'Université Normale de Pékin, précédée d'une fête commémorative à l'occasion du trentième anniversaire de leur département de philosophie; là aussi, je représenterai la FISP. Ensuite, au début de janvier, quelques-uns parmi nous participeront à une conférence sur l'Afrique dans le contexte de la mondialisation qui sera en même temps une commémoration de notre collègue et membre de ce Comité Directeur feu Sémou Pathé Guèye.

Entre-temps, comme nous le savons tous, un autre collègue, David Evans, vient de décéder ; comme j'ai dit dans mon éloge, il nous manquera beaucoup, beaucoup.

Aujourd'hui, nous allons considérer les applications de plusieurs sociétés qui souhaitent devenir membres de la FISP, et ceci me plaît beaucoup. Je ne peux qu'espérer que nous pourrions continuer à faire des progrès à cet égard.

Je voudrais bien promouvoir et soutenir des publications, mais actuellement nous avons des problèmes sérieux rien que pour informer les gens hors la Turquie qu'il y existe des publications de la FISP, pour ne pas parler des modalités de les obtenir. Nous devons essayer de trouver une solution à ce problème. D'ailleurs, depuis notre réunion à Ischia j'ai eu très peu de nouvelles de nos collègues coréens concernant les *Actes* du Congrès Mondial de Séoul, auxquels ils ont l'intention de donner une forme électronique, comme vous savez.

Quant à l'avenir au-delà de la réunion à Dakar, remettons à plus tard la discussion de nos propres réunions prochaines, mais permettez-moi d'ajouter que je reste à la fois plein d'espoir et très soucieux concernant cet avenir. Je veux que la FISP joue un rôle toujours plus grand dans la communauté philosophique globale, mais il n'est pas toujours facile à voir comment le faire dans une manière positive et constructive, surtout à la lumière de la rareté relative de nos ressources financières. Au moins il faut se réjouir en nous souvenant de la décision sage, prise par l'Assemblée Générale à Séoul, de ne pas compter nos fonds en dollars!

6. CONFERENCE IN SLOVAKIA HELD UNDER THE LABEL OF FISP IN NOVEMBER, 2009.

President McBride invited Prof. Ivan Kalchev to acquaint the CD members with the conference "Reality and fiction", recently held as a FISP regional conference in Slovakia.

Prof. Kalchev, who attended the conference on behalf of the CD and presented a communication there, recalled the main features of this trilateral conference held in Slovakia (participants from Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Poland). He pointed out that the conference was very well organised (about 100 participants from the mentioned countries), that the main topics discussed were "reality and fiction", as well as "political, theoretical and axiological" issues, and that the organisers expressed at the end their strong desire to have a larger representation of FISP at the next conference, planned for 2010 in Poland.

7. SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MID-TERM REPORT.

Secretary General, Luca Scarantino, presented his mid-term report.

RAPPORT INTÉRIMAIRE DU SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL

Sept mois à peine nous séparent de notre réunion d'Ischia. Et nous voici, en train de regretter l'absence de notre ami et collègue David Evans, à qui Bill McBride vient de consacrer un hommage touchant. David aura contribué jusqu'au bout au travail de la Fédération. Il y était particulièrement attaché. C'est aussi en hommage à sa mémoire que je m'apprête donc à évoquer quelques éléments de continuité par rapport aux lignes d'actions que nous avons esquissées à Ischia. Je le ferai de manière très synthétique, pour respecter les contraintes de temps auxquelles nous sommes soumis aujourd'hui.

Relations avec l'Unesco. Ces derniers mois ont été marqués par des relations particulièrement intenses avec l'Unesco. Le souvenir est encore vif de la Conférence générale de cette Organisation, qui a eu lieu en octobre dernier. Vous trouverez en annexe le texte de l'intervention que j'y ai prononcée en séance plénière au nom de la Fisp. Elle est bien concise : chaque orateur disposait de trois minutes pour s'exprimer, au bout desquels sa voix était progressivement couverte par une musique funéraire à l'intensité croissante.

Cette Conférence aura marqué un renforcement spectaculaire de l'intérêt de l'Unesco pour la coopération intellectuelle dans le domaine philosophique. On avait évoqué, en avril dernier, les difficultés que connaissait le programme philosophique et qui émanaient du sein même de l'Unesco. J'ai pu constater à quel point le vent a tourné : lors de la séance de la Commission des sciences humaines et sociales consacrée à la philosophie, une grande majorité d'États membres ont manifesté leur appui à ce programme. Le programme philosophique fait à nouveau partie des priorités de l'Unesco dans le domaine des sciences sociales et humaines. Je ne doute aucunement que l'intervention de certains membres de ce Comité a eu une influence considérable auprès de leurs commissions nationales : il me semble que nous devrions prolonger cette action,

d'autant plus que le changement de direction à la tête de l'Organisation ouvre des perspectives nouvelles dans ce domaine.

Enseignement de la philosophie. C'est essentiellement par le domaine de l'enseignement de la philosophie que sont passées en ces mois nos relations avec l'Unesco.

En mai, juin et septembre, j'ai participé à trois conférences régionales à Tunis, Manille et Maurice. L'Unesco y a réuni à chaque fois des philosophes et des représentants des gouvernements nationaux, dans le but de promouvoir des politiques d'enseignement de la philosophie à l'échelle régionale et nationale. J'ai aussi eu le plaisir d'y retrouver quelques membres de ce Comité. À chaque fois, des recommandations ont été adressées aux gouvernements, à l'Unesco et aux communautés savantes : on les a fait circuler parmi nous en ces jours. Je voudrais tout particulièrement attirer votre attention sur l'idée d'une grande conférence internationale consacrée à la « Philosophy for Children », que l'Unesco souhaiterait organiser avec nous à l'horizon 2011. C'est là sans doute un défi posé aux différentes méthodes d'enseignement de la philosophie et que, me semble-t-il, nous ne devrions pas laisser tomber.

Lors d'une quatrième réunion qui a eu lieu en juin en République Dominicaine, j'ai proposé à notre collègue Gabriel Vargas Lozano, ancien Président de l'Asociación Filosófica de Mexico, d'y porter la voix de la communauté philosophique locale. En effet, le deuxième trimestre de cette année a été marqué au Mexique par une querelle liée au processus de réforme de l'enseignement secondaire et où nos collègues philosophes ont joué un rôle primordial. L'Asociación Filosófica de Mexico a pris l'initiative de susciter un Observatoire philosophique réunissant les diverses âmes de la communauté savante locale et conçu pour faire front commun face au projet de réforme engagé par le gouvernement mexicain. Le débat qui a suivi a provoqué de vastes réactions à travers le monde, auxquelles la Fisp a aussi été associée. Il me semble qu'il y a là une tâche que nous sommes de plus en plus appelés à assurer : à savoir, celle de répercuter à l'échelle internationale des situations qui, localement, mettent en péril l'activité ou la liberté philosophique de nos collègues, que ce soit à titre individuel ou collectif.

D'autres initiatives dans le domaine de l'enseignement se sont tournées vers la Fisp. Ainsi, j'ai demandé à Riccardo Pozzo de représenter la Fédération lors de deux réunions internationales auxquelles j'avais été invité en tant que Secrétaire général : le Congrès international de philosophie pour enfants (Padoue, 2-5 juillet 2009) et le Congrès de l'Association Internationale des Professeurs de Philosophie (Leusden, 30 octobre-1^{er} novembre 2009). Il me semble en effet que nous avons tout à gagner à mobiliser et à renforcer nos comités à travers des relations directes entre ceux-ci et nos sociétés membres, et je tiens à remercier Riccardo d'avoir accepté à chaque fois de faire le déplacement.

Afrique et monde arabo-musulman. J'avais indiqué, dans mon rapport d'avril, deux axes prioritaires d'élargissement géographique de la Fisp : l'Afrique et le monde arabo-musulman. Depuis, la concomitance avec les rencontres de l'Unesco sur l'enseignement de la philosophie, qui ont réuni un nombre important de savants de ces régions, nous a permis de nous atteler à cette tâche. Aussi la réunion de Manille a-t-elle été doublée d'une rencontre à Bangkok entre philosophes arabes et asiatiques, à laquelle j'ai été convié à participer. J'y ai noué quelques contacts qui, j'espère, s'avéreront fructueux à l'avenir. Je tiens à dire à ce propos que, malgré la place marginale qu'occupe l'Unesco dans la production du savoir philosophique, j'estime qu'elle peut jouer un rôle considérable pour susciter des réseaux de chercheurs à l'échelle internationale, à condition que nous regardions à ces initiatives comme à autant d'opportunités permettant de renforcer la communication savante et interculturelle. Je crois de même que la Fisp aurait tout intérêt à être associée à la grande conférence « Africana » qu'est en train de bâtir Leonard Harris à l'horizon 2011. J'espère également pouvoir réunir au tour de la Fisp des chercheurs émanant des différents pays de la Méditerranée, lors d'une conférence internationale qui pourrait aussi se situer dans l'année 2011. Elle devrait encourager la participation de philosophes de ces pays lors du Congrès d'Athènes. Trouver les ressources nécessaires n'est pas simple, mais cela vaut la peine de tenter.

Un tel élargissement se joue sur le double plan des ressources et des contenus, car tout réseau savant ne peut se constituer qu'autour d'enjeux théoriques porteurs. C'est d'ailleurs une question qui a été largement débattue lors de la réunion du Comité de Programme à Athènes. C'est dans cette optique qu'à la revue *Diogène* on est en train de bâtir un numéro thématique consacré à la place accordée à la pensée philosophique dans les sociétés musulmanes. En accord avec l'esprit de la revue, il s'agit à la fois d'aborder des préoccupations qui traversent à présent l'univers savant et d'élargir, voire de susciter des réseaux de chercheurs autour de ces

mêmes questions : une tâche dont notre Fédération, à l'instar des autres composantes du Cipsh, ne peut que tirer profit. Dans le même esprit de convergence avec les activités de la Fisp, nous venons de mettre en chantier un projet de numéro destiné à accompagner la réunion « Africana », déjà évoquée, et que Leonard Harris a accepté de diriger en tant que *guest editor*. Ces deux publications, qui paraîtront en anglais, français, arabe et en anthologie chinoise, permettront, espérons-le, de mettre en valeur, y compris de manière critique, le travail et la visibilité des chercheurs qui se consacrent à ces sujets, dans l'optique de leur participation éventuelle au Congrès de 2013. Elles viennent compléter des numéros spéciaux consacrés à la philosophie politique en Chine, à la pensée philosophique en Russie et à la philosophie contemporaine au Japon, ce dernier étant actuellement en préparation. Ceci pour vous dire que, sans être une revue exclusivement philosophique, Diogène reste un instrument considérable de diffusion et circulation des idées philosophiques, auquel vous êtes tous invités à contribuer. C'est la revue du Cipsh, donc, en partie, elle est aussi la nôtre.

Au niveau des ressources, j'avais évoqué en avril l'idée de constituer un « fond de solidarité » auquel certaines de nos sociétés apporteraient des contributions volontaires permettant d'acquitter les cotisations des sociétés moins riches, notamment (mais pas uniquement) dans le monde arabe et en Afrique. Les modalités de cette pratique restent à peaufiner, grâce notamment à l'expérience de notre Trésorier, mais je suis en mesure de vous annoncer que le Cipsh accordera un subside d'environ 1,500 USD à ce fond, à titre incitatif ou de *seed money*. Nous espérons que, suite à cette décision, d'autres sociétés membres de la Fisp feront un geste dans ce sens.

Congrès d'Athènes et nouvelles demandes d'adhésion. Notre discussion aujourd'hui sera largement consacrée au Congrès d'Athènes. Celui-ci marquera encore un moment fort d'ouverture et discussion à l'échelle globale. C'est pourquoi je crois que nous devrions intensifier nos efforts pour y associer des chercheurs et des chercheuses appartenant à toutes les communautés savantes du monde, et ce dans des proportions qui ne soient pas simplement symboliques.

Ce même désir de participation s'exprime aussi à travers les demandes d'adhésion qui nous sont parvenues depuis la réunion d'Ischia. Elles occupent une partie non négligeable de nos dossiers de travail. Elles émanent de trois continents, y compris, et pour la première fois, de l'Océanie. À nous d'être à la hauteur de leurs attentes.

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MID-TERM REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Barely seven months have passed since our meeting in Ischia. And here we are, mourning David Evans our friend and colleague, whom Bill McBride has movingly commemorated. Until his last day, David remained devoted and strongly committed to Fisp. Thus, it is also as a way to pay tribute to his memory that I am going to outline some elements of continuity with our last meeting. I will do it very synthetically, as our time constraints are particularly tight today.

Relations with Unesco. Particularly intense relations with Unesco characterized the last months. We still have in mind the General Conference of the Organisation, which took place last October. You will find attached the intervention that I made at its plenary session on behalf of Fisp. You will see that it is pretty concise: each speaker was given a three minutes floor, after what his/her voice was covered by an increasingly loud funeral music.

The Conference marked a dramatic increase of Unesco interest towards intellectual cooperation in philosophy. Last April, I called your attention on the difficulties that the philosophical programme of Unesco was facing within Unesco itself. I could now observe to what extent the mood has now changed: during the session of the SHS commission devoted to philosophy, a majority of Member States openly expressed their support to this programme. As a result, it was again included among Unesco priorities in the field of the social and human sciences. I am aware that the intervention of Fisp, and particularly of some CD members, has strongly influenced the attitude of some national commissions: it seems to me that we should not interrupt this action, particularly now that the new direction of Unesco is likely to produce substantial changes in the structure and orientations of the Organisation.

Teaching of philosophy. Our relations with Unesco were mainly related to teaching of philosophy. In May, June and September, I attended three regional conferences in Tunis, Manila and Mauritius. Unesco

has each time gathered philosophers and representatives of national governments, in view of promoting philosophy-oriented education policies on a national and regional scale. Some CD members were also invited to those meetings, as representatives of their own countries. Each time, a set of recommendations has been addressed to governments, to Unesco and to the scholarly communities: they are circulating here. I would like to draw your attention particularly on the idea of a joint Unesco-Fisp « Conference on philosophy with children with renowned experts from all over the world, with a view to taking stock of existing diverse practices and identifying some main challenges ». This is a proposal that, I believe, we should not let pass.

On the occasion of a fourth meeting that took place in Dominican Republic, last June, I proposed to our colleague Gabriel Vargas Lozano, former President of the Asociación Filosófica de México, to be there on behalf of the local philosophical community. Actually, the central part of this year in Mexico has known a major struggle linked to the planned reform of secondary teaching. The Mexican Philosophical Association took the initiative to federate the different actors of Mexican philosophical community into a Philosophical Observatory, conceived to oppose the reform projected by the Mexican government. A rude confrontation eventually ended into a profound revision of the project, which finally accepted all amendments put forward by the Observatory. This debate has had a huge echo throughout the world, to which Fisp was also associated. It seems to me that there is there a task that we are more and more called to fulfill: namely, to bring on the international stage those situations that, locally, put in danger the philosophical activity and freedom of our colleagues, be it on an individual or collective level.

Several other initiatives in the field of philosophy teaching have solicited Fisp. Thus, I asked our colleague Riccardo Pozzo to represent the federation at two international conferences to which I had been invited as Secretary-general: the International Congress of Philosophy for Children (Padua, July 2-5) and the Congress of the International Association of Philosophy Teachers (Leusden, Oct 30 October-Nov 1st). I believe indeed that our Committees can only be reinforced through a direct contact with the activities of Fisp member societies, and I would like to thank Riccardo for having accepted to attend both these meetings.

Africa and the Near and Middle East. I mentioned, in my report in April, two priorities for the geographical extension of Fisp: Africa and the Near and Middle East. Since, the Unesco meetings on teaching philosophy gathered numerous scholars from these regions, what helped us in this task. Thus, the Manila meeting was followed by a conference in Bangkok that put together Arab and Asian philosophers, and which I also attended. I could establish there some contacts that, I hope, may play some role in the future. I would like to say to this effect that, despite the marginal position of Unesco as to theoretical production in philosophy, it might play a considerable role to create international networks of scholars, as far as we look at its actions as opportunities to reinforce scholarly and intercultural communication. I believe, to this extent, that Fisp would take advantage from being involved in the forthcoming Africana conference that Leonard Harris is organizing for 2011. I also hope to gather around Fisp scholars coming from different Mediterranean countries, hopefully in 2011 as well. Funding such endeavors is not easy, but is worth trying.

Such a widening involves the double level of resources and contents, as any scholarly network can only be built around shared theoretical concerns – something that was also recalled during the Programme Committee meeting in Athens. This is why *Diogenes* is currently preparing an issue devoted to the place of philosophical thought in Muslim societies. According with the nature of the journal, it is all about addressing theoretical issues that concern the scholarly world and to build and enlarge networks of scholars around those issues: a task that can only be beneficial to our Federation, as to any member society of Cipsh. In the same spirit of convergence with Fisp activities, we have just scheduled a preparatory issue to Leonard Harris' Africana meeting, all naturally guest edited by Harris. These two publications, to appear in English, French, Arabic and in Chinese anthology, will hopefully help valorize the work of those scholars, particularly in view of their participation to the Athens Congress. They supplement special issues devoted to political philosophy in China, to philosophy in Russia and, currently under preparation, to contemporary philosophy in Japan. So, without being a disciplinary journal in philosophy, *Diogenes* is nonetheless a useful tool for circulating philosophical ideas, and of course you are all welcome to take part into it. As the Cipsh journal, it is, at least partly, our journal too.

About resources, I had mentioned in April the idea of a « solidarity fund » to which some of our societies might contribute on a voluntary basis in order to cover the annual fees of less prosperous societies, so to say. That would specially (but certainly not uniquely) apply to societies in Africa and in the Near and

Middle East. The practical modalities of this practice should be well established, namely with the help of our Treasurer, but I can announce to you that Cipsh will provide an initial contribution of around 1,500 USD as seed money to this fund. We hope that, following this decision, other member societies of Fisp will make an effort in this direction.

Athens Congress and new memberships. Our discussion today will be largely focused on our next World Congress in Athens. The Congress will represent a new occasion of opening and discussion on a global scale. This is why I believe that we should increase our efforts to bring into it scholars from all scholarly communities of the world, in non-symbolic proportions.

The same wish of inclusion is expressed through the membership requests that we received after our meeting in Ischia. They take a considerable part of our booklet. They come from three continents, including, for the first time, Oceania. It is our task to meet their expectations.

8. REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

Prof. Seel read the treasurer's report on behalf of Prof. Guido Küng, the treasurer of FISP, who had been forced to be absent from the meeting.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The finances of FISP are in good shape, as can be seen from the *bilan* enclosed herewith:

A) On October 31, 2009 *the general assets of FISP* amounted to **54'744 Euros** (i.e. **80'595 US-Dollars** or **82'747 Swiss Francs**).

- The *income* (mainly the fees from the FISP Member Societies) has allowed us to cover our regular *expenditures* (the partial travel subsidies, the subsidy for the new secretariat in Paris, the printing of an issue of the Newsletter). With the *surplus of about 5'000 Euros* it will be possible to pay most of the expenses (subsidies for travel to Russia, subsidy for the secretariat in Paris) until the fees of 2010 will arrive. (Please excuse that my report with the exact details of income and expenditures is not yet ready, it is in the works, but it takes more time to have an accounting with both Euros and Swiss Francs.)

- Notice that income and expenditures are so well balanced because the President, the Secretary General, and the Treasurer did not need any subsidy for their work.

B) Another good news is the fact that *the loss in value which our investment* (ca. 34'000 Euros, included in the above mentioned general assets of FISP) *had suffered, due to the financial crisis, has practically been wiped out*: whereas in the period between July 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 the theoretical loss in value of our investment had amounted to 12% or 4163 Euros, at present (i.e. for the period between July 1, 2008 and October 31, 2009) the theoretical loss has diminished to a mere 0.63% or 219 Euros. - In the other hand, the annual income from the investment has been a meagher 1.31% or 456 Euros.

C) In addition to the general assets, FISP has assets for endowed lectures at World Congresses:

- The sum for the Maimonides Lecture is being kept in Fribourg. On October 31, 2009 it amounted to **7'273 Euros** (i.e. **10'702 US-Dollars** or **10'988 Swiss Francs**).

- An additional sum (for the Ibn Rushd Lecture) is being kept in Ankara. In June 2008 it had amounted to about 14'000 US-Dollars.

- Furthermore the Kierkegaard Centre in Copenhagen pays for the Kierkegaard Lecturer.

D) Enclosed herewith you find also the LIST OF THE MEMBER SOCIETIES OF FISP indicating their payment of dues:

As of November 5, 2009, FISP has **108** Member Societies

67 societies have paid their dues for **2009** (or even later).

26 societies have made their last payment **for 2008**.

15 societies have made their last payment **before 2008**, i.e. they were in default already at the last World Congress and have paid nothing since.

Guido Küng

* 1 Euro = 1.5107 CHF ; 1 USD = 1.0267 CHF (on 30.10.2009).

Opening the floor for questions and comments, Prof McBride observed that looking towards the future FISP should consider the situation of some societies which have not paid their fees for several years (at least one for more than 10 years). It should also decide whether FISP should eliminate their names from the membership list. He added that this is not a question to be discussed at this meeting.

Prof. Dascal proposed to envisage the possibility of reduced membership fees for the societies from the less prosperous countries. The FISP President responded that this is already in practice.

The General Secretary Dr. Luca Scarantino added to this point that the practice of reduced fees is applied for the societies that do not have much money and that this principle is a part of the general policy. However, the main problem that this topic raises concerns societies which have no money at all. That is why he suggested creating a solidarity fund, which would allow the less prosperous societies to join FISP. In his vision this fund could be applied particularly, but not uniquely, to societies in Africa and the Middle East. The problem is not whether it is theoretically possible, but how to organise it and make it work.

Prof. McBride added that some societies have no money, but are completely respectful and deserve their place in FISP. He observed that the question under discussion concerning FISP dues is not related to societies with financial problems, but to societies that, although financially solvable, do not pay their membership fees.

The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

9. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE.

Prof. Dermot Moran, the Chairperson of the Programme Committee of the WCP 2013, presented the report from the meeting of the PC in Athens. He announced the main subjects discussed at the meeting along with the decisions taken by the PC and Hellenic Organising Committee on these subjects, namely:

- translation of the Congress theme into the official Congress languages;
- official languages of the World Congress;
- conference dates;
- the titles of plenary sessions and symposia;
- round tables;
- sessions organised by Member Societies;
- contributed sections;
- student sessions and workshops;
- text of the first circular;
- poster and website;
- administrative issues such as fees and deadlines of registration, submission of abstracts, secretariat of the PC, and next meeting of the PC.

9.1. Translation of the Congress theme.

Some minor adjustments were made to the translations of the Congress theme into Greek and Russian.

There was a general agreement concerning the revision of the French translation of the Congress theme as suggested at the PC meeting in Athens, namely the replacement of the expression “recherche spéculative” by the word “questionnement”.

The CD endorsed unanimously the following translations of the World Congress theme:

- | | | |
|------------|---|---|
| In English | - | Philosophy as Inquiry and Way of Life |
| In French | - | La philosophie comme questionnement et genre de vie |
| In German | - | Philosophie als Forschung und Lebensform |
| In Spanish | - | La filosofía como investigación y forma de vida |
| In Russian | - | Философия как познание и образ жизни |
| In Greek | - | Η Φιλοσοφία ως έρευνα και τρόπος ζωής |

9.2. Official languages of the World Congress.

The Chairperson of the PC, Prof. Moran, presented to the CD members the proposal of the PC to add the Chinese language as an official language of the Congress, in continuity with the Seoul Congress. He recalled the long discussion that took place in Athens concerning the translation of symposia and plenary sessions from Chinese into the other official languages of the Congress (cf. the corresponding minutes of the PC meeting).

Dr. Scarantino recalled that this topic was already discussed at the CD meeting in Ischia, April, 2009 and that it was mainly related to the technical difficulty of translating from Chinese, as pointed out by the representatives of the Greek Philosophical Society. He mentioned that the PC had succeeded in reaching an agreement with the Greek organizers, which entailed looking for suitable solutions of the technical problems concerning the translation.

Clarifying further the same issue, Prof. Moran noted that the first task for the moment would consist of translating the Congress theme into Chinese. He suggested that a final Chinese wording should come out from a consultation with Chinese philosophers. Prof. Tu Weiming undertook to consult with the other native Chinese speakers of the CD (Prof. Xie Dikun and Prof. Tran Van Doan) and to give the Chairperson of the Programme Committee the agreed Chinese translation of the congress theme. Concerning the translation of the plenary sessions and symposia from or into the Chinese language, Prof. Moran pointed out that this will be the subject of further discussions with the Hellenic Organising Committee.

Prof. Herta Nagl added, for her part, that it will be reasonable to wait for the proposals from the Chinese philosophers before approving the translation of the Congress theme into Chinese.

Prof. M. Stepaniants announced that after the Seoul Congress, where many papers were presented by Russians, the Russian philosophers made the decision to create an Academic Committee which will evaluate the submissions in order to allow only papers of good quality to reach the Congress floor.

Prof. Lee made some suggestions about the procedure of translation of the Chinese papers into the other official languages, as well as about the possibility of reducing the financial expenses connected with this translation.

The CD members endorsed the decision of the PC to approve the Chinese language as an official language of the World Congress of Philosophy 2013. The Chinese translation of the World Congress theme will be added to the other translations after consultation with Chinese philosophers.

9.3. World Philosophy Congress Dates.

Prof. Moran presented briefly the discussion that took place in Athens on the dates of the next World Congress. He acquainted the CD members with the suggestions for the dates of the Congress and the main arguments pro and con. (For example, the argument against the proposal to hold it in the middle August was that the 15th of August is a big Orthodox holiday and everything will be closed, while in the beginning of August all the administrative and tourist organisations will be at work and the University of Athens will be available for the Congress needs).

Prof. Stelios Virvidakis argued in favour of the tentative decision about the Congress dates that had been taken at the meeting of the PC in Athens.

After a brief discussion, the CD endorsed the decision, proposed by the Hellenic Organising Committee and approved by the PC, to hold the World Congress of Philosophy in Athens from August 4 2013 (Opening ceremony) to August 10 2013 (Closing ceremony).

9.4. Titles and number of the plenary and symposia sessions.

Prof. Moran presented the list of plenary sessions and symposia, as proposed by the members of PC. He explained that the titles of plenary sessions aimed to cover both parts of the Congress theme: in other

words the PC sought a balance between the theoretical and practical levels evoked in the Congress theme, i.e., between “philosophy as inquiry” and “philosophy as a way of life”.

He argued in favour of the decision of the PC to extend the number of symposia to 7, whereas until now they were at most 5: besides the symposia covering the two parts of the Congress’s theme, it was suggested to have one symposium on classical Greek philosophy and another one, proposed by the Greek organizers, on the relevance of Greek philosophy today.

The titles of the symposia sessions proposed by the PC are the following:

- 1/ The Relevance of Greek philosophy today;
- 2/ Eros;
- 3/Philosophy and religions;
- 4/ Art and cultures;
- 5/Techology and environment;
- 6/Current trends in epistemology;
- 7/ Philosophy in modern and contemporary Greece

In the subsequent discussion the number of symposia proposed by PC encountered some objections.

Professor Ioanna Kucuradi, former President of the FISP, noted that at the previous World Congresses the number of symposia was normally 4 or 5 and that according to existing tradition there should be no parallel sessions along with the symposia.

Dr. Luca Scarantino argued in favour of the PC’s proposal concerning the plenary sessions and the number of symposia. He explained that the tradition not to have parallel sessions with the plenary sessions has been respected by the PC, but that it is still possible, according to World Congress bye-laws, to have parallel sessions with a symposium. Actually, the tentative structure of the Congress and the discussions in Athens had led to the proposal of seven symposia, something that in practice means having parallel sessions along with the symposia. He recalled that this was already the case in Seoul.

Prof. Mc Bride added that according to him the most reasonable number of symposia would be 6, but that the PC was led to approve 7 in order to balance the two parts of the Congress theme and to satisfy the request of the Greek organizers to have 2 symposia on Greek philosophy.

The titles of the two different symposia on Greek Philosophy provoked some remarks.

Prof. Poser insisted on the difference between the two proposed symposia on Greek philosophy, namely “The relevance of Greek Philosophy today” and “Philosophy in modern and contemporary Greece”.

Prof. Virvidakis argued in the favour of the two symposia on Greek philosophy: the first one is related to Classical Greek Philosophy (or the Greek philosophical heritage and its impacts on contemporary world philosophy) and the second one to contemporary Philosophy in Greece.

Clarifying this point Dr. Luca Scarantino noted that the topic was widely discussed at the Athens meeting and that the PC had accepted, at the end of the discussion, the proposal for two symposia on Greek philosophy. He repeated the aforementioned arguments about the difference between the two topics on Greek philosophy and suggested that the request from the Greek colleagues be respected.

Continuing the discussion on the titles of the plenary sessions, Prof. M. Dascal proposed to avoid the question mark in the title of the first plenary session.

Prof. McBride observed that this question was discussed in Athens and that the question mark has been eliminated. Prof. Schrader suggested limiting the title of the first plenary session to the title “Philosophical method” with the argument that the proposed formulation poses some limitations.

9.5. Thematic sections.

Introducing the themes of sections, Prof. D. Moran explained that the PC suggested many subjects on this point in order to allow more researchers to take part in the Congress. He pointed out that the PC had added, to the previously existing list of themes of sections, sections on different types of philosophical traditions.

He pointed out also that the PC proposed, for the first time in the history of the World Congress, to organise student sessions and workshops in which both professors and students could take part and exchange ideas.

In conclusion, the main principle of the suggested list of themes of sections, was to include rather than to exclude topics.

There was some discussion of the proposed list of theme sections.

Prof. M. Stepaniants welcomed the inclusion of a section on “Indian Philosophy”. She proposed in addition a section on “Russian Philosophy”.

This suggestion was supported by Prof. Sriwarakuel, who noted that a section on Russian philosophy would be interactive with the problem of the origins of philosophy.

Prof. Peter Kemp proposed, for his part, a section on cosmopolitanism.

Prof. D. Moran responded that this subject was discussed at the Athens meeting and that the sections “social and political philosophy” and “philosophy of culture” were chosen with the aim of covering this and other similar concepts.

Some further arguments were given by Prof. P. Kemp and other participants in favour of a section on cosmopolitanism: the topic of cosmopolitanism is different from that of “social and political philosophy” and vaster than that of “philosophy of culture”.

Prof. I. Kucuradi raised objections about the number of thematic sessions: 70 is too much for 7 days of the Congress; actually, the normal number of thematic sections should be around 50.

Prof. McBride argued for the possibility of having 70 sessions in order to allow more people to express their ideas. The number of sessions organised at the Seoul Congress was 60 and at Boston almost as many. He recalled that the main preoccupation of the PC was to provide a forum for as many people as possible and that is the reason why the PC suggested such detailed sections and the formulation “philosophical traditions” for philosophy in different geographical regions.

This argument encountered the opposite one: the number of themes of sections is too large, there is no coherence between all subjects, so instead of adding new sections it is better to reduce them according to logical criteria which could assure some coordination between different sections.

Prof. McBride argued that the variety of section themes was designed in order to allow more people to present their ideas, but that at the same time the PC tried to provide as much as possible a coherence between different subjects.

Dr. Scarantino added to this remark that the coherence, logic and balance between different subjects were to be sought in the programme as a whole, which means between the plenary titles, symposia, themes of sections, and invited and endowed sessions. He also argued that the list of sections should be as large as possible in order to allow scholars to submit their papers according to their wishes. In the final programme, sections can eventually be reduced, by elimination if no papers are submitted, or merged if they include closely related papers. The role of the sections list at this stage is to facilitate submissions, not to introduce a rigid partition into the final programme.

Prof. Moran and Abel supported this argument. Prof. Abel noted that “if we look at the programme as a whole there is a framework or a coherence and logic between proposed subjects.”

Prof. Herta Nagl and Prof. Tomás Calvo also argued in favor of keeping, eventually with some modifications, the proposed detailed list of thematic sections, in order to allow more people to participate in the Congress.

Prof. Nagl noted also that the organizers could decide to move a paper from one to another section if there are not enough papers in some of the proposed sections or if a paper suggested for one section is more suitable for another. She also underlined that the sessions of member societies will play an important role in the Programme as a whole.

Prof. Mc. Bride pointed out that there are also invited sessions, the subjects of which can be proposed by CD members. They will be endorsed by the CD, so the programme being discussed at this stage is far from being complete.

Among other suggestions concerning the themes of sections were the following:

- to add to the list of thematic sections a section on the “concept of the history of philosophy”, which is different from the “history of philosophy” itself (Poser).
- to change the title of section 62 from “Philosophy of the body” to “Philosophy of the body and alimentation” (Pozzo);
- to eliminate the word “traditions” in the title of the sections dedicated to philosophy in different regions and to simplify these titles from “Philosophical traditions in Africa” or “Philosophical traditions in North America” to “Philosophy in Africa” or “Philosophy in North America”.
- to unify sections 54 (Philosophy of mind), 56 (Philosophy of neurosciences) and 44 (Philosophy of cognitive sciences), which amount to a kind of redundancy.
- to join in one section entitled “Christian Philosophy” sections 11 (“Early Christian Philosophy”) and 7 (“Christian philosophy”);
- to enlarge the subject of section 8 changing its title from “Comparative philosophy” to “Comparative and intercultural philosophy”;
- to add a section “Philosophy of cultural and development in Africa” as a supplement to the section “Philosophical traditions in Africa”;
- to separate into two different sections section 67 “Social and political philosophy”;
- to unify the sections “Philosophy of mind” and “Philosophy of neurosciences”.
- to add a section on “Islamic Philosophy”.

Prof. Abel argued in favour of the distinction between different sections such as the sections “Philosophy of mind” and “Philosophy of neurosciences”. He recalled once again that the strategy of the PC was that of allowing more people to present their ideas.

As a result of the discussion, the CD endorsed the plenary sessions and symposia and the themes of sections suggested by the PC, with the following modifications:

- 1/ the title of the first plenary session was shortened to “Philosophical method”;
- 2/ the title of the first Symposium was explicitated as “The Relevance of Ancient Greek Philosophy Today”.
- 3/ a section on “Russian philosophy” was added to the list of thematic sections;
- 4/ the sections “Early Christian Philosophy” and “Christian philosophy” were unified as “Christian philosophy”;
- 5/ the section “Philosophy of culture” was retained and a new section was added: “Philosophy of development”;
- 6/ the section “Social and political philosophy” was separated into two different sections, “Social philosophy” and “Political philosophy”;
- 7/ the section “Comparative Philosophy” was enlarged to “Comparative and intercultural philosophy”.
- 8/ a section “Philosophy of globalization” was added.

The CD recommended that the first circular of the WPC be prepared and circulated before the next meeting of the CD.

9.6. Workshops and student sessions.

The proposal of the PC to include in the World Congress Programme workshops and student sessions was endorsed by general agreement.

9.7. Endowed lectures.

The discussion of the WPC Program continued on the topic of endowed lectures.

Prof. Moran noted that there would be at least 3 endowed lectures.

Prof. Lee indicated the probability of there being a fourth endowed lecture, on West-East dialogue, sponsored by the Korean Philosophical Association.

Prof. P. Kemp supported this proposal, saying that he will be very glad to have an endowed lecture on this subject, but he observed that the CD should not accept the proposal without the assurance from the Korean organizers that the Proceedings from the Seoul Congress will be published. He pointed out that according to the contract made with the Korean Organizing Committee the Proceedings from the Congress must be published.

Answering this objection, Prof. Lee acquainted the Steering Committee with the technical problems regarding the publication of the Seoul World Congress's Proceedings. He assured the CD members that he has a promise from the Korean Organizing Committee that the Proceedings will be published soon on line and in CD-rom format.

Prof. Ioanna Kucuradi observed that on-line publication is not enough. It is not necessary to publish all the papers, but there should be at least some of the Proceedings in printed format.

Prof. Kemp supported the suggestion for a selective publication of the contributed papers and proposed publishing in a printed format at least plenary sessions, symposia and endowed lectures of the Seoul WCP.

Prof. Poser insisted on the fact that at least the plenary sessions, symposia and endowed lectures could be published in a printed format, which would be easy and not very expensive. The CD-rom containing all the papers, prepared by the Korean Organizing Committee, could be attached to this printed volume. He suggested also that the FISP make a formal demand for this to the Korean Organizing Committee.

Prof. Herta Nagl noted that if the proceedings from the Seoul Congress were not published in a short time and in a printed format, this would have a negative impact on FISP's image. She supported, as a good compromise, Prof. Poser's proposal to have in printed format at least plenary sessions, symposia and endowed lectures to which a CD-rom with the other papers could be attached.

Prof. Lee agreed that the publishing of a volume with plenary and symposia sessions does not raise a big financial problem. A different problem would concern the choice of the contributed papers which deserve to be published.

Prof. Sweet suggested, as a possible solution of this latter problem, that the chairpersons of the thematic sections be asked to make the selection of the papers worthy of publication.

Prof. Stepaniants proposed to involve Prof. Kemp as a co-editor of publication.

Prof. Kemp agreed to assist as a co-editor in the process of publishing the Seoul Proceedings.

As a result of discussion, the CD endorsed unanimously the decision to demand officially that the Korean Organizing Committee publish in a printed form at least plenary sessions, symposia and endowed lectures, with a CD-format version of all papers attached to the printed volume(s).

The President of FISP, Prof. McBride, was charged with writing an official letter to the Korean Organizing Committee, expressing formally this request by the CD.

9.8. Society sessions.

Some observations were raised on the topic of Member Society meetings.

Prof. Herta Nagl pointed out that at the Seoul Congress many of the society meetings were real sessions.

Prof. McBride added to this point that the contributed papers given at these meetings were not noted in the Programme.

For this reason Prof. Poser suggested that it would be useful to change, in the Programme, the name of this category from “Meetings of Member Societies” to “Sessions of Member Societies”.

It was also noted that the number of sessions of each member society might be subject to limitations, according to the available space in the programme of the Congress.

[These proposals were endorsed with general agreement.](#)

9.9. Deadlines for paper submissions and fees.

Profs. Moran and McBride argued that the CD should establish deadlines for paper submissions, both for member societies and for individuals, and to fix some registration fees which would be included in the first circular.

Concerning the deadline for the receipt of contributed papers and for proposals for round-tables, workshops and student sessions, Prof. Moran suggested moving it from June 1, 2012 to October 1, 2012. Papers and proposals received after this deadline, but before February 1, 2013 may be accepted, if space is still available.

As registration fees he proposed the following:

- 1/ €200 for early registration prior to October 1, 2012.
- 2/ €225 for registration prior to February 1, 2013.
- 3/ €250 for registration after February 1, 2013.
- 4/ €100 for accompanying person.
- 5/ €50 for students.

He stressed that this proposal needed to be endorsed by the Hellenic Organising Committee.

[The CD endorsed the decision to propose these deadlines and registration fees to the Hellenic Organising Committee with the additional request that it announce as soon as possible a web-site and an e-mail address for correspondence and electronic submissions of papers.](#)

9.10. First circular.

Prof. Moran remarked that these suggestions, along with eventual modifications, will be noted in the first circular, which will be prepared before the next meeting of the CD.

He confirmed that the first circular, with all of the proposed modifications made on the WCP program, should be ready and sent to the CD in spring 2010.

The final version of the first circular will be edited by Prof. D. Moran, Prof. McBride and Dr. Scarantino and should be ready before the next meeting of the CD.

The first circular should be accompanied by an official WCP logo, which is the responsibility of the Hellenic Organising Committee.

10. REPORTS OF THE FISP CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES.

10.1 Committee on General Policy.

President McBride informed the CD members that the Chair of the Committee, Prof. D. Evans, had made a number of proposals concerning the rules governing future (post-Athens) World Congresses. He had later sent him, by post, some alternative suggestions made by Prof. I. Kucuradi, but the envelope containing this material had reached him the day after he learned of Prof. Evans' death, and so he decided not to circulate copies of this until the present meeting. Prof. McBride therefore suggested postponing discussion of

these changes until the next CD meeting, when members of the Committee would have had the opportunity to make some definite proposals.

The suggestion was endorsed unanimously.

10.2 Committee on Philosophical Encounters and International Cooperation.

The Chair of the Committee, Prof. Maija Kule, presented a report of its activities and a new volume of the publication, *Philosophy Worldwide: Current Situation*, Volume III, which should be available soon.

She noted that this volume represents the philosophical trends in different regions and that the Committee had received excellent papers for it from many countries (Philippines, Japan and others). The Committee expects also very good additional papers from Central Europe, Spain, etc.

As the volume to appear is a kind of panorama of worldwide philosophy today, she suggested that it should be distributed in different countries in order to acquaint people with current philosophical research in different parts of the world and to facilitate philosophical encounters and intercultural cooperation.

The Report of the Chair, Prof. Kuule, is attached to these minutes.

10.3 Committee on the Teaching of philosophy.

The report of the Committee on teaching philosophy was presented by Prof. R. Pozzo. He distributed to the CD members the recently published volume on the teaching of philosophy, *A l'école des philosophes*, edited by Jean Ferrari and published by the Centre Georges Chevrier under FISP auspices.

He said that one of the leading questions in this volume is of just what the teaching of philosophy today consists.

He pointed out that as a part of its activities the AIPPh tries to keep contact with pre-university teachers of philosophy.

Another proposal was to send a letter to the International Philosophy Olympiad Committee, suggesting the inclusion of the Spanish language as an official language of the Philosophical Olympiads.

This suggestion encountered some objections:

Prof. Kucoc noted that according to the Philosophy Olympiad regulations, the students should write their essays in a foreign language; so, if among the participants at IPO there were students living in the USA but originally from a Spanish-speaking country, they would not be in an equal position with the other students. In other words, the principle of the IPO would not be respected.

Prof. Schrader remarked, for his part, that American students are more and more interested in the Spanish and Chinese languages and not so much in French and German. So, if a new language should be added to the Philosophical Olympiad, it is relevant to think about this tendency.

After some discussion the CD accepted with general agreement the suggestion to recommend to the International Philosophy Olympiad Committee to add the Spanish language as an official foreign language of the Philosophical Olympiads.

The Report of the Chair, Prof. Pozzo, is attached to these minutes.

10.4 Committee on Bioethics and Ethics of the sciences.

Before presenting the report of the Committee, the chairperson, Prof. D. Shrader, proposed to change its name from "Committee on the Ethics of Science and Technologies, Especially Bioethics" to "Committee on Bioethics and Ethics in the Sciences".

The proposal was endorsed by the CD with general agreement.

He presented the main activities of the Committee during the year 2009 and acquainted the CD's members with a proposal for a RT on *Bioethics and Ethics of the Sciences*, to be organised by the Committee at the

next World Philosophy Congress, as well as with the Committee's intention to hold a conference on bioethics in 2010 or 2011.

The Report of the Chair, Prof. Schrader, is attached to these minutes.

10.5 Committee on Human Rights.

The President of FISP informed the CD members of a special situation concerning this committee. Its chairperson, Prof. Dragona-Monachou, was not present at the meeting, but she has addressed a letter to the CD with excuses for her absence and her proposals regarding the Committee's work.

Prof. McBride read the letter from Prof. Dragona-Monachou in which she expressed her inability to continue in this post for the future and her suggestion to assign it to Prof. S. Virvidakis, who would be able to chair the Committee and contribute to its activities.

Prof. Virvidakis responded, for his part, that he was ready to assume this responsibility and would accept to chair the Committee if Prof. Kucuradi, who is an expert on Human Rights and best qualified for this position, as well as the other members of the Committee would agree.

The CD endorsed the suggestion of changing the Committee's chairperson with general agreement. According to this decision the new chair of the Committee on Human Rights is Prof. S. Virvidakis.

10.6 Committee on Intercultural Research in Philosophy.

The report of the Committee of the intercultural research was presented by Prof. W. Sweet, its Chair. He acquainted the CD members with the main activities of the Committee and pointed out that a volume on the subject "what is intercultural philosophy" will be published soon. He announced also the events in a project for the year 2010 to be organised by the Committee.

The Report of the Chair, Prof. Sweet, is attached to these minutes.

10.7 Committee on the History of Philosophy.

Prof. H. Poser, the Chair of the Committee, presented the report on the Committee's activities. He stressed that the main subject of questioning in the work of this new Committee (established in 2009 and approved at the Ischia meeting of the CD) was "why we need the history of philosophy". He expressed also the feelings of the Committee's members that the history of philosophy has to be part of university courses.

In conclusion, he announced a workshop on the topic "What makes the history of philosophy a necessary part of active, living philosophy" (a theme suggested by D. Evans), which will be held in Toulouse, Italy in 2010.

10.8 Committee on Aesthetics.

The Chair of the Committee, Prof. Seel, presented the report of the main activities during the year 2009 and the projects for 2010. He noted that as the Committee (approved at the Ischia CD meeting) was recently constituted its first task was to consolidate itself and to establish the relation with IAA. To this effect a first meeting of the Committee was held during the meeting of the CD in Moscow. On this meeting Prof. Seel was unanimously elected chair of the Committee.

Prof. Sasaki informed the CD of his contacts with the presidency of IAA. He is invited by the IAA to chair a round-table at the next World Congress of IAA in Peking to which he should invite members of the CD of FISP as speakers. Prof. Seel suggested that the CD and the Program Committee of the next World Congress of FISP make a corresponding offer to IAA.

The Minutes of the meeting of this Committee, prepared by its Chair, Prof. Seel, are attached.

11. FISP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS.

The Secretary General presented the applications for new FISP memberships.

Five new applications were provided, coming namely from:

- The Australasian Association of Philosophy;
- The Philippine Academy of Philosophical Research;
- The Centro de Investigaciones Filosóficas (CIF)- Argentina;
- The International Society for Islamic Philosophy;
- The George Santayana Society.

The memberships of the “Australasian Association of Philosophy”, “Philippine Academy of Philosophical Research” and “Centro de Investigaciones Filosóficas (CIF) – Argentina” were approved without discussion.

A discussion took place concerning the membership of the International Society for Islamic Philosophy. Some questions were raised about the policy of this Society, regarding the international members included in it.

In particular, Prof. Kuçuradi objected that 1) this society does not fulfill the two year condition of acceptance, and 2) that a society in whose statutes is expressed that its president must belong to a given religion could not be considered as a philosophical society.

Prof. Aavani, the President of the Society, answered these questions and presented the Society’s main activities of last year, as well as the projects planned for 2010.

As a result of discussion the application of the International Society for Islamic Philosophy was approved by the CD, effective in March 2010 when it will have existed for two years, as required by FISP bye-laws.

The application of the Santayana Society was generally welcomed, but a formal vote on it was postponed because, as Secretary General Scarantino pointed out, it had not yet drawn up an official constitution as required by FISP bye-laws.

12. WORLD PHILOSOPHY DAY 2010.

The President, Prof. McBride, informed the CD members of the proposal, coming from UNESCO, to hold the next World Philosophy Day in Teheran, Iran in November, 2010.

Prof. Aavani invited the FISP CD to Teheran in conjunction with the World Philosophy Day. This invitation has been officially supported by the Iranian Embassy in Russia.

The topic raised many questions and observations.

Some of the CD members expressed their concerns about the possibility for every one of the CD members to participate in this meeting. They suggested that in order to consider the invitation, the CD should have a guarantee from the Iranian Institute of Philosophy, as well as from the Iranian authorities, that all of the CD members could obtain a visa, allowing all of them to participate in the meeting.

Some other questions were raised about the responsibility of the whole organisation for the event and for administrative charges related to it, which would also include the formalities connected with the issuance of visas.

Prof. M. Stepaniants proposed that some arrangements regarding the delivery of visas should be agreed upon in advance with the Iranian authorities. The Institute of Philosophy itself is not able to assure all administrative procedures concerning the issuance of visas. The organisation of an event like this would not be possible without the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which should help the Academic institution in the process concerning issuance of visas.

Prof. Kukoc proposed that before taking a final decision the CD should have a general agreement with the Iranian authorities regarding the visa issue.

Prof. Aavani assured the CD, from his side, that the Iranian government will do whatever it can in order to allow the participation of every one of the CD members at the meeting.

Some questions were raised about the participation of women members at the Teheran meeting and their manner of dress: will be they obliged to put on a veil or a scarf and in what places?

Some other observations, going beyond the administrative issues, were made subsequently.

The Secretary General Dr. Scarantino pointed out that the decision is not related only with the visa matter. He clarified the general procedure regarding the World Philosophy Day implementation: this is an event organised by UNESCO with the cooperation of the national commissions of the concerned countries. The proposal for this comes from the government of the country, then it is approved (or not) by UNESCO. So, the final responsibility for this event is divided between UNESCO and the government of the country. But, once the invitation is accepted by UNESCO, then it is the national government which is responsible for the organisation of the WPD and which takes control over the event. So, the WPD is not a purely academic event even though it has a clear academic dimension. The CD members could decide to go to Iran, independently, and this would be a purely academic event, but in the framework of the WPD this has also political connotations. So CD members should take cognizance of these political connotations, if it decides to participate there.

That is why he suggested postponing any decision by the CD. He underlined firmly that his proposal has nothing to do with his personal feelings and his personal respect for the Iranian philosophical tradition, well-known for its heritage, as well as for its contribution to the contemporary world philosophy. However, the current situation in Iran calls for a serious reflection on any decision to be taken.

The President, Prof. McBride, suggested as a compromise to accept the Iranian invitation under the condition that if some of the concerns raised were not met, if a guarantee for visa issuance to every one of the CD members was not provided, if some questions concerning the direction of WPD were not satisfactory answered, then the decision could reviewed.

Prof. M. Stepaniants added, from her part, that Prof. Aavani should pass all these worries of the CD members to his authorities.

[The discussion did not result in a formal decision.](#)

13. NEXT MEETINGS OF THE CD.

Prof. McBride announced that there is an invitation from the **Croatian Philosophical Society** for a meeting of the CD of FISP in Croatia in September, 2011, in conjunction with a special meeting of that Society.

Another invitation has been made by Prof. Ioanna Kucuradi, who suggested the possibility of a CD meeting in Istanbul in 2012.

There being no further business for the moment, the meeting adjourned.



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ANNEXES

REPORTS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

I. Report of the Committee on Intercultural Research in Philosophy.

Membership: G Aavani, J Agbakoba, T Boni, M Dascal, D Deleule, W Kaltenbacher (external member), B Rojo-Ruiz, W Sweet (Chair).

The Committee has been active through e-mail communications and met in Moscow on 17 November in the evening. (The Committee had planned to hold a small workshop in Moscow during the meetings, but the schedule was already rather full.)

Members of the Committee were active in preparing the edited volume on: *Rethinking the Role of Philosophy in the Global Age: Proceedings of the Hanoi 2006 Conference*, ed. by William Sweet and Pham Van Duc (Washington, DC: CRVP Press, 2009).

Activities in the coming year:

The Committee agreed that it would engage in 2 principal activities:

1. to co-sponsor a conference on intercultural philosophy ('Universalism, Relativism and Intercultural Philosophy') to be held at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, on 3 to 5 February 2010;
2. to prepare a collection of essays on the theme 'What is Intercultural Philosophy?', which will be published as a book or in a special issue of a journal. The aim is to have this book ready for the next CD meeting.

FISP CD members are very warmly invited to participate in these 2 activities.

For further information on the conference on intercultural philosophy, see: www.crvp.org/conf/2010//ghana.htm

(For those who wish to contribute a paper (maximum 6000 words) to the collection of essays on the theme 'What is Intercultural Philosophy?', the deadline for manuscripts is April 15, 2010. Please write to William Sweet wcsweet@gmail.com by December 15, 2009, if you wish to contribute a paper.)

Activities over the longer term

1. The Committee plans to organize an invited session or Round table at the 2013 World Congress, on the theme of "Intercultural Philosophy"
2. The Committee proposes to organize a Round Table or seek to co-sponsor at least 1 conference each year on the theme of Intercultural Philosophy. It hopes particularly to involve or include Latin American perspectives, and those that draw on oral traditions in philosophy.
3. The Committee plans to co-sponsor some of the conferences of the 'Council on Research and Values in Philosophy' which bear on this theme or which bring together philosophers of different cultural traditions – a matter approved several years ago by the CD.

II. Report of the Committee on Teaching Philosophy.

A. Agenda

1. Defense of Philosophy Teaching at High-School Level in Countries, in which it is threatened. Messages received. Statement to be drafted. I have received a number of requests to raise concerns about the attempts to abolish philosophy teaching in the high schools of countries such as Mexico and Catalonia. It is important we keep track of what is happening and intervene case by case on the basis of a solid statement.
2. World Philosophy Day. Cooperation with the United Nations Education and Science Organization (UNESCO). The 2009 UNESCO World Philosophy Day is about “Philosophy in the Dialogue of Cultures”. UNESCO has always been closely linked to philosophy, not speculative or normative philosophy, but critical questioning which enables it to give meaning to life and action in the international context. One could also declare that it is a philosophical institution, since it intends to contribute to maintaining peace and security by heightening collaboration between nations through education, science and culture in order to ensure the universal respect of justice, of the law, of human rights and fundamental liberties for all, regardless of race, gender, language or religion, that is recognized for all people in the Charter of the United Nations. This end goal involves the recognition and implementation of a certain philosophy of law, of human rights and of universal history through means that are also philosophical. But it is better to say that UNESCO does not have a philosophy in the literal sense of the word since it wants to be a privileged place for exchange and dialogue on the pluralism of experiences of thought and of world cultures. In this sense, UNESCO is a philosophy. The issue is identity, cultural identity.
3. Philosophy for Children. Cooperation with the Institute for the Advancement of the Philosophy for Children (IAPC) and others. In July 2009, I took part in IAPC conference held at Padua. I was greatly impressed. Rather than dictate a set of prescribed values to children, Philosophy for Children seeks to help them strengthen their own capacity to appraise and respond to these beckoning alternatives; to self-correct their habits of thought, feeling and action through sustained ethical inquiry. Moreover, Philosophy for Children's egalitarian nature, commitment to varying viewpoints and insistence on the inherent value of all participants helps foster empathy and pro-social behavior as an essential basis for values education. I propose FISP endorse IAPC activities and dedicate a great deal of attention to this complex and revealing phenomenon.
4. Philosophy in High Schools. Cooperation with the International Association of Philosophy Professors (AIPPh) and others. In October 2009, I took part in the AIPPh conference held at Leusden. At stake were issues such as the following: 1.Identity, Philosophy and the European Tradition; 2.Intercultural Philosophy and Multiperspectivity; 3.Philosophy with Younger Pupils in Lower Professional and Technical Education; 4.Philosophy in Continuing Education; 5.Philosophy and Ethics with Reference to Religion Teaching; 6.Inter-or Transcultural Philosophy; 7.Philosophy and media; 8.The Values of Students; 9.Philosophy Effectiveness in Society. Again, I was greatly impressed. I propose FISP endorse AIPPh activities.
5. Role of Philosophy in the Transition from High School to College and/or University. “The task of philosophy in schools.” This is the title of vol. 3 of the AIPPh series. I am here, for I have to learn from you all. I am very proud of the experience I had as a high school teacher in Italy from 1994 to 1996. In Italy, we are expecting a high school reform in 2010. Committees are at work to write new programs. We are in flux. The point is: better to have something than to have nothing. If this is the perspective, in Italy we have been privileged: in Italy, since the 1926 Gentile Reform, philosophy has been reserved two week-hours for three years in both Humanistic and Scientific Gymnasias. Lately, philosophy has been offered also in further orders of schools. Students have the chance of receiving a formal introduction to philosophy, which in Italy is structured historically: first year ancient and medieval philosophy (Tales to Nicholas

of Cusa), second year modern philosophy (Valla to Kant), and third year contemporary philosophy (Fichte to Derrida). Philosophy oriented interdisciplinary modules are proving to be effective in countries in which cutting off a year out of high-school curricula has been connected with prolonging of one initial year B.A. curricula. This is the case of Italy, which is expecting a high-school reform in 2010. Besides, in Italy the attrition rate is taking a heavy toll on academic life. More than 40% of freshmen give up enrolling for the sophomore year.

6. Intellectual Identities in an Intercultural Perspective. Today, we are looking into appropriating philosophy's specific ways of thought, which in their present form are originally European. Especially European is the capability of confronting one's own tradition with the tradition of one's neighbor, alongside of what has been known as a continuing 'translatio studiorum', namely the cultural melting pot already spoken about by Plato in the *Timaeus* (23c) with regard to the translation of the art of writing from Egypt to Greece. The questions I am about to raise concerns, then, the polycentric identity of Europe as well as that of many other cultures.
7. Survey of Philosophy Teaching in the World. What has been achieved by FISP so far under the chairmanship of Jean Ferrari. What is currently being achieved by UNESCO at the International Council for Philosophy and the Human Sciences (CIPHS). What is expected from us.
8. International Philosophy Olympiad (IPO). State of Affairs. Forwarding the request submitted by David Schrader to enlarge the spectrum of the languages from three to four in order to include Spanish. The IPO have a story of their own. They have now celebrating their 18th edition and are well on their way to become as authoritative as the mathematics and chemistry Olympiads.
9. Fostering Common Efforts towards Setting up a Repository of Philosophical Sources. The objective is to provide access to the texts that have built the cultural consciousness of the European people by developing digital resources for philosophy and the human sciences in the principal European languages (Latin and Ancient Greek included). Cultural identity and diversity are political issues. The point is that multiculturalism and interculturalism are not about giving answers, they are about questions to be raised. Internet access makes new definitions of national identity, European identity, terrestrial identity possible. We are globally interconnected. It is Leibniz again and his dream of a universal library—*dans le cybionte*. Students of all faculties are the target of the repository. At a number of European universities, the *studium generale* is currently a program aimed at transmitting Humanities methodologies and texts. It is both philosophy and reflection on culture, it is cultural theory, cultural management, and artistic practice. The main goal of the *studium generale* is orienting students in the years that precede their final choice of a profession. For this reason, no degree is in *studium generale*. It is instead an auxiliary program offered to all students. The stress is on the autonomous and reflective ability of connecting among diverse disciplines, on thinking and acting beyond one's own field, on producing one's own strategy as well as on mastering communication techniques. In other words, the stress is on developing the constitution of one's own personality, ripeness of judgment, sharpness of perception, and taste for beauty. At the basis lies the tradition of neohumanism, which half a century ago had already inspired Robert Maynard Hutchins to ask for the introduction of the renowned Humanities 1 and Humanities 2 modules of the "Great Books Curriculum" and for its textual basis in the fifty-four volumes of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* series, *The Great Books of the Western World*, from Homer to Sigmund Freud. If one admits the comparison, the project outlined below fulfills half a century later the same function fulfilled by the *Britannica* Great Books with the difference, however, of its not being on paper, of its being open access, and of its being multilingual. Besides, we neither offer nor require a simple canon of books, we offer more. We offer, as Hans Blumenberg has suggested, the appropriation of specifically European *Denkformen*: first and foremost the ability of coming to terms with old and new forms of *translatio studiorum*, resulting in a cultural fusion of one's traditions with the traditions of one's neighbors.

B. Projects

Languages of Europe (LOE) is the title of a project. Languages are the very heart of the unity in diversity of the European Union and are all equally necessary for Europe's intellectual identity. The project's main aim is to provide access to the texts that have built the cultural consciousness of the European people by developing digital resources for philosophy and the human sciences in the principal European languages (Latin and Ancient Greek included). The project is a wide-reaching attempt at establishing a spin-off of university based knowledge in the humanities in connection with publishers and information technology companies.

An open access hypertext will be constituted, in which for every quoted source a link is established to its critical edition together with its translations in the main European languages. Inversely, every quote is linked with a number of articles, monographs, indices, and surveys. Due to its goal of serving as Europe's reference infrastructure for philosophy and the human sciences, the LOE will be flexible and dynamic, transnational and transdisciplinary. As an academia-refereed integrated hypertext, the LOE is the contrary of all Wikipedia-like endeavors. It is oriented towards excellence, the orchestration of heterogeneous and dynamic resources distributed across multiple platforms into a single entity, the fast and massive diffusion of ideas and information, the management of the digital content, the strengthening of cooperation between humanities researchers around the world, the development of new models for digital publishing, and last but not least towards the optimization of research costs.

The LOE differs from the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, which does not present historical reconstructions of any of the concepts therein. It differs also from recent works such as the *Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy* (second edition 1999), the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (1998) and the second completely revised edition of the Macmillan *Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2002), which all mix articles on individual philosophers with articles on concepts, letting however the former have a substantially bigger share than the latter. The results of today's most advanced historians of Philosophy, however, justify the need to separate the reconstruction of the thoughts of individual philosophers in their regional and institutional contexts (which has been the focus of the *Ueberwegs Grundriss der Geschichte der Philosophie*) from the reconstruction of the history of individual concepts (which has been pursued in the HWPh). English-speaking interest in *Begriffsgeschichte* has provoked a conspicuous linguistic turn in recent intellectual history. While the pure history of philosophical concepts takes a central part within the 700 articles of the six volumes of the *New Dictionary of the History of Ideas* (2004), Donald R. Kelley and Ulrich Johannes Schneider have made it clear, however, that the History of Philosophy and Intellectual History cannot be said to be co-extensive. The "intelligible" field of study is language, or languages, and History of Philosophy is not the model of but rather the province in the larger arena of interpretation of intellectual history.

Based on the user-friendly model of a search engine, we will create a database of resources in order to develop philosophical knowledge, preserve its sources in seven European languages and promote its worldwide diffusion. Relying on forty-four years Istituto per il Lessico Intellettuale Europeo e Storia delle Idee know-how in computational philology, the LOE will be an integrated instrument for generating (1) files, indices and access of textual contents in digital size, (2) bibliographic and lexicographic databases, (3) a repository of primary and secondary sources constituting the ideal multilingual library that has brought about the awareness of Europe's unity in diversity.

The objectives are: (1) construction of a digital open and accessible infrastructure able to shift the dissemination of texts and icons related to Europe's intellectual identity from the paper medium to an integrated hypertext laid out for different levels of implementation, access, and use; (2) carrying out *high risk-high gain* research based on the evolving methodologies of the history of concepts and the history of ideas; and (3) setting up of teaching material for History of Concepts modules to be included within the modules for the homogenisation of knowledge planned for the *EUniCult* under the auspices of ministers Annette Schavan (Bonn) and Ángel Gabilondo (Madrid) by the *Guardini-Stiftung* (Berlin) to be offered to students of all faculties in all universities of the European Union on the basic tenets of Europe's intellectual identity.

By expanding the ILIESI digital infrastructure by means of the NetPhilo search algorithm into a flexible and open ICT infrastructure directed to shifting from paper to an integrated hypertext open to different levels of implementation, access, and use the dissemination of texts and icons that are connected with Europe's intellectual identity, the LOE will enable users to use four kinds of integrated resources: (1) *lexica and encyclopedias of Philosophy*; (2) *philosophical bibliographies*; (3) *digital editions*; (4) *open archives*.

C. Polycentric Identity

The process initiated by the Bologna Conference in 1999 towards an economically, environmentally, and culturally sustainable development has led to the constitution of the European Research Area, in which education is in the process of being streamlined in all participating countries. One of its first consequences was a long wished for increase in the number of graduates all over Europe. Given that the main difficulty seems to lie in disseminating an idea of science that were at the crossroad between basic and applied research, very much in the spirit of the Bologna declaration, an answer to this difficulty is the *studium generale*, which is a set of interdisciplinary modules aimed at presenting to students of all disciplines the nucleus of European science and philosophy (from Aristotle's *Analytica* to Euclid's *Stoicheia*, from Plato's *Politeia* to Augustine's *Confessiones*). The LOE is an instrument for achieving this dissemination goal in as far as it enables students and teachers to find their own ways within Europe's intellectual identity. First and foremost, then, it is the methods and the contents produced by the LOE that provides an answer to the question, "What does it mean to be European?" This is the key role the LOE plays with respect of the constitution of Europe's polycentric identity.

Towards an Integrated Hypertext of the History of Concepts: (a) Philosophy database on the basis of the extant one of the Lessico Intellettuale Europeo in connection with a consortium of publishers; (b) bibliography repertoire on the basis of catalographic networks, and a monitoring of journals; and (c) direct linking between the bibliographic token, the textual reference, and its library placement.

Semantic Infrastructures: (1) lemmatization of all texts in the progress of their acquisition; (2) tracking down connections among the lemmata on the basis of questions raised while analyzing texts; (3) semantic ontologies, orders of philosophical discourse in interdisciplinary exchange towards the definition of new instruments for textual analysis; (4) monitoring users' endeavors in order to develop digital tools according to needs.

Elaboration of teaching materials for *studium generale* interdisciplinary modules to be offered to European university students. The intercultural dimension lies at the very heart of the LOE. Although English has become indispensable in its function of auxiliary international language (as Umberto Eco has put it), the *lingua franca* of our days, Europe cannot afford to lose its linguistic variety. It is the task of the *studium generale* to work towards enhancing precision of expression. The LOE does exactly this in as far as it does not only offers texts in the original languages, it offers also translations and especially a key to tracing meaning-shifts of concepts and metaphors in the course of time. We are talking about opening up Europe's cultural heritage in the shape of texts and images together with related scientific literature. At stake is the ability of picking up new languages, translating, and last but not least gaining insights about one's own intellectual identity, on the basis of a dialogical exchange.

National integrated systems for scientific investigation are the basis of a country's participation in the European Research Area.

Top-down projects require coordination at the level of regional, national, and intergovernmental governance regionale: (1) Internationalization Office of the national departments for education and scientific research; (2) Departments of other EU members; (3) General Direction Science and Research and General Direction Education and Culture of the European Commission; and (4) Regional administrations participating in the network – initiative *Regions of Knowledge*.

Finally, I wish to point out philosophy's interdisciplinarity and multiculturality, which have already been the subject of a conference held in 2000 (*Interdisziplinariät der Begriffsgeschichte*). Philosophical texts constitute the common cultural foundation that lies at the origin of Europe's pluralism from Antiquity to our days. It considers periods within the history of development of all

sciences by focusing on the discussions about their methodologies. Specifically, we focus on the constant interaction among Philosophies, Sciences, and Religions. Finally, at stake is typically European ability of coming to terms with ambiguities, in the effort of productively acquiring diversity of both internal and external origin. Philosophy facilitates creative thinking in as far as it provides its students and scholars with methods and contents for both plastic and differentiated expression and for enriching logical arguments by metaphors and iconic references.

Monitoring users' searches for the development of the availability of digital resources will bring about a substantial engagement on the basis of automated systems. A new approach to the History of Concepts is needed that considers the development of disciplinary lexica, which arise from the necessity of maintaining a cultural tradition's continuity in front of the need of transcribing it into new contexts. When Boethius, e.g., set himself to translate Aristotle into Latin in the sixth century, he was motivated to do so in order, first, to keep alive the Latin classical tradition and, second, to modernize it by being transcribed into the new contexts opened up by the paradigmatic acceptance of Aristotelianism; when Kant chose to re-propose Greek terms such as *phenomenon* and *noumenon* he did it for he wished, first, to keep up the tradition of writing on Philosophy in German, a tradition that had its classical references in Master Eckhart and Martin Luther, and second, to revitalize it by transcribing it into the new context of the Copernican Revolution.

III. Report of the Committee on Bioethics and Ethics in the Sciences.

During 2009 the Committee on Bioethics and Ethics in the Sciences has been working to expand its membership, has engaged in dialogue with the UNESCO Division of Ethics in Science and Technology, and has engaged in internal dialogue on how it can serve most effectively. The Committee added two members from outside the Steering Committee, Thomas Powers, Director of the Science and Public Policy Program at the University of Delaware (US), and Stavroula Tsinorema, Director of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Bioethics at the University of Crete (Greece). The Committee continues to explore ways of developing membership among philosophers in Asia, Africa, and South America. The Committee is particularly concerned to develop contacts among the various national groups working on Bioethics and Ethics in the Sciences. The Committee plans to proposal for a RT on *Bioethics and Ethics in the Sciences*, to be organised by the Committee at the next World Philosophy Congress, as well as a Symposium on the Ethics of Scientific Research.

IV. Report of the Committee on Philosophical Encounters and International Cooperation.

Activity period: August 2008 – April 2009

The members of the Committee on Philosophical Encounters and International Cooperation have worked on preparing of the third volume of FISP edition „Philosophy worldwide”. Committee collects information – panorama articles – about the current worldwide situation in different regions. The focus of previous volumes was and until now is reflection on philosophy, main trends, activities, personalities as it stands today, at the beginning of the 21st century. Activities based on the experience of the first volumes (materials included at the FISP Bulletin and internet webpage) show that it is extremely interesting to detect the shifts occurring in philosophy's self reflection of its most relevant problems and issues. FISP Committee has given already a brief panorama of philosophical thought in rather different regions (the USA, Canada, Russia, Ukraine, Asia – China, Vietnam, Korea- , Baltic States, Balkans, Greece and many others), stimulating philosophical encounter and collaboration.

Third volume isn't ready for print in April because only 3 panorama articles have been received until April 2009: Shunsuke Kadowaki. The Scientific Council of Japan. On contemporary Japanese philosophy; Prof. Dr. Vasil Gluchman, Institute of Philosophy and Ethics. Presov University. Philosophy and Ethics in Slovakia; David Evans, FISP. Philosophy in Ireland. Collection is going to be continued.

Committee has send letters – new call for papers - to 17 FISP philosophical societies and to 10 university departments and societies, which are not represented in FISP (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tadjikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan). Our

idea is to stimulate these societies become FISP members and take active part at the international cooperation.

Until April 1st Committee has received answers with the promise to write panorama articles - from Cuba, FISP CD member Thalia Fung Riveron; Nigeria - Joseph C. A. Agbakob, Department of Philosophy, University of Nigeria; Romania - Professor Marin Aiftinca, Romanian Academy; India - Indian Council of Philosophical Research, Ramakrisna Rao and Armenia- member of the Armenian Academy of sciences prof. G.Brutian.

Committee activities are based on existing FISP Statutes. FISP president and Secretary-General have asked to involve more representatives from societies. Committee consists of FISP CD members Maija Kule (Chair), Betül Çotuksöken, Paulin J. Hountondji, Ivan Kaltchev, Basilio Rojo Ruiz, William, Sweet, Tran Van Doan. Outside from FISP CD prof. V.Gluchman (Romania) has expressed wish to join, possibly prof. Gerda Postl (Austria). Committee continues to look for philosophers- activists who are able to develop committee's activities in their regions and help collecting the papers.

V. Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for Art and Aesthetics.

Moscow, Nov. 17 2009

Members of the Committee: Günter Abel, Tanella Boni, Didier Deleule, Ken-ichi Sasaki, Gerhard Seel ; *Excused:* Tanella Boni

Agenda

1. Election of the chair of the Committee
2. Reports of the activities of the members
3. Future projects and initiatives

1. Gerhard Seel was proposed by several members as chair of the committee. He was unanimously elected and accepted this role.

2. Ken-ichi Sasaki informed the members of his contacts with the presidency of IAA. He is invited by the IAA to chair a round-table at the next World Congress of IAA in Peking to which he should invite members of the CD of FISP as speakers. Gerhard Seel suggested that the Committee should ask the CD and the Programme Committee of the next World Congress of FISP to make a corresponding offer to IAA.

3. The committee considers the cooperation with IAA as a promising beginning. It decided to make proposals to the CD and its members as well as to member societies in order to promote all kinds of activities, meetings and publications concerning the increasing importance of art and aesthetics in the modern world.

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