

2016 RC28 Business Meeting; Poznan, 26 July

Minutes

Sonja Walti opened the meeting by giving her annual report. She emphasised how active the RC has been in recent years: eg sponsoring 20 panels in Montreal and 14 in Poznan; holding a successful conference in Edinburgh in 2015 together with fellow IPSA RCs. She notified members about the shift to 2-year terms for the executive. She reminded members to make full use of the communication channels at our disposal, in particular the website and Google group. She reported that the RC currently has around 80 paid-up members and about 160 'extended' members. She stated that the RC has around US\$2,200 in its bank account and circa US\$560 on a PayPal account. She concluded her report with a review of what the RC has achieved and of the challenges it faces.

Paolo Dardanelli outlined the procedures for the election of the new executive. He notified members that the executive had decided to act as a nominating committee, that the election system will open within 14 days from the business meeting and stay open for the subsequent 14 days. He encouraged members to put themselves forward and stand for election. He stated that only paid-up members will be eligible to vote.

Sonja Walti invited suggestions for a 2017 meeting, raised the possibility of a joint meeting with IACFS, and mentioned that IPSA makes available bursaries of about US\$1,500 to support attendance; **Timofey Agarin** suggested a joint meeting with RC14; **Jörg Mathias** asked about links with the ECPR group on federalism and regionalism; **Sean Mueller** asked about what format a joint meeting with IACFS would have; **Ajay Kumar Singh** asked how we promote membership; **Sören Keil** suggested we could meet in Canterbury. **Sonja Walti** welcomed all suggestions and stated that further suggestions will be invited by the new executive.

Cesar Colino introduced the Publius award, reported that the executive had received two nominations, and announced that the executive had decided to give the 2016 award to John Kincaid. **Paolo Dardanelli** invited members to record their gratitude to John Kincaid for initiating the award and supporting it financially, and to record their congratulations to John on receiving the award. A round of applause followed. **Sonja Walti** stated that the clause requesting awardees to be present at the IPSA congress might need to be looked at again. **Andre' Lecours** asked what the procedures and timing for nomination are. **Sonja Walti** explained that the timing needs to be revised.

Sonja Walti remembered Uwe Leonardy and led a tribute to his contribution to RC28; **Cesar Colino** said he was a very interesting person to meet.

AJ Brown invited everyone to Brisbane 2018. He stated that one of the objectives of holding the congress in Brisbane was to bring IPSA closer to the Asia-Pacific region. He said he was looking forward to a strong showing from RC28 members.

Paolo Dardanelli invited members to record their thanks to Sonja Walti for her sterling work in steering RC28 over the last few years and also to the other executive members that are stepping down, for their contribution. A round of applause followed.

Sonja Walti declared the meeting closed.