

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, USA: 19 July 2004

Council Members present: Elgene Box, Valerio De Patta Pillar, Kazue Fujiwara, Georg Grabherr, Tomáš Herben, Dieter Mueller-Dombois, Bob Peet, Angelika Schwabe-Kratochwil, and Bastow Wilson. Other Attendees: Julie Denslow (local organizer), Anselm Kratochwil (Germany), Jill Rapson (organizer for New Zealand 2007), Joost van der Maarel (Opulus Press), Thomas Wentworth (USA), and Susan Wiser (New Zealand).

1. Opening

The meeting was opened at 7 pm by the President, Elgene Box. This was the first IAVS meeting that anyone could remember with both the Secretary-General and Publication Officer absent.

2. Executive Committee Report

A report on the financial situation of the IAVS (Göttingen and Wageningen offices) was read by Box. The balance for 2003 at the Göttingen office was very negative (minus 8 184.96 EUR), due to payouts for two annual meetings within the same calendar year. The balance at the Wageningen office was moderately positive (+ 602.48 EUR) (see details below). The financial situation of the IAVS from 1985 through 2003 was also listed.

A major problem is the financial support given in recent years to the organizers of each annual meeting, for supporting participants from less rich countries. The IAVS does not have the money nor the income potential to continue providing this support unless some changes are made, such as raising the annual dues. There is a buffer in advance for the Portugal meeting (2005), so this financial problem will not occur next year. Portugal and New Zealand have not requested support money.

For the Hawaii meeting, 51 000 USD were raised by the organizers. The amount of support needed depends on the location, for example the costs were lower in Brazil in 2002. Guidelines are needed for support provided from the IAVS treasury. In general, meeting costs are lower on university campuses, but meeting time may be constrained by the university operating calendar.

Some confusion remains concerning payment of section dues. Most payments come from Germany and Japan. Some new process may be necessary in order to simplify payments.

A new membership list is being prepared and should be ready by the end of 2004. It was suggested that the list could be made available on the IAVS website (with password protection).

A report from the Publication Office was given by Joost van der Maarel. The number of library subscriptions to *JVS* has increased from 407 (in 2003) to 446 (for 2004), and there is a further increase due to library subscriptions through BioOne. For *AVS*, private subscriptions have increased from 266 (in 2003) to 365 (in 2004), and library subscriptions have increased modestly from 92 (in 2003) to 109 (in 2004). Some discussion followed concerning paper versus electronic subscriptions.

No reports were presented from Working Groups, Commissions or Regional Sections.

3. Activities in coming years

- 2005: Portugal: Pre-symposium excursion 18-24 July 2005, in Madeira; Symposium 25-29 July (Monday-Friday) in Lisboa; post-symposium excursion to northern Portugal, about one week (possibly including Galicia).
- 2006: Two possibilities were proposed by New Zealand, November 2006 (Nov. 20 - Dec. 14) and February 2007 (Jan. 29 - Feb. 22). The February schedule falls more within the growing season and is logistically easier for the local organizers, but February 2006 would be too soon. Council participants (from Europe, Japan, N and S America) voted to accept the proposal from New Zealand, with the February 2007 schedule (vote: 12-0-0). Further information was provided by Jill Rapson (see further under 'IAVS Symoposia'): probable costs (including excursions) about 2 000 NZD (New Zealand dollar), pre-symposium excursion to northern North Island, post-symposium excursion to South Island, including Nelson, Fox Glacier, Queenstown, Dunedin, Arthur's Pass, and Christchurch. If there is no IAVS meeting during calendar year 2006, an effort will be made to organize a major working-group meeting or similar.
- 2007: Wales: Already accepted (for July 2007).
- 2008: Proposals have been received from South Africa and from Trondheim (Norway), as well as more informal inquiries from Korea and Russia (excursions only). No one was present to provide further information.