

MINUTES

of the Plenary Meeting of Delegates

XXXVI Ex-Libris Congress

Vologda, Russian Federation

26 August 2016

The President of FISAE, Sergei Fedorovich Ptukhin, called the meeting to order at 16:00 hours in the Basement of the Central Exhibition Hall, Vologda, Russia. The Executive Secretary of FISAE, Professor William Butler, co-presided.

Apologies for absence. Apologies for absence were received from the Pirckheimer Society, Germany.

Delegations in attendance. New Australian Bookplate Society (A. Peake); Austria (M. Gryksa); Belgium (by proxy); Bulgaria (R. Baramov); Canada (S. Tiukanova); China Beijing (Hua Shaoyang); Czech Republic (L. Klemish); Denmark (by proxy); England (by proxy); Finland Aboensis (T. Piironen); Finland Suomen (O. Ylönen); France (by proxy); Germany DEG (J. van Waterschoot); Japan (I. Aoki); Kazakhstan (M. Zhaksygarina); Latvia (V. Il'in); Mexico (D. Woodruff); Netherlands (A. van Waterschoot); Russia Moscow (L. Shustrova) Russia Vologda (V. Voropanov); Sweden (by proxy); Switzerland (by proxy); Taiwan (I. Uchida); Turkey (H. Pektas); Ukraine (J. Veselov); United States (J. Keenan).

Also in attendance: W. E. Butler (Executive Secretary of FISAE).

The Executive Secretary reported on the illness of Mr. Artur da Mota Miranda and asked authorization by acclamation to send an expression of appreciation on behalf of FISAE to Mota Miranda for his monumental contributions to the international ex-libris movement. That authorization was unanimously given.

1. Report on XXXVI (2016) Congress. Sergei Ptukhin reported that 208 persons had registered from seventeen countries and that the Congress had proceeded very satisfactorily. Full details appear on the website of the FISAE and in the facebook group “36th International Ex-libris Congress”.

The City of Vologda presented to Ptukhin a chain of office, which the recipient then presented to FISAE, to pass in future congresses from president to president.

2. Report on Congress Bookplate Exhibitions. The major bookplate exhibition shown as part of the Congress was the traditional exhibition of bookplates designed since the preceding Congress in 2014. These had been juried for quality and mounted at the Central Exhibition Hall of Vologda Art Gallery. More than 1,500 bookplates were submitted by 383 artists. First, second, third, and special prizes were awarded. Full details of all exhibitions appear on the website of FISAE and in the facebook group “36th International Ex-libris Congress”.

Bookplates from all countries represented in the Congress exhibition were produced in the catalogue composed by V. V. Voropanov and S. F. Ptukhin. *World Exlibris exhibition, 2014-2016* (Vologda, 2016).

3. XXXVII Congress (2018). The representative of the Czech Exlibris Society confirmed the invitation to hold the next Congress in Prague, Czechoslovakia, from 28 August-1 September 2018.

The President of FISAE for the period 2016-2018 is Mr. Karel Urban. Mr. Sergei F. Ptukhin was elected First Vice President of FISAE, and Mr. Mario Casas Hierro was elected Second Vice President of FISAE.

4. Election of Executive-Secretary of FISAE. Professor William Butler served as the first and only Executive Secretary of FISAE for thirty years and declined to stand for re-election. Two candidacies were nominated: Hasip Pektas and Olli Ylönen. By a vote of 14-4, Olli Ylönen was elected to a six-year term as the Executive Secretary of FISAE.

5. XXXVIII Congress of FISAE (2020). An invitation was received from The Bookplate Society, England. The delegates voted to accept this invitation in preference to invitations from Turkey and Bulgaria.

6. Congresses after 2020. The American Society of Bookplate Collectors & Designers issued an invitation for 2022, to be held in San Francisco that would mark the 100th anniversary of that Society. The delegates received this invitation for information.

7. Membership Applications for FISAE. Two applications were accepted: from the Theogony Society in Greece and from the Club of Bibliophiles and Exlibris Devotees in Minsk, Belarus.

8. FISAE Web-Site. The delegates severely criticized the state of the Web-Site and the non-responsiveness of the FISAE Coordinator and asked the Executive Secretary to take the necessary actions to improve the Web-site.

9. FISAE Certificates and Medals. The Executive Secretary reported FISAE Certificates of Honour had been recommended for a number of individuals and institutions since the previous Congress. The Certificates had been designed and printed letterpress by Sebastian Carter of The Rampant Lions Press and the calligraphy had been contributed by Joke van der Brandt. The Ivask Medal was designed by A. Zabaluev in Moscow and struck by the St. Petersburg Mint in Russia. The full list of all participants is maintained on the FISAE web-site.

10. Freedom of Movement of Exlibris. The Executive Secretary noted that FISAE is dedicated to encouraging and promoting the exchange of exlibris across national frontiers and indeed was created by exlibris collectors expressly for this purpose – an objective incorporated in the FISAE Statute. FISAE member societies assume an

obligation to comply with the FISAE Statute. He reported no change in the position since the previous Congress.

11. Russian Student Exlibris Design Competition. The delegates heard a Report from Mrs. L. Shustrova on the student exlibris design competition held in 2015. The delegates voted by acclamation to approve the 2017 competition being held under FISAE auspices, as were the first and third competitions in 2011 and 2015.

12. Concerns about Exlibris Editions and Prices. The Executive Secretary reported that two letters were being circulated to delegates before and during the 2014 XXXV Congress in Spain, one from Belgian collectors and the other from Shanghai collectors. Neither letter was formally submitted for inclusion on the formal agenda. Although these letters addressed somewhat different subjects, both expressed deep concern about some existing practices of, for example, issuing limited editions of exlibris in excess of those agreed with the client, prices for commissioning exlibris, sales of exlibris by designers and others, and the like. The Executive Secretary indicated that although FISAE did not have the competence to directly regulate these matters, progress was being made towards the submission of a Code of Good Practice and General Conditions for the commissioning of exlibris. An initial draft was expected within the coming months for circulation to national societies for discussion. This draft was circulated to member societies in 2015 for discussion and a number of comments received which were incorporated into the Draft.

In addition, a two-hour period was reserved on 24 August 2016 for a discussion of a draft Report setting out proposed Guidelines. This project will be presented for discussion at the site of the FISAE and in the facebook group “36th International Ex-libris Congress”. Time constraints prevented a discussion of the draft Report, which is to be carried over to the 2018 Prague Congress.

The meeting was adjourned at 18:50 hours.

Sergei F. Ptukhin
President of FISAE

William E. Butler
Executive Secretary, FISAE