

Minutes of the RCSL (RC12) Business Meeting and Board Meeting

BUSINESS and BOARD Meeting: Onati, 7 July, 2009: 5,30 pm

Present at the board meeting: Anne Boigeol, Luigi Cominelli, Benoît Bastard, Peter Robson, Valerio Pocar, Jean Van Houtte, Ulrike Schultz, Vittorio Olgiati, Lawrence Friedman, Masayuki Murayama, Carlos Lista, Mavis Maclean, María Teresa Picontó, Vincenzo Ferrari, Malgorzata Fuszara, Antonio Azuela, Rogelio Pérez Perdomo, Angélica Cuellar, Stephan Parmentier, Marina Kurkchyan, Guy Osborn, Pierre Guibentif, Volkmar Gessner.
Apologies: Devanayk Sundaram, Rosemary Hunter.

The business meeting was also attended by other members of the RCSL.

1) 2009 Board elections and Statute amendment

Anne Boigeol announced the results of the RCSL board elections. The new RCSL president will be Vittorio Olgiati. The elected members of the next RCSL Board are: Luigi Cominelli, David Nelken, Carlos Lista, Ulrike Schultz, Volkmar Gessner, Angela Melville, Benoit Bastard. The two Statute amendments proposals were also approved: Board term extension to 4 years (84 yes; 8 no; 4 invalid); Electronic vote (88 yes; 5 no; 3 invalid). As a consequence, the newly elected board will take office in 2010, at the RCSL meeting in Gothenburg.

2) Statute revision

A final draft of the comprehensive Statute revision elaborated by Vincenzo Ferrari was submitted to the ISA and was approved with only a few minor changes. The final version to be voted on by the membership will be revised again by the Board by the end of the present year. Among other things, the changes will include the following provisions: past-presidents of the RCSL would be non-voting members, the Business meeting would be named "Assembly", Working Groups should participate more actively in the RCSL annual meeting.

3) The next RCSL meetings

The 2010 RCSL meeting will be held within the ISA World Congress scheduled in Gothenburg (July 2010). Peter Robson, the RCSL programme coordinator, has received applications to held sessions from 8 working groups. The deadline to present the final RC programme is December 31st 2009.

Dr. Rashmi Jain, on behalf of prof. Arvind Agrawal, presented the candidature of the

University of Rajasthan in Jaipur as the hosting institution for the 2011 RCSL annual meeting. The organisation of a big meeting was tested the previous year, with the annual conference of the Indian sociological association. Jaipur has a good infrastructure and is a tourist attraction in India, besides being closely connected to New Delhi. A good time for the meeting might be between July and October. The participants would be lodged in hotels and not in the university residence.

A discussion followed in which several participants point out the problem of costs and accessibility, while Prof. Gessner also highlighted the need to provide an additional programme to the 3-4 days of the meeting for conference participants, featuring bits of modern India or NGOs. The Board approved the candidature of Jaipur.

The 2012 meeting will be held jointly with the Law and Society Association in Hawaii. Vittorio Olgiati will be the representative of the RCSL in the planning committee.

4) RCSL membership

Vincenzo Ferrari noted that the next elected RCSL Board will have to deal with the membership issue. The number of RCSL members has been stable if not decreasing for the past decade. The potential audience, which can be partly seen from participation to the annual meetings, would be at least of 400/500 scholars. There was a strong need to involve more young people, and promote ISA membership as well. Sol Picciotto suggested that Associations participating in the World Consortium could mutually recognize individual memberships. Volkmar Gessner invited travel grants recipients to join the association, and suggested that the Oñati Masters students should be automatically members. Mavis Maclean added that the RCSL board members should actively engage in membership promotion during conferences and meeting.

5) The Adam Podgórecki Prize

The 2009 Podgórecki prize for senior scholars was awarded to Boaventura Sousa Santos by the committee comprising Malgorzata Fuszara (chair), David Nelken and Antonio Azuela. With regard to the 2009 Podgórecki prize, Anne Boigeol proposed that the Awarding Committee consist of Stephan Parmentier as chair, Marina Kurkchyan and Luigi Cominelli.

The proposal was approved by the Board. The committee to issue a call for nominations to be published in the next RCSL newsletter.

6) The RCSL E-Journal

Anne Boigeol reported that for the time being, the project for an on-line journal presented by Volkmar Gessner was blocked by a problem concerning the sharing of costs with the Oñati Institute. It is hoped that the project will be revived in due course.

7) RCSL's finances

Luigi Cominelli reported that the RCSL has two separate accounts: a general account and a Podgórecki account. The general account of the RCSL contains the membership fees and donations. The second account, which was set up through the donation of Maria Los, is used to fund the Podgórecki Prize.

The balances on 2 July 2009:

General Account:	16.974,17 €
Podgórecki Account:	2.933,24 €

The board approved the policy to use the money of the RCSL to help students or post-doc researchers to attend the RCSL meeting and to attend IISJ. RCSL pays a sum of 3,000 € towards supporting the Treves Scholarship to the Oñati Institute in September each year, and this year it will also pay around 1.200 € for the 3 Graduate Students travel grants awarded for the Gothenburg meeting.

9) Working Groups

Anne Boigeol invited the WG chairs to present a report of their activities. All WG Chairs are invited to submit a written report.

Luigi Cominelli read the Law and Gender WG report, sent by Rosemary Hunter, and the Law and Popular Culture WG report, sent by Guy Osborn.

Devanayaka Sundaram sent a written report as the chair of the Working Group on Law and Migration. The working group sessions in Oñati were chaired by Dr. Rashmi Jain.

Stephan Parmentier reports on the working group on "*Human rights*". The WG organized a session during the 2009 RCSL meeting and it was planning to establish a new book series. A summer course in the Netherlands was also being planned. The WG maintains an informal structure.

Vittorio Olgiati chaired two sessions of the Social and Legal Systems Working Group in Oñati. The participation to the ISA world forum in Barcelona was also a success.

Antonio Azuela reports that the Law and Urban Space WG is working on a research project on expropriation, which will start this year in Venezuela and Ecuador.

Masayuki Murayama reported on the Working Group on Civil Justice and Dispute Resolution. The WG is currently composed of 18 members from 12 countries. At the Oñati meeting 3 sessions were held, and the WG will have its own first meeting in 2010.

Angelica Cuellar reported on the Law and Politics Working Group. The WG organized one session in Oñati, and it will publish a book next year.

Marina Kurkchyan reported on the Working Group on Comparative Legal Culture. The WG had several sessions in Milan and Oñati, and it is organizing a workshop in Santiago. When David Nelken takes office as elected member of the WG in 2010, Marina will take over as the chair of the working group.

Benoit Bastard, on behalf of the chair of the *WG on Legal Profession*, Emmanuel Lazega, presented the activity of the WG. Several of the WGLP sub-groups met also in Oñati. Next year's meeting will be in Paris, before the ISA meeting of Gothenburg.

+++++The RCSL Board 2006-2010+++++

RCSL Executive Board

President:

- Anne Boigeol: Boigeol@ihtp.cnrs.fr

Vice-Presidents:

- Benoît Bastard: benoit.bastard@free.fr
- Volkmar Gessner: Gessner@uni-bremen.de

Elected Members:

- Malgorzata Fuszara: mfuszara@poczta.isns.uw.edu.pl
- María Teresa Picontó: tpicono@posta.unizar.es
- Valerio Pocar: valerio.pocar@unimib.it
- Peter Robson: peter.robson@strath.ac.uk
- Ulrike Schultz: Ulrike.Schultz@fernuni-hagen.de

Past Presidents:

- Johannes Feest: feest@uni-bremen.de
- Vincenzo Ferrari: vincenzo.ferrari@unimi.it
- Lawrence Friedman: lmf@stanford.edu
- Mavis Maclean: mavis.maclean@applied-social-studies.oxford.ac.uk
- Rogelio Pérez Perdomo: rperez@unimet.edu.ve
- Jean Van Houtte: jean.vanhoutte@ua.ac.be

Working Groups Chairs :

- *Gender and Law* - Rosemary Hunter: r.c.hunter@kent.ac.uk
- *Comparative Legal Culture* - Marina Kurkchyan: mkurkchyan@hotmail.com; David Nelken: sen4144@iperbole.bologna.it
- *Legal Profession* - Emmanuel Lazega: emmanuel.lazega@ens.fr
- *Human Rights* - Stephan Parmentier: Stephan.Parmentier@law.kuleuven.be
- *Law and Politics* - María Angélica Cuéllar Vázquez: cuellarv@servidor.unam.mx
- *Law and Urban Space* - Antonio Azuela de la Cueva: lacueva@servidor.unam.mx
- *Social and Legal Systems* - Vittorio Olgiati: olgiati@soc.uniurb.it
- *Law and Popular Culture* - Guy Osborn: osborng@wmin.ac.uk
- *Law and Migration* - Devanayaka Sundaram: dsundaram@hotmail.com
- *Civil Justice and Dispute Resolution*: Masayuki Murayama: aa00092@kisc.meiji.ac.jp

Observers - Coopted Members:

- Carlos Lista: clista.argentina@gmail.com (Oñati Scientific Director), replaced since september 2009 by Sol Picciotto: solpicciotto@iisj.es
- Pierre Guibentif: pierre.guibentif@iscte.pt
- Luigi Cominelli: Luigi.Cominelli@unimi.it (RCSL Secretary)