

Executive Committee Report 2017

(To be read out at Country Meetings prior to the Annual General Meeting)

The 58th European IFYE Alumni Conference was held in Pärnumaa, Estonia from 23rd - 31st July 2016. The sunny weather was as warm as the welcome we received from our hosts and, once again, we had the opportunity to make many new memories with old and new friends. Our thanks and appreciation to our Estonian hosts who provided an excellent programme, and gave us the opportunity to learn about the beauty, history and marvels of their country.

The Executive Committee met for the mid-term meeting in Aesch, Switzerland in January and amongst the many items discussed, the following should be of interest:

- The proposals accepted at the last AGM, which included extending the newcomer grant to 5 years and the introduction of a special fund to encourage participation, will be implemented this year. A number of applications and nominations were considered for support. There was also some discussion on the other points raised at the contact members meeting, regarding fees and membership. The outcome of our discussions and our proposals are outlined in Appendix I.
- Website – The Executive Committee, led by Andreas and Anita have continued the process of redesigning the website to make it more useful and user friendly and they will present the latest developments at the AGM.
- Country Reports for 2016 will be available on www.ifye.org and a summary displayed on the conference noticeboard.
- Letters of Introduction were sent out to last year's European IFYEs via e-mail, with links to the Conference website and fb page.
- Newsletter – This has been produced 4 times during the last year and emailed to recipients as well as being available on-line.
- Finances – The Executive Committee has reviewed all finances and is satisfied that no increase in the Membership fee is required, and that it should remain at 20CHF for an Annual Membership and 240CHF for a Lifetime Membership.
- 60th Anniversary of IFYE European Conferences in 2018 – The 60th anniversary steering group gave an update on their work and an allocation has been made in the budget to cover their last two meetings and the printing of the brochure.
- Hosting of Future IFYE Conferences – Arrangements are in place to host the European Conference in Northern Ireland (2018), Norway (2019) and England (2020). We are now inviting applications from countries to host from 2021 onwards.
- Elections will take place for President and Secretary. The current office bearers are willing to let their names to go forward for re-election. Any further nominations should be made during the country meetings to allow members time for discussion and consideration.

We look forward to seeing you all in Switzerland in July.

On behalf of the Executive Committee,

Anna Persson

Appendix I

Proposal 1

The issues regarding membership fees and voting rights, raised at last year's contact members' meeting, were discussed and the following proposals made.

The membership fee, currently 20 CHF, should be included in the registration fee, rather than collected separately at the conference. This would be payable by all conference attendees and the conference organisers would be responsible for passing on the income to the treasurer. The income from voting members, as defined in the Blue booklet, would be allocated to the general fund and the income from non-members, would be allocated to the Sweden Fund. Lifetime members attending, who have technically paid in advance, would receive a rebate from the treasurer, payable at the conference. This would help make conference fees more equitable and simplify the administration.

Proposal 2

Concerns had been raised regarding conference registration and possible problems, should we be oversubscribed. It was agreed that this would have to be considered on a year to year basis and that countries may have to set special criteria, e.g. on room allocation or different registration dates, depending on the capacity they have available. This will be added to the 'Guidelines for Organisers' in the Blue Booklet.