

European Geography Association  
for Students and Young Geographers



egea

# **MINUTES**

## **of the 4<sup>th</sup> BoE Live Meeting**

**Moscow, Russia**  
**30<sup>th</sup> January to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012**

**Minutes by**  
**Henning Kronen**

## Present people

- Svetlana Samsonova – President/EGEA Moscow
- Joanna Wawrynowicz – Vice-President/EGEA Warszawa
- Kristel Sieprath – Annual Congress Organizer/EGEA Leuven
- Sanne Heijt – Secretariat Director/EGEA Utrecht
- Michael Poulsen – Treasurer/EGEA Copenhagen
- Henning Kronen -Secretary/EGEA Aachen

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## 1. Opening

The meeting is officially opened at 29<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 10:00 MSK.

## 2. Announcements

There are no announcements.

## 3. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is approved by all present participants.

## 4. Website

### 4.1 Check Updates

The status of the entities, the Board of EGEA page and the Contact Persons of the entities are updated. The Communication and Media Committee, the Fundraising Committee and the Website Committee have to update their entity pages. The page of the Financial Control Commission is empty. The page of the Official Affairs Committee has to be deleted.

The EGEA archive will be presented on a separate website. The request to the Website Committee is sent some time ago.

The Board of EGEA will send a request to Holger Fritze (EGEA Münster) to delete unnecessary logos (EESTEC, AEGEE, Best)

Update: The logos are deleted.

### 4.2 Downloading Section

The following documents have to be uploaded in the download section:

- Calendar 2012 by Communication and Media Committee in a way that everybody can download it
- Minutes of almost all Regional Meetings 2010/2011 (incl. Annual Congress)
- Entity Report 2011
- Minutes of the last Euromed Regional E-Meeting
- Update of the Statutory Base
- EGEA Open 2011 Report
- The EGEA templates have to be improved by Communication and Media Committee

### 4.3 Entity List

The entity list at the website has been improved and updated.

## 5. Incoming Requests

### 5.1 EGEA Athens (Recommendation Letter)

We are waiting for details to write the proper letter. EGEA Athens will be contacted via Skype and Facebook.

### 5.2 Regulations (doc flow)

In order to ensure that minutes are made and requests answered in due time the Board of EGEA will make a letter of intent of our responsibilities and deadlines, i.e. a set of internal regulations.

This will also be made for the next BoE during the transition.

### **5.3 Annual Congress Fee**

The Board of EGEA welcomes the forum discussions about a new proposal on the AC fee. In order to facilitate a constructive discussion

- we will prepare a discussion for Regional Live Meetings
- propose and prepare it at next e-meetings
- collect ideas and perspectives in the forum topic for this discussion.

We will urge EGEAns to continue a constructive discussion on this, as well as use the forum for discussion of other potential proposals so that they can be properly discussed in advance of the General Assembly.

## **6. EYF Grants**

### **6.1 Category A (La Rochelle Meeting)**

The program for the La Rochelle Meeting is improved by Human Resources and Training Committee. It will be sent to the European Council with the other documents.

As soon as we get a confirmation by the EYF, the meeting program and all the details concerning the meeting will be announced on the website.

### **6.2 Category C**

The Board of EGEA applied for the EYF Grant – Category C, which provides administrative support. The application will be uploaded on the website.

## **7. Financial Matters**

### **7.1 Half-Year Financial Report.**

The half-year report is ready. It is intended to be published this month.

## **8. Fundraising**

### **8.1 Cooperation Folder**

Kristel Sieprath will send the cooperation folder (which were used for Annual Congress 2012) to the Fundraising Committee. A participation fee of 500€ is a realistic price to join the career fair as company.

There will be also an offer of general sponsorship as part of the folder.

The cooperation folder should be in the EGEA corporate design.

### **8.2 Database of Companies**

The Fundraising Committee will work out a list of companies and contact the companies in single countries via Contact Persons.

### **8.3 Work Plan and Task Division**

The Board of EGEA will review the process and status of the career fair at the beginning of July at the Organization and Strategy Meeting and discuss if it is feasible for the Annual Congress 2012.

We need the results of the survey a work plan and a business plan until the end of February. The career fair is a good opportunity to find new sponsors. However, this should be one option for engaging with EGEA in a set of multiple sponsorship opportunities (sponsorship package).

The brochure of EGEA needs some important points:

- pretty layout – corporate design
  - relation to Europe in the logo
- short description of EGEA
  - advantages of EGEA
    - scientific level of EGEA
    - Level of Organization (Registered Association by Dutch law)
    - Headed by a yearly elected Board
    - Alumni Organization

### **8.4 Applying for Grants for Regional Congresses (proposal)**

The idea is to get more money for Regional Congresses. The Board of EGEA can assist in the application but it is up to the entities to apply for a grant for Regional Congresses.

## **9. New Website**

### **9.1 Loan from University of Utrecht**

Sanne Heijt (Secretariat Director/EGEA Utrecht) has an appointment with the Head of Sponsoring of University of Utrecht. If we do not get money for our website development we will initiate a separate fancy looking website for external promotion, which will contain only reference information about EGEA and will be used only for external relations and promotion.

## **10. Events**

### **10.1 EGEA Birthday 25 years**

The registration has to open as soon as possible.  
Update: It is now open.

### **10.2 English Summer School in Malta**

No news since the last e-meeting.

### **10.3 Arctic Congress in Arkhangelsk**

Everything is fine. No news since the last e-meeting.

## **11. External Relations**

### **11.1 Think Young**

Kristel Sieprath had a meeting with a Think Young representative in Brussels. Think Young can make advertisement for open EGEA events on their website. They also have a lot of contacts to magazines, where EGEAns can publish articles. Their website contains many surveys in different topics. They offer internships

to students and organise summer schools and seminars. The Board of EGEA will set up a contract with Think Young.

Think Young is a non profit think tank based in Brussels. The main aim is to lobby for young people, via surveys, documentaries and events, such as the Entrepreneurship Summer School they organized with Deloitte and Google as well as an event, called Happy Birthday Italy which they developed last year.  
<http://www.thinkyoung.eu/>

### **11.2 UN Volunteering Programme**

This offer does not fit to EGEA, due to the fact that we can not offer volunteering positions or internships.

## **12. Committees**

### **12.1 Events and Activities Committee**

The Entity Ranking list is finished. The new proposal for a fairer Entity Ranking List is also finished. We are now awaiting a comparison between the old and new formula. The committee should start a discussion in the forum. They also started too with mining the entity data for the Database. Other projects the committee will work on are the FAQ and the Stress Calendar.

### **12.2 Entity Support Committee**

There is a request about Entity Report Surveys 2009 – 2010. Greg is asking to extend the analysis. They are working form now on with a new category to measure entities (Problematic Entities). Those entities that are struggling to find new members will come in this category to give them a special focus. The next Live Meeting they will have is at the Euromed Congress.

### **12.3 Communication and Media Committee**

The committee is working well. The next Newsletter will be published in the next days. The March edition will have news about the Annual Congress 2012 in Leuven. The viewability of the EGEA Calendar 2012 has to be improved as well as the opportunity to download the file. At each congress there will be a responsible person to cover photos and movies. The next step is to create a storyline. Another project is to create new EGEA Stickers. Especially a 25 years edition should be ready until March. Then the Committee should work an a new EGEA brochure. The next e-meeting is in February.

### **12.4 Human Resources and Training Committee**

The committee sent a request about how many trainers are needed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Organization and Strategy Meeting in La Rochelle. The committee will also send some trainers to the English Summer School in Malta. They also should improve the promotion of trainings and trainers with a group U2U to all EGEA members. The Board will contact Catalina Ionita (Speaker/EGEA Bucharest about collecting data about trainers in EGEA. The Regional Assistants and the Board will ask for trainers at the Regional Meetings, the CP Day and in the Entity Survey.

### **12.5 Website Committee**

See point 9.

### **12.6 Fundraising Committee**

See point 8.

## 12.7 Scientific Committee

The 3<sup>rd</sup> e-lecture about Rock Glaciers was a success. For the next e-lecture can be used a new software provided by our partner APECS. It is up to the Scientific Committee which software is used for the next e-lecture. The committee already has some new ideas for lecture topics. It will be nice to have one e-lecture every second month.

This year there will be 2 scientific exchanges . One between EGEA Utrecht and EGEA Augsburg. In the other one are involved by EGEA the entities of Moscow, Iasi, Lviv, Kyiv and Moldova together with other universities in Europe where no EGEA entities exist so far. It will be funded by the Marie Curie Action. A program which funds scientific exchanges in Europe. If they do not get the grant, anyway the first part of exchange program will take place in June in Russia. It will be a field practice course at the White Sea and Khibiny Mountains. 5 participants from EGEA Iasi and 1 from EGEA Moldova will join it.

The idea to offer free places at university excursions can be promoted in the forum and the EGEA Newsletter in February and March.

## 13. EGEA Publications

### 13.1 European Geographer

The Editorial Board of the European Geographer sent a request for the theme of the 10<sup>th</sup> edition that is concerned to the Organization and Strategy Meeting in la Rochelle. The theme will be "Many Cultures 4 Europe" - according to the application and seminar topic.

They also had a request about the availability of the editing software Adobe Indesign. As the European Geographer will apply for the EYF Grant the costs to get the software can be put in the application. The Board will write a welcome word for the next edition of European Geographer. It will be published before the Regional Congresses.

### 13.2 Annual Congress 2011 Report

The report is still missing.

Update: It will be published in March.

### 13.3 Newsletter

See point 12.3.

## 14. Regional affairs

### 14.1 Regional Overview

- **East**

- Romania

The development of EGEA Craiova is a little bit beyond, all other entities are active. They are organizing a lot of events and have strong local associations Seems that there is no more potential for new entities at time.

- Ukraine

Both entities (Lviv and Kyiv) are active. Potential entities are in Odessa and Dnepropetrovsk. University letters were sent.

- Bulgaria

To EGEA Sofia there is no contact at time.

- Georgia

To EGEA Tbilisi is no contact at time.

- Czech Republic

EGEA Brno and EGEA Praha have both a stable level of activity

- Slovakia

The contact to EGEA Bratislava is kind of problematic. Old EGEAns promise to take care of the member development.

- Poland

In Poland there is a new entity - EGEA Wroclaw. EGEA Sosnowiec starts to be active. All other entities are running good.

- Russia

In EGEA Moscow the new generation is doing well. EGEA Izhevsk has the problem of the travel barrier out of Russia, but the support by university is great. EGEA Arkhangelsk starts really active as a candidating entity.

There are potential entities in Tver and Astrahan. First contacts with the universities are established, also promotional material about EGEA is sent.

- Moldova

EGEA Moldova has a well development. They found new members, organized a New Years Party together with EGEA Iasi and an exchange with EGEA Sighetu Marmatiei.

- Hungary

EGEA Szeged is stable. EGEA Pecs got some new members, which are very good news. EGEA Budapest is an very active candidating entity, they will organize with the Eastern Regional Congress the main event in the region. There is also a contact to Szekesfehervar, promotion material is already sent.

- Hopefully we can establish an EGEA entity in Belarus in future

- **Euromed**

At the Regional Congress there are 256 registrations, 15 from 22 Euromed entities signed up. The preparation of the CP Day is going well.

- Entities

To EGEA Dijon and EGEA Mytilene is no contact. In EGEA Bologna is at time just one person active. The outview in all those entities is very pessimistic.

- Problematic Entities

EGEA Tirana was quite active. But no one is participating this year in any meetings or activities. The members are quite old.

- New Entities

EGEA Malta is very active in the forum and is participating in many activities. They will organize an English Summer School

EGEA Sevilla is very active on the website but nobody is coming to Euromed. They are quite motivated and having exchanges and local activities.

- Prospective Entities

In Angers the first steps for an entity are done. The professors like the idea. After the exams there will be presentations about EGEA.

In Bordeaux are first contacts to students.

- Nominated Entities

EGEA Lisbon is not active. No request is replied.

EGEA Madrid is very active. 4 people signed up at the Euromed Congress. The communication is great. They get a lot of support by the University.

- All other entities in the Euromed Region are very to quite active. There is still a big potential in France, Spain, Italy and Portugal.

- **North & Baltic**

- There is a good activity level in the region, including both exchanges, other international events, as well as national and local events.
- One entity will not be present at the North & Baltic Regional Congress. One or two entities need some special attention during spring for ensuring their sustainability.
- The newest member Kaliningrad is doing well in establishment.



- At this point there has been no response to the promotion activities in the region. Promotion should be intensified during the spring.
- A forum open to all North & Baltic EGEAns has been initiated. The hope is that this will facilitate more interaction online, sharing of ideas and best practice as well as engage more EGEAns in promotional activities.
  
- **Western**
  - Switzerland  
There are first contacts to Lausanne. Bern is doing really well.
  - Austria  
Former students from EGEA Wien make first steps to establish EGEA in Salzburg again. EGEA Wien and EGEA Graz are doing well.
  - Germany  
EGEA Kiel and EGEA Jena have problems to find new members. With EGEA Passau there is a new candidating entity in Germany. There are also actions to establish entities in Hamburg, Heidelberg, Giessen, Frankfurt/Main and Goettingen. All other entities are doing well.  
Update: Giessen sent a motivation letter.
  - Belgium  
Brussels has just a small department, so it is not easy to find new members. But they will organize the pre event of the Annual Congress 2012. A potential is still in Gent, they know about EGEA but the activity level is just local.
  - Netherlands  
EGEA Amsterdam is developing well at time. EGEA Nijmegen has big problems. The communication is not good and there is no development to attract new members. In EGEA Utrecht a connection to EGEA Europe is missing by the majority of members. The Contact Persons are working on that to improve internal problems. EGEA Groningen is doing well.

## 15. Congress

### 15.1 Regional Congresses

All registrations are closed. There are problems with the local ESRI offices, but the Board of EGEA is working on this via the European ESRI office. This year the committee promotion will start at the regional congresses during the Regional meetings or the CP Day.

### 15.2 AC Preparations (*Visibility on the Website*)

There will be opened a forum topic concerning the Annual Congress preparations soon. The organization is going well. The programme is already finished. Also the lectures are fixed. Some surprises are waiting for EGEAns at the Annual Congress 2012.

## 16. BoE Matters

### 16.1 Half-Year Policy Paper Evaluation

The half-year Policy Paper Evaluation will be presented at the Regional live meetings in March to May.

### 16.2 Strategic Plan 2009 – 2012 Evaluation

The evaluation will be done in summer and preliminary results will be discussed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Organization and Strategy Meeting in La Rochelle.

### **16.3 Next BoE E-Meeting**

Next e-meeting will be in beginning of March, before the Regional e-meetings.

## **17. Secretariat Director**

### **17.1 Status of Documents**

All refunds are sent to Michael for refunding. The official letter for a loan by the University of Utrecht is prepared. But the contract of the website company is still missing.

### **17.2 Statutory Base Changes**

It will be ready in May.

### **17.3 EGEA Archive**

Kristel Sieprath (Annual Congress Organizer/EGEA Leuven) is coming in March for 3 days to make a plan with the Secretariat Director for the archive and will help to sort and collect the documents for the archive exhibition at the EGEA Birthday Weekend. And a request will be sent to the organizers for some space at the birthday location and some clipboards (around 6) for the exhibition.

## **18. GA Proposals**

### **18.1 Annual Congress Fee Proposal**

See point 5.3.

### **18.2 Regional Congresses' Waiting List**

Referring the EGEA association Protocol Appendix B, part II.2.3 Waiting List it is not stated, that members at the waiting list belonging to the region organizing the regional congress is taken have priority. But it is practice.

#### **II.2.3. The waiting list should be constructed according to following procedures:**

**II.2.3.1. Potential participants with the same positions on the priority lists of each entity should be grouped together.**

**II.2.3.2. The positions in these groups should be ordered according to the entity ranking list.**

**II.2.3.3. In exceptional cases, when the share of participants from the region organizing the regional congress would drop to under 50 % due to cancellations (compared to the original division of places) potential participants from entities belonging to that region can be accepted with no regard to the order of the waiting list.**

The Board of EGEA will open a forum topic and invite all EGEAns to discuss this point.

## **19. Official Closure**

The meeting is officially closed at 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012 at 21:00 MSK.