

2006 IPSA RC 28 Business Meeting, July 2006

RC Business Meeting, Financial Statement, Panels and General Report on the Fukuoka Congress, July 2006 (Uwe Leonardy, RC 28 Acting Chair, Fukuoka Congress)

i) Business Meeting:

First Vice-Chair and Acting Congress Chair, Uwe Leonardy, chaired our RC 28 Business Meeting on July 9, 2006. The Agenda for that meeting included a Financial Statement for the year 2005-2006 (inserted in this section of the Newsletter below); a report on Implementation of the Agreement on Cooperation with the Forum of Federations (a copy of this agreement is attached to the section on Liaison with the Forum of Federations); a report on RC 28's progress on its Federalism and the State of the Discipline volume for the IPSA RC 33 Book Series on "The World of Political Science" (edited by Bob Agranoff); a statement of the new rules adopted on the electronic election of the new RC 28 Executive Committee; plans for the Annual Business Meeting and the Conference in honour of Ronald Watts, to be held in Kingston, Ontario, Canada on October 18-20, 2007; and preliminary plans for a Conference and Business Meeting in Madrid, Spain, probably in the fall of 2008. A detailed General Report on the Fukuoka Congress and RC 28's role in it was later presented by Uwe Leonardy to then Chair Bob Agranoff, a copy of which is appended to this section below.

ii) Statement of Expenditures of RC 28, July 2005- July, 2006 (Bob Agranoff)

Income:

2005 Dues Paid	\$ 190.00
Carry Over, Non Encumbered (\$1000 US set aside for the Directory of Federalism Experts	\$ 823.53
IPSA Grant 2005	\$ 500.00
Total Non-dedicated Income	\$ 1,413.53
Total Dedicated Income	\$ 1000.00
Expenses:	
Repayment to McMaster U. of encumbered Funds	\$ 780.00*
Newsletter/website maintenance	\$ 583.04
2005 meeting expenses (Menaggio)	\$ 700.80
Award plaques	\$ 100.49
Expenses of carry-overs from IPSA	
check-offs, low income countrymembers, postage for those not on	\$ 90.52

electronic mail

Total Expenses:	\$2,254.90
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Balance:	-\$ 841.37**
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*Our account paid back the equivalent of \$1,000.00 Canadian to McMaster University for the production expenses of a federalism state of the discipline book. This was in accordance with the conditions established by IPSA RC 33, which provided "seed money" for a conference devoted to the papers covered in the book. Since the conference was not held, and the book could not be completed in time, the seed grant was cancelled.

**Deficit financing has been allowed by the School of Public and Environmental Affairs of Indiana University pending receipt of additional funds. In a World Congress year, we expect to collect the bulk of our members' fees, which are \$45.00 US for three years.

iii) Panels and General Report and RC Activities in the 20th IPSA World Congress, Fukuoka, Japan, 9-13 July, 2006 (Uwe Leonardy):

With approximately 2300 participants, Fukuoka was the largest IPSA World Congress to date. It was, indeed, a great success (even if many of the non-Asian participants appeared to suffer a good deal from the extreme heat and humidity). Nine RC 28 members attended, and thus attendance exceeded that of Durban, but, of course, our RC 28 numbers should have been even better.

Nonetheless, the two sessions organized by our Committee attracted between 25 and 30 participants each. Moreover, they were informed of our RC's website address and our Committee's activities in both sessions. These sessions consisted of the following themes and participants:

RC 28.22: Federal Institutions, Processes and Politics, British Columbia, European Union, Germany

Chair: Uwe Leonardy, Centre for European Integration Studies, Bonn University, Germany (uwe.leonardy@web.de)

Papers:

Wolfgang Renzsch, Otto-von-Guericke-University, Magdeburg, Germany (renzsch@gse-w-uni-magdeburg.de) : "Alternative Designs for Political Decision-Making: Citizen's Assembly, Convention, Commission"

British Columbia, European Union, Germany

Vanadana Prakash, California State University, USA (uscvandana@yahoo.com): "Examining Inter-Jurisdictional and Inter-Sectoral Dynamics of Federalism: Study of Environmental Management in Delhi"

Anton Bebler, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia (anton.bebler@fdy-uni.lj.si): "Federalist Experience and the Prospects of (Non) Federalism in South-Eastern Europe"

Rejean Pelletier, Université Laval, Canada (rejean.pelletier@pol.ulaval.ca) and Jean Crete, Université Laval, Canada (jean.crete@pol.ulaval.ca): "Identity and Trust in Multinational Federations: The Case of Canada in Comparative Perspective"

John Kincaid, Lafayette College, USA (meynerc@lafayette.edu) and Richard L. Cole, University of Texas at Arlington, USA (cole@uta.edu): "Public Opinion and Federal Political Culture in Canada, Mexico and the United States"

RC 28.23: Federalism and Democracy

Chair: Wolfgang Renzsch (See above)

Papers:

Sumitra Kumar Jain, Shaheed Bhagat Singh (E) College University of Delhi, India (drskjvk@yahoo.com): "Accommodations to Electoral Federalism: Emerging Federal process in India"

Christian Leuprecht, Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, Canada (leuprecht-c@rmc.ca): "Demographic Change and Federal Governance"

Paolo Dardanelli, University of Kent, UK (p.dardanelli@kent.ac.uk): "Federal Democracy: The Swiss Experience"

Krishna Tummala, Kansas State University, USA (tummala@ksu.edu): "Federalism Turned on Its Head: India in 2005"

Olivier Giraud, Université de Picardie, France (olivier.giraud@u-picardie.fr): "Reforming Social Policies in a Federal Context: Are Swiss Cantons and Localities Re-fragmenting the Social Policy Domain?"

Since only two hours were allocated to each session, there were only twenty minutes available for discussion after the papers were presented. Although this is frequently the case in large meetings like the Fukuoka Congress, some organizational improvements could have eased this situation. For example, there was a Special Session entitled "Federal and Institutional Change or Development" in which only two papers were presented. One of these papers was entitled "Federalism and the Senate in Russia", and it could have easily been integrated into a third session of our RC so that the number of papers per session in RC 28 would have been reduced.

At any rate, most of the papers presented in the RC 28 sessions are well worth reading, and their texts can be obtained from the paper givers (see their e-mail addresses above). A CD containing all the abstracts of the Congress was produced by IPSA, and can be obtained from Bruno Maltais at IPSA Headquarters in Montreal, Canada (contact bruno.maltais@ipsa.ca).

At the Meeting of the IPSA Advisory Commission on Research (consisting of RC Chairs), Michael Stein, one of our RC members, gave an impressive report as outgoing RC Liaison Representative of the Research Committees on the IPSA Executive Council. He has been nominated to serve as the incoming Chair of the new RC 28 Executive. Rainer Eisfeld of the University of Osnabruck, Germany, was elected to succeed him in that function. At that meeting I raised the following issues of specific interest to RC 28:

Business Meetings of RCs during World Congresses should in future immediately follow at least one of the RC sessions/panels to ensure maximum attendance. The IPSA Executive

representatives promised to bring this matter before the incoming Programme Committee and the IPSA Executive Committee.

Special Sessions should not be organized if their subject-matters are covered by any of the RCs, but rather, should be integrated with the sessions/panels of the RCs (See reference in the discussion of the Business Meeting above). The IPSA Executive representatives promised to try to avoid such sessions in the future.

Research Committee dues should be collected by IPSA together with the IPSA dues themselves in order to avoid excessively high banking fees. Secretary-General Guy Lachapelle has promised to try to introduce these organizational changes, as long as the RCs provide the IPSA Secretariat with the information it would need about their membership dues.

I applauded the recent change in IPSA rules about electronic voting in RCs; however, given our need to amend our own RC by-laws in great haste so that they would be consistent with these new rules, I pointed out that these changes could have been made much earlier. IPSA Vice-President and CRT Chair Ilter Turan acknowledged this. He also confirmed our position that there was nothing in the existing rules that prevented RCs from selecting a Nominating Committee for its internal elections, as we have traditionally done in the past.

Finally Secretary-General Lachapelle urged all RCs to keep the IPSA Secretariat informed and also regularly updated about their members' e-mail addresses.