

General Assembly on 2 September 2022

Minutes

1. Approval of the Agenda

Kate Rousmaniere motions to accept the agenda. Ian Grosvenor seconds the motion. The agenda is approved. No one opposes the motion.

2. Approval of Online General Assembly Minutes, 24 June 2021

Rebeca Rogers passes the motion to approve the minutes, Ian Grosvenor seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

3. Approval of Extraordinary Online General Assembly Minutes, 3 December 2021

Rebeca Rogers puts forward the motion, Christine Mayer seconds the motion. The minutes from the GA held on December 3, 2021 are approved unanimously.

4. Amendment of Constitution

The President asks members to support an amendment of the constitution to allow some of the decisions to be taken online.

The changes affect the section 6, on the Executive Committee (EC), and are highlighted in the following paragraphs.

(4) Executive Committee meetings may be held at any time *in person and/or online*, provided that they are convened in advance jointly by the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, in writing, by telephone or email. The Executive Committee shall adopt its resolutions by a simple majority of ~~the~~ *all* members present *in person and online*. In the event of a tied vote, the chair of the meeting shall have the casting vote. The Executive Committee may pass resolutions by a written procedure or by email if all of its members agree to this. The Executive Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure, which shall require the General Assembly's approval.

(5) The President is elected by the General Assembly in a separate vote *in person and/or online*, for a term of office lasting three years and commencing on the day of election to office. His or her term of office shall continue until his or her successor has been elected. When finishing the term past presidents will continue to serve *ex-officio* on the Executive Committee during one year. Eligibility to stand for office as President shall be restricted to members who have been serving on the Executive Committee for at least one year at the time of their election as President.

(6) The remaining further Executive Committee members shall be elected by the

General Assembly *in person and/or online*; their term of office shall last three years, commencing on the day of election to office. Their term of office shall continue until their successors have been elected. The members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected once for an immediately consecutive second term of office by the General Assembly. Eligibility to stand for election is restricted to individual members of the association.

Ian Grosvenor puts forward the motion to approve it, Christine Mayer seconds the motion. The amendment of constitution is approved unanimously.

5. Amendment of Byelaws

Accordingly, the Byelaws need to be changed to include the possibility of having online meetings.

1. ISCHE Executive Committee (EC)

1.6 Meetings of EC

The EC regularly holds two annual meetings *in person and/or online*, the first of which typically takes place in the first half of each year ~~at the annual conference location~~. If the meeting in the first half of the year takes place at the annual conference location, EC members are responsible for their own travel costs, however accommodation and meals are to be provided by the Local Organising Committee. *Alternatively, this first meeting can be held online.*

- *An evaluation ~~visit to~~ of the venue where the conference is to be held, to ~~see~~ assess the number of meeting rooms, plenary rooms and arrangements for refreshments, organised by the conference chair at a time convenient for the executive (decided by the President/Secretary);*
- Discussion of the draft conference programme and list of registrations to date, provided by the conference chair;
- Forthcoming vacancies on the Executive in order to plan for nominations, provided by the President/Secretary;
- Preparation for the General Assembly at the conference; and,
- Additional agenda items as necessary.

The EC second annual meeting takes place during the annual conference *in person and/or online*. Additional online meetings may be called by the President with a one-month advance notice required to be given to EC members.

2. General Assembly (GA)

2.2. Elections to the Executive Committee

The election of a member of the Executive Committee requires the majority of valid votes cast. All ISCHE standard and student members present at the GA are eligible to vote *in person and/or online* and may cast as many votes as there are positions up for election. Where more than one candidate is standing for election to the Executive Committee, the candidate with the most votes shall be considered elected, provided he or she has received the majority of votes cast. Should no candidate receive the majority of votes cast, a run-off shall be held, in which the candidate with the most votes shall be elected.

Elsie Rockwell puts forward the motion to approve the amendment, Luis Grosso Correa seconds the motion. The amendment of the Byelaws is approved unanimously.

6. President's Report

In her report, Karin Priem specifically wanted to highlight the following developments of our association: ISCHE Milan, ISCHE membership, EC events that will take place online next week, and ISCHE Education and Pandemics Archive. The full version of the report is available in the conference package. The transcription of her message follows.

First on ISCHE Milan. At the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022, the ISCHE Executive Committee and the Local Organising Committee of ISCHE 43 had to take a difficult decision regarding the next ISCHE conference. This year, after a break of three years, we wanted to offer an in-person conference but also keep the online format for those who did not want to or could not travel to Italy for various reasons. And indeed, ISCHE 43 attracted 397 colleagues for in-person and 131 for online attendance. After two years of rather severe travel restrictions many of us are eager to meet our dear colleagues in person and to enjoy sharing discussions and social events in lovely Milan. I am happy this is possible to do.

And now a few words on ISCHE membership. ISCHE is becoming more and more independent from external administrative support. Our contract with Taylor & Francis will end this year, and the Executive Committee decided that ISCHE will now manage membership from autumn 2022 onwards. This change means that the time has come – at least for now – for us to strictly follow our constitution, which stipulates that membership shall end upon voluntary resignation from the association, and that this must be submitted in writing. This implies that membership from now on continues year by year and only ends once a resignation letter arrives at our Berlin office. We will reach out to you once our system is up and running.

Permanent membership also means that members can participate in online elections and approvals on a regular basis even if they do not attend our conferences on site or online. ISCHE Milan will be the second time when we will manage elections and the exculpation of the Executive Committee online, with all members being able to participate.

If ISCHE members would like access to *Paedagogica Historica*, then they now would need to pay a second fee to Taylor & Francis directly, in order to be granted access to the journal at a reduced rate. To manage this, ISCHE will provide Taylor & Francis with a list of members on a quarterly basis. Taylor & Francis Customer Services, then, will check anyone subscribing to the journal against this list and offer them the reduced rate if they are a member. ISCHE will amend instructions on the ISCHE website accordingly.

Next, I would like to highlight two events that will take place online next week. The first is the Executive Committee Round Table on Current Trends in History of Education. In 2019, the ISCHE Executive Committee decided to organise country panels to reach out to communities that are less visible. At ISCHE Milan the focus is on recent trends related to scholarship in history of education in Japan and West and East Asia since the 1870s. Overarching themes discussed are: (1) educational thoughts, ideologies and disciplines from

a historical perspective; (2) comparative and social history of schools, children, families and communities, including gender; (3) history of educational methods, curricula and the teaching professions; and (4) routines and objects of schooling in a historical context. The panel is chaired by Kenichiro Miyamoto and will take place online next Tuesday, 6 September at 11:00am.

The second online event is the Tertulia. The Tertulia of ISCHE 43 is entitled “A new UNESCO report: Looking back, looking forward”. The report is interesting for us, because it was written in a spirit of planetary consciousness that moves away from ideas of human capital, economic growth, employability and a world order based on nation states. The Tertulia is chaired by ISCHE Secretary Inés Dussel, who has invited four historians of education to offer their feedback on this report. The Tertulia will take place online next Monday, 5 September, at 1:30pm.

Finally, another ISCHE initiative is the Education and Pandemics Archive that was launched in 2021. This web archive is also a digital public history project that invites historians of education worldwide to contribute content (also beyond the walls of the classroom) and to use this content to reflect on digital source criticism and education in times of pandemics. I would like to remind you that everybody (including your students) is invited to submit content.

At ISCHE 43 a symposium on *COVID-19 and Public History: A Critical Take on the Silences of Web Archives and the Silencing of COVID-19 Experiences* has been organized. The event was an opportunity for critical debate and featured a paper by Mark Tebeau, Professor of Public History at Arizona State University, who talked about the silences of one of the most successful COVID-19 web archives that was initiated at the very start of the crisis under his lead. In addition, the symposium launched a discussion on how students and academics have dealt and continue to deal with the effects of the pandemic and its aftermath. It is intended that the symposium will pave the way for future exchanges about pandemics, their silences and impacts, to be continued within ISCHE over time.

And now some concluding remarks. First, I would like to thank the local organisers, the EC and all ISCHE members for their contributions to keeping ISCHE up and running. This was my last year as ISCHE President and I would like to express my special thanks to former ISCHE President Rebecca Rogers and to Noah Sobe, a warm thank you also to ISCHE Secretary Inés Dussel, to ISCHE treasurers Diana Vidal and Marc Van Overbeke, to our outstanding ISCHE Early Career Representative Inês Felix and to her successor Matilda Keynes, and, finally, to my great colleagues Ian Grosvenor, Simonetta Polenghi, Beatrix Vince, Myriam Southwell, Felicitas Acosta, Angelo Van Gorp and Toni Canales. It has been a pleasure working with these wonderful people, and I am very thankful for this experience.

7. Treasurer’s Report 1 January–31 December 2021

The Treasurer highlights key points of the budget that was sent out to members in preparation of the assembly. 2021 was a good financial year for ISCHE. The treasurer recognizes the EC for carefully shepherding the association’s funds and especially Diana Vidal for being an

excellent treasurer these past years. He also underscores the support from Angelika and the Berlin office, and of the members for continuing to support ISCHE.

As it can be read from the budget in the packet, income for 2021 exceeded estimates by just over 4,000 euro, primarily because of conference income. At the same time, expenses were about 5,000 euro more than estimated, as it can be seen in the budget document. Operational costs and ISCHE 42 costs increased over what was estimated. Travel expenses were non-existent given the pandemic. Overall, ISCHE ended the year with 9,762 euro, close to estimates. The current ISCHE balance is 53,604 euro, which is great for the organization. 2022 promises to be even better, after the fantastic conference at Milan and the support from all members.

8. Approval of 2021 budget and exculpation of Executive Committee (online)

The vote is done online. The results are 85 in favor and 5 abstentions.

9. Election of ISCHE President (online)

The vote is done online. Inés Dussel is nominated as next president. The results are 101 votes in favor of the nomination, 1 against it, and 6 abstentions.

10. Election of EC Members (online)

Juri Meda, Lisa Rosen Rasmussen and Chris Ogren were nominated for the two positions to be filled. Juri Meda was elected in first place (88 votes) and Lisa Rosen Rasmussen in second place (48 votes). Chris Ogren received 37 votes.

All votes cast are valid.

11. ISCHE 2022 First Book Award

The ISCHE Book Award 2022 is given to Erica Moretti (Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY, New York), for her book entitled: *The Best Weapon for Peace: Maria Montessori, Education, and Children's Rights*. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, 2021. This book highlights the importance of pacifism in the formation of Montessori's ideas – an eminently international heritage, part of the canon of the history of education and, for that matter, also a very pertinent message today, given the ongoing war in Ukraine. But the thematic focus is certainly not the only reason for the award. Much more important is the fact that the book brings together different historiographical traditions: the history of culture on the one hand and the history of education on the other. Indeed, Moretti presents an *histoire croisée*, with elements from the history of experimental psychology, psychiatry, paedology, pedagogy, etc., and thus helps to stimulate reflection on key issues of humanity, human rights and children's rights.

For Montessori, peace must be pursued by everyone, and this is illustrated by the internal developmental dynamics of a child, which according to Montessori are peaceful in

themselves. Therefore, in her view, the child must become the engine of a radical reform of society; and this radical reform must begin with a reform of the educational system – a message that came to dominate her entire pedagogy and, according to Moretti, should not be forgotten but also taken seriously today.

The jury greatly appreciated the internationalism and multilingualism in Moretti's work. Her book is largely based on Italian sources, even though it was written in English and published by a leading American publisher. Some of the sources used had not been studied before: the book traces Montessori's life and work not only through international peace studies but also by means of countless notes, documents and private correspondence drawn from more than fifteen archives.

The most innovative part in this respect is certainly the author's reconstruction of the activity carried out by Montessori for the rehabilitation of war-affected children and her analysis of the peace lectures of 1917, the importance of which in Montessori's educational development has not yet been underlined in previous studies. As already mentioned, Montessori's dominant line of thought was the reform of the education system towards New Education and Reformed Pedagogy as the cornerstone of a peaceful society.

In the hope that such insights may inspire future studies, the jury would like to congratulate Erica Moretti for this in-depth study of the Montessori heritage, as she has undoubtedly contributed in various ways to the growth and advancement of knowledge in the field of the history of education.

12. Early Career Conference Paper Award 2021

The ISCHE Early Career Conference Paper Award 2021 is awarded to Lauri Luoto (University of Turku, Finland), for his paper entitled: "The Social Nature of New Education: An Affiliation Network Analysis of the Movement's Evolution, 1875-1935".

This paper reframes the development and evolution of the New Education Movement in the UK through the application of social network analysis. Luoto presents a well-written narrative which brings the reformers of the New Education Movement to life, highlighting the social nature of their complex connections and interactions which shaped the evolution of the movement. While the topic has received extensive attention from historians of progressive education, this innovative approach integrates and builds upon previous lines of research to rethink the social in the history of education. The paper analyses five rich historical source books on the New Education Movement, supplemented with biographical material, to derive affiliations and gain new insights into key individuals and organisations. The paper garnered interesting results which shine new light on the progressive reform movement. The author grapples with a wealth of data and source material, yet manages to present the findings in a clear and organised way for readers. The findings of the network analysis were also presented in a refreshing way by visually mapping the social networks, which were complemented by qualitative analysis on the interactions of historical actors within those networks. This paper represents a step forward for the field, challenging previous assumptions about the homogeneity of the New Education Movement and expanding the methodological possibilities for historians of education.

13. ISCHE Language Policy

Rebecca Rogers, former President of ISCHE and chair of the ISCHE Language Policy Working Group came to the podium to present the results of the group's that were summarized in the conference package. She began by thanking the members of the group for their work and suggestions: Victoria Boretska, Thérèse Hamel, Frederik Herman, António Novoa, Frank Simon, Ingrid de St. Georges and Daniel Toepper. She noted as well that the issue of languages spoken at the conference has been debated since ISCHE's creation in the late 1970s. When the idea of a language policy was brought to the GA in Porto in 2019, the history of ISCHE's languages was briefly summarized: in 1979 in Leuven the working language was English, but participants were told they could submit papers in French or German with a 2 page summary in English. By 1984 the issue of adding Spanish as a fourth working language emerged. The Executive Committee began discussions for a meeting in Salamanca in Spain in 1985 and finally Spanish became the official fourth working language alongside English, French and German in the early 1990s. Discussions about adding a fifth language, notably Portuguese, resurfaced since the addition of Spanish, without any change in the official policy. At the GA in Porto (2019), the EC proposed that Portuguese be added as a fifth working language, a decision that was confirmed in 2020. Given this diversity and ISCHE's commitment to multilingualism, the Language Working Policy Group was instituted to reflect on a series of proposals to ensure that this linguistic diversity contributed to building a shared culture and to heightened awareness of the challenges of multilingual communication.

Currently, the Website, the General Assembly minutes, and the Byelaws are available in English; the Constitution is available as well in German given ISCHE's institutional base in Berlin. ISCHE leaves it up to the local organizers whether they choose to translate the Call for Papers. Participants can submit proposals in any of the five working languages. The Policy Group submitted a series of pragmatic suggestions that emphasized the need to recognize English as a lingua franca in international academic exchange, while urging participants to adapt their oral and visual presentations to the realities of our multilingual association: through the presentation of summaries in English when presenting in another language, through the adoption of language chairs, through explicit recognition of the diversity of language ability within the audience, etc. The Group recommended regular evaluations and adjustments of its language policy in response to members' needs and suggestions. A short "attitude survey" about language use in ISCHE was distributed before the conference in Milan. Rebecca Rogers briefly commented the results of the survey, which received 157 responses. These results indicated that almost 60% of the respondents do not work in an English-speaking academic environment and that the same percentage were aware of ISCHE's concern to develop a language policy. The survey highlighted the wide range of languages present among respondents; over 26% use a language that is not one of the five ISCHE working languages. Another important result of the survey: 92% support a multilingual environment, while 43% nonetheless prefer that English be recognized as a lingua franca.

Members of the Language Policy Group will be presenting these results and their suggestions to the new members of the Executive Committee with the recommendation that the EC appoint a member to follow and regularly evaluate the status of the language policy, notably in relation to the location of the conference and ongoing progress in automatic translation tools.

14. ISCHE 44 Budapest, 18–21 July 2023

Beatrix Vincze presents the location and invites members to participate in the next conference. A short video of the university is shown. The topic will be Histories of Reform and Education: Traditions, Tensions and Transitions.

15. Discussion and approval of new SWGs

Two new Standing Working Groups are presented to the GA: “History of Knowledge in the History of Education” and “*Notre tout puissant Empire du milieu*: histories of secondary education”.

Kate Rousmaniere puts forward the motion to accept the proposals, Pablo Toro seconds the motion. The two proposals were accepted unanimously.

16. Additional recommendations from membership

There were no additional recommendations from members.

Minutes prepared by Inés Dussel