

Minutes of the INSeCT Steering Committee Meeting Leuven, Belgium

14 September 2007, 12:30-2:30 p.m.; 15 September 2007, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Present (Friday)

Prof. Dr. Bradford Hinze, President (CTSA)
Prof. Dr. Paulo Fernando Carneiro de Andrade, Vice-President (SOTER)
Dr. Thomas Fliethmann, Vice-President (ET)
Prof. Dr. Catherine Clifford (CTSA)
Prof. Dr. Jan M.N.E. Jans (ET)
Prof. Dr. Gideon Goosens (ACTA)

Present (Saturday)

Prof. Dr. Bradford Hinze, President (CTSA)
Prof. Dr. Paulo Fernando Carneiro de Andrade, Vice-President (SOTER)
Dr. Thomas Fliethmann, Vice-President (ET)
Prof. Dr. Catherine Clifford (CTSA)

1. Opening

President Bradford Hinze welcomed the participants.

2. Minutes from the Network Council Meeting, 9 June 2005.

Minutes for the Network Council Meeting held in June 2006 in San Antonis, Texas, were corrected and approved.

3. President's Report

The major item of business concerned collaboration with DePaul University for the Triennial Network Council Meeting. The background is that INSeCT has been incorporated and operated as a "registered organization" (e.V.: Verein) in Germany. Over the last few years the desirability and feasibility of applying for tax exempt status (501.c.3) was explored with a lawyer teaching at Marquette University. Initial steps were taken in preparing an application for this status. However, this course of action was not completed because the onus of applying for tax exempt status and maintaining it would fall upon the CTSA delegate in the U.S., who does not currently receive administrative assistance for such tasks. The decision was made by Brad Hinze to postpone applying for tax exempt status and to explore other alternatives. One option explored was to be granted permission to work as an affiliated subgroup of the CTSA, which might have allowed INSeCT to receive tax-exempt status. It was learned in preparation for the October 2006 CTSA Board Meeting that the CTSA could not act as the "fiscal agent" for INSeCT since the CTSA has its tax exempt status as an association affiliated with the USCCB, which cannot be extended to INSeCT. The question was posed by current CTSA President Dan Finn whether a university could act as the fiscal agent for INSeCT, which would enable INSeCT officers to apply for financial support from Catholic affiliated foundations and donors for the triennial Network Council assembly. It was Hinze's intention to explore this with administrators at Fordham University. In the meantime, Dr. Ruth Chojnacki, special assistant to the Provost at DePaul University in Chicago, was asked by the Provost to explore possible ways that DePaul could promote the study of world Catholicism in the U.S. Hinze was consulted in conjunction with Chojnacki's mandate. The possibility of DePaul serving as a fiscal agent for INSeCT and being the host of the triennial Network Council was suggested. This idea was proposed to the Provost who approved this plan of action. The Board of INSeCT was consulted and approved the pursuit of this plan. This course of action was agreed upon by the officers. DePaul is hosting the 2008 Second International INSeCT Colloquium, June 19-21, 2008. They have agreed to cover the expenses of the rooms and food during the convention and provide the meeting space in Chicago. Moreover, Ruth Chojnacki will pursue grants for additional funding to cover the expenses of those traveling from the southern hemisphere: Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

4. Report of the Webmaster

The report of the Webmaster was prepared by Oliver Dyma and handed out to the participants.

5. Financial Report

The Annual Financial Report was prepared by Dr. Thomas Fliethmann, Vice President, submitted, and approved

6. Old Business

The Reports and other material from the First International Colloquium were posted on the INSeCT website in September 2006.

There is need to update information of some of the member societies.

New efforts need to be made to get regional reports for the website.

7. New Business

7.1 Following up the President's report a possible theme and a schedule for the Second International INSeCT Colloquium, June 19-21, 2008, DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois were discussed. The preliminary title is "Globalization and Intercultural Relations". During the colloquium several group sessions will be held. President Hinze will ask Robert Schreiter to deliver a keynote lecture that will be open to the public. If possible a public panel discussion will be organized in response to Schreiter's lecture.

7.2 During the Chicago-meeting in 2008 a Network Council Meeting will be held. New officers have to be elected. The president invited member societies to nominate candidates.

Prepared by Dr. Thomas Fliethmann, Vicepresident INSeCT