

**Minutes**  
**Study Group on Ethnochoreology Business Meeting**  
**Graz, July 2016**

**Agenda for GRAZ Business Meeting**  
 (Agenda Approval)

The agenda for the business meeting was approved.

Newcomers at this meeting were particularly welcomed. While they introduced themselves at the opening reception, we wanted them all to know that they are particularly welcome here. (See addendum for list.)

**1. Opening remarks by Chair, Chair's Announcements**

Chair Catherine Foley welcomed all present and gave some background about the ICTM and the Study Group, noting that it is one of twenty study groups in the ICTM at this time and both one of the oldest and largest. She also described our study group's ethos, including noting that our symposium is "about listening to each other, learning from each other and improving each other's scholarship" (See attached Chair's report).

The list of members who had sent their apologies since they were unable to attend this year's symposium included:

Theresa Buckland, Ivana Katerinc, Iva Niemic, Yvonne Hunt, Gediminas Karoblis, Mats Melin, Anna Ilieva, Ocal Mehmet Ozbigidin, Aimee MacKenzie, Arzu Öztürkmen Gergana Pavlova, Miriam Phillips, Stephanie Smith, Allegra Fuller Synder, Allison Singer, Judy Van Zile, and Pegge Vissicaro.

The ICTM will have a new Secretary General soon: Ursula Hemetek of Austria. The Chair is very thankful to outgoing Secretary General Svanibor Pettan and to Carlos Yoder, Executive Assistant at the Secretariat, who have done a wonderful job and both of whom have visited one of our symposia and supported our study group and many others.

Vice-Chair Placida Staro asked for permission to record the meeting, which was granted.

**2. Board Activities**

Chair Catherine Foley reported on the activities of the board since the last symposium (see Addendum B for her full report).

The Board has had 7-9 electronic meetings, including two via skype, since the last symposium on Korcula. Among the key elements the Board has been working on are the following:

- Updating our study group page on the ICTM website, particularly the objects, listing publications, etc.

- Preparing reports and materials for the bulletin, including the Chair's report about the ICTM's last world conference in Astana.
- Preparing for celebrating 70th year of ICTM with much archival and documentation work. The Chair wants to document our study group history so that we are represented well in the ICTM history. Please share any photographs and other pertinent material with her.
- The next ICTM biennial world conference will be held in Limerick, Ireland from July 13 – 19. There are 6 themes, The 3rd call is out; the deadline for submissions is Sept. 30.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

Vice-Chair Dina Staro moved that the minutes of the 2014 business meeting be approved. Someone seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

### **4. Matters arising from the Minutes**

Discussion followed about voting eligibility. All members can vote. Persons who are not yet members can fill out a New Member Information Sheet, which are available.

### **5. Secretarial Report**

Secretary Anne von Bibra Wharton presented a brief report about the study group's membership. In 2016 there were about 147 active members. If the 26 new people here for the first time finish the paperwork for membership there will be 173 members. There are an additional 45 members who are not officially "active" but have been active within recent memory. (There are also many who have not been active for a long time.) Twelve new members have officially joined the study group since our last symposium and an additional 12-14 ICTM members are participating in this year's symposium although they are not yet officially members of our Study Group on Ethnochoreology. Since 2014, several long-time members of the study group passed away, including Joann W. Keali'inohomoku and Olivera Vasic.

There are about 320 names on the study group list, but many have not maintained an active status.

It is difficult to keep track of who is active. If a person is not able to attend the symposium, it would be helpful for them to send an email to the Board saying so. If we vote on something electronically in the future, one will need to be on the active member list in order to vote. According to our bylaws, active members are those who have participated within the last 4 years. (Note: sending a notice via email stating that one is unable to attend the next symposium constitutes participating).

It is very important for all members to renew their ICTM membership. If you have trouble with the renewal process, please contact the Secretariat.

It is also important to list your membership in this study group in your profile for the ICTM membership directory. Adding your research interest(s) would also be very helpful.

## 6. Publications Committee Report

The proceedings from the Korcula symposium were finished within the year. Publications Chair Elsie Dunin thanked those who assisted with preparing the publication: Ivana Katarinčić, Kendra Stepputat, and Sonja Zdravkova-Djeparoska. Dunin noted that we try to have assistants on each of our publications. The Korcula proceedings are available here for 15 Euros, since we were not able to raise the money to cover the entire cost. Each author can have a pdf copy of their own paper, which is a new thing with this proceeding. If an author did not get an author's agreement form for Korcula, she or he should contact Ivana Katarinčić. to ask for the form and to request their pdf. Authors can do what they want with it (the pdf and their paper).

Dunin concluded her report saying "This is the last publication I am assisting with for the study group. It has been a wonderful journey to be involved with each one of these publications because it has allowed me to be in direct contact with each author, the kind of work and research that goes on, and to read all of them."

The Chair thanked Elsie for her work and contributions. Chair Dina Staro commented on Elsie's precise work and noted that "We will never reach the same kind of result, but we have found another volunteer." The Chair presented a gift to Elsie for her contribution to the board and the Study Group as Publications Chair.

The Publications Committee is comprised of the Vice-Chair of the Board, Committee Chair and a Member at Large. The committee is responsible for written material, the website, Facebook page, and ETNOKOR. Trvko Zebec volunteered to serve as the Chair.

A motion was made to approve Trvko Zebec as the New Publications Committee Chair. Helene Eriksen moved and Adrienne Kaeppler seconded the motion. (No vote was actually needed as this is a position appointed by the Board.)

Trvko Zebec gave an updated report on the bibliographic database. He requested that people put in their own bibliography, which can be published in pdf format. It can be published in pdf format as well every 4 years, but it is much easier to search in the [electronic] database."

Trvko will send passwords and other information to members. Volunteers are needed to help people who need assistance. Hans volunteered to help.

### Promoting our publications in the ICTM Bulletin

The Board is trying to feature some of the member's publications in the ICTM bulletin. Members in good standing are encouraged to submit information about publications to the secretary. Do not send articles, only books, DVDs, CDs, etc. The Chair includes these with her report to the Bulletin.

### Proceedings DVD

The Secretary then added:

There is a wonderful DVD with 10 proceedings, many of which are no longer available in their original form. One can order the DVD directly from Hungary and also through the RFF in Norway. There are some copies in the States. A flyer about it will be on publications table and

maybe in the next bulletin. Elsie Dunin noted that Anca Giurchescu has an article in every one of those proceedings that you will really enjoy and many of these are not available to you except through the DVD.

Questions related to Publications?

Adrienne asked if the publications could be listed on the Sub-Study Group page on the website. Chair said they are already there.

Eirini Loutzaki asked about the “Academia” – can we put our publications in it?  
Dina responded that it wasn’t working well in Italy because people were not using it.

There were questions about copyrights.  
Outgoing Publications Chair Elsie Dunin referred to the author’s agreement, which is something new starting with the Korcula proceedings. Anyone’s paper may be put online by the institution per the agreement, but they need permission to do that; people are free to do what they want, but only with proper credit given. The Secretariat can show people how to do that. This is something we instituted for this time.

## **7. Election of Vice-Chair**

Secretary Anne von Bibra Wharton explained that the Board officers have four year terms. It is set up in a way to prevent everyone going off the board at the same time. Since the Vice-Chair’s first term is ending, we need to hold an election for the Vice-Chair position on the board from 2016-2020, beginning after this symposium. Outgoing Vice-Chair Placida Staro has agreed to stand for reelection. A call for nominees had been distributed via etnokor earlier in the year.

Georgiana Gore nominated Staro for a second term and Ann David seconded. After a call for nominations from the floor (there were none), Helene Eriksen called for the vote. A vote was held and Staro was unanimously reelected.

The secretary noted that at our next symposium there will need to be an election for two Board officers. Chair Catherine Foley is eligible to stand for re-election, but the secretary is not since she is currently serving her second term.

## **8. Next Symposium Location**

Chair Catherine Foley led a discussion about proposals to host our next symposium.

Both Arzu Öztürkmen from Bogaziçi University in Istanbul, Turkey and Sándor Vargas from Hungary have indicated a willingness to host the 2018 symposium. During the discussion that followed, Eirini Loutzaki indicated a willingness for Greece to serve as a possible backup choice to Turkey if there is interest in going to that part of the world, but it turned out that Turkey was unable to do it. Concerns about the volatile situation in Turkey at the moment were expressed as well as the potential difficulty getting funding or even permission to travel to a country that has a certain label (orange, red).

In response to a question from a new member about why Turkey was not chosen in the past, Chair Catherine Foley explained that there are many issues involved in such decisions, including institutional support, the expense for those attending, if the accommodations are too much, and the available facilities; the political situation could be another reason. We have met in Istanbul

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before. The Turkish proposals received in recent years were from a different city.

A straw vote was taken to give some indication of the membership's preference, but given that there were no detailed proposals or information from the potential organizers yet, the membership deferred to the Board to make the final selection after receiving more information.

## **9. Discussion of Themes for the next meeting**

Vice-Chair Placida Staro led the discussion about possible themes for the next symposium. Numerous ideas were proposed by those present. Ways of combining or streamlining some of the themes were also suggested. Several rounds of voting were held in order to narrow down the choices. During the first round, members could vote for up to 3 possible themes. The results from that round of voting were:

Dance and politics received the most votes - 37

The Open Theme (proposed by Egil) - 24 \*

Dance and Age (a combining of Dance and Children and Dance and Maturing Body) - 23

Materiality and media in dance - 18

\*There was further discussion of the open theme and it was ultimately decided to limit the "Open Theme" to projects that involved collaborative research. A vote was then taken on a motion by Helene Eriksen to treat this "Open Theme" idea as either a separate (i.e. 3rd) theme or as a modality. A no vote meant that Open Theme would not be included in the next round of voting for Theme 1. The motion passed, with two no votes and three abstentions), so it was not included in the next round of voting.

In the last round of voting, members were restricted to one vote. The results were as follows:

1. Dance and Politics (based on combining several similar items) – 29
2. Dance and New Media - 12
3. Dance and Age – 14

There were three abstentions.

Dance and Politics was thus chosen as Theme 1. Theme 2 will be decided by the Local Organizing Committee at a future date. The "Open Theme" involving collaboration may be a third theme or a way of operating. It is left to the Programme Committee to decide.

Georgiana Gore suggested that we keep track of the top three for the next time, so we do not have to reinvent the wheel.

## 10. Experiences and Suggestions/Recommendations for future Symposium

(Including information regarding guidelines for next Programme Committee and discussion.)

Chair Catherine Foley presented a proposal for new guidelines for the next Programme Committee.

Paper copies were distributed (see Addendum C) and discussion ensued. Among the issues raised:

1. Panels over individual presentations – Judy Olson expressed concern about disadvantaging or excluding those for whom collaborative work on a panel is not an option due to geographical or economical isolation or because they are new and don't know others to collaborate with. Dina Staro pointed out later that one of the ideas here is for the Programme Committee to help facilitate people working together by suggesting possible panels or roundtables after the first round of seeing what people are working with or want to present. This could help with this issue.
2. Privileging long time members (see 2a) – Will that discourage new or young members and is that what you want? The response: It's not an absolute. It's a possibility, but is not an absolute criteria. We do not want to discourage young scholars from joining. It comes down to less time for presentations or fewer people. These guidelines for the 30th symposium are going with less time rather than less people.
3. Blind Reviews – Egil Bakka pointed out that blind reviews aren't really blind. This guideline is being open about saying that a presenter's standing in the group and in the field does have an influence on how much time allotted, etc. Catherine Foley pointed out that within the dance field it is nearly impossible to have a blind review, because if one has published at all, your work is recognized. However, we try to provide blind review because that is what young scholars expect and need today.
4. Hans said that considering the growth he wondered if it will be possible to accommodate everyone.
5. Eirini Loutzaki noted the importance for everyone of a paper/document proving their participation or presentation in order to be able to get funding from universities.
6. Ann David noted that the preamble to the proposed guidelines is very important because it shows the basis on which we work. It would be very helpful, especially to those who are new to the group, to have that on the Call for Papers.
7. Helene Eriksen had several concrete suggestions, including encouraging people to consider participating without presenting. There are opportunities to do that and still get a participation paper by participating in another way, such as presenting a summary or serving as chair for session and giving a short synopsis (rather than just a short introduction). Others suggested the term "discussant."
8. Several people pointed out that 15 minute presentations are becoming common at other conferences due to time constraints as well, while one of them noted that in addition to that, some presentations by senior scholars were longer than the 15 minutes given to most presenters at an international conference she attended last year.

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9. Lily noted her concern that if papers are shortened too much it becomes very difficult to develop an argument. Georgiana Gore expressed her belief that it is possible to develop an argument across participants in a panel and then have a discussion and she felt that an exemplary panel at this symposium had done that. She also believes that Egil's proposed theme of collaborative work is another way to do that.

Vice Chair Dina Staro closed the discussion due to time constraints, stating that "we have other discussions from the [suggestion] boxes, but we need to move on."

Chair Catherine Foley noted that in terms of these guidelines for the 30th Symposium's Programme Committee it is up to the Board, but that the membership would need to know about them ahead of time.

(Verbal agreement was given to move on...)

## **11. Sub-Study Groups**

Catherine said that we need to finish this meeting due to the Sub-Study group meetings, but asked that the leader of each sub-study group give a sentence about their group.

Egil Bakka – 19th century derived round dances

We are publishing a book and at the meeting we will discuss that and also the continuing of the study group.

Chi-fang Chao – Dance and Ritual

We have done nothing in last two years, but somehow we have been working on a tentative framework. Please join us at our meeting later. All are welcome.

Daniela Stavelová – Field Research and Methods

We have to find new ways to proceed with our work. We have a new proposal and we would like to present it to the group. Newcomers are welcome. We have a 2013 publication from our last project. Liz Mellish then presented some details about it.

Siri Maeland– Movement Analysis

At our meeting, which already took place, it was decided that I am the secretary. We are looking for organizers; two who want to do that in the next 2 years. Panels should be created for the Limerick world conference, but members have to form them. Please come sign up on the membership list [if you would like to join this sub-study group].

Secretary Anne von Bibra Wharton noted that, due to the fact that is already past time for this meeting to end, the announcements from outside groups or others should be shared electronically with her. The option was given to start earlier the next morning with those kinds of reports (i.e at 8:40 a.m.).

## **12. Any other business?**

Georgiana Gore encouraged networking among young scholars within the study group, commenting that what struck her this week was that because we are at a turning point in academia in France, and maybe other places now, it is disheartening that not all students currently getting PhDs may get jobs in academia. Yet there is a great deal of skill in this group and I think there should be a study group or a network that belongs to the study group that brings people of a certain generation together. Dina Staro noted that there is a Facebook page that is a place where these kinds of things can be shared, conversation started, etc.

Eirini Loutzaki asked someone to address why some students were given 8 minute student presentation slots while others were given a regular slot. Can we put on the guidelines what is a student? It was noted that student presentation assignments were based on what people applied for and that this should be made clearer next time.

## **13. Move to Adjourn**

Chair Catherine Foley called for a motion to adjourn. Ann David moved and Helene Eriksen seconded. Before officially adjourning the meeting, the Chair expressed her regret that she had to leave in the morning and would not be present for the end of the symposium and expressed her thanks to all:

“Thank you all for coming and for your contributions...It was wonderful being here with all of you and I want to thank the local organizer committee, the staff here, the Board and all of you for coming.”



**Addendum A**

Newcomers at this year's symposium:

Jana Al Obeidyine

Debanjali Biswas

Chariton Charitonidis

Barbara Curda

Sinibaldo De Rosa

Jennifer de Brun

Elina Djebbari

Catherine Dulin

Giorgos K. Fountzoulas

Atsuki Inoue

Elise Gayraud

Sille Kapper (new to symposium, but not to Sub-Study Group on 19th century round dances)

Sonja Kieser

Matej Kratochvíl

Stefano Reyes

Peter Lucien

Rebeca Mateos Morante

Juliette O'Brien

Rori Smith

Bryan Levina Viray

María Gabriela López Yáñez

**Addendum B – Chair's Report** (see attached pdf)

**Addendum C – Guidelines for Next Programme** (see attached)