Minutes from the 18th congress of EFPSA in Kopaonik, Serbia
2nd till 9th of May 2004

Purpose: to have a short overview from all the work that is done!

Present at the EB meetings: Attila (HUN), Kristina (SLO), Boris (CRO), Romana (CZ), Mairi (EST), Johanna (FIN), Sirko (GER), Elisabeth (NOR), Vladimir (SER), Blanka (SLO), Sven (SUI), Annette (NED), Keith (UK), Rabia (TUR), Michal (POL), Angel (SPA), Markus (SUI), Triin (EST), Nikola (CRO), Radu (ROM), Nel (BEL), Marina (CRO), Gabi (HUN), Simonas (LIT), Ezkki (FIN)

**EB-level Workgroups**
The EB-level Workgroups were new this year and they turned out to be really effective! 5 Workgroups (WG3) were not held, because of the late return from the excursion. In total there were 70 people participating in the workgroups! Many new ideas and solutions came up and there will be a few reports of them, so that we have it documented! Here in short an overview:

*How to build up a national organization?*
There were 5 people; the workgroup was really effective. The coordinator (Attila) will make a manual with problems (continuity, promotion, finance) in two weeks.

*How to write a project application?*
There were 10 people; the workgroup discussed general ideas for applications and had an information part where they explained how you should fill in an application like the YOUTH.

*How to organize an international exchange program?*
There were 20 people; the workgroup first had an informational part, where 3 people told their experiences and a brainstorming part where it was discussed how a perfect exchange would look like. The coordinators (Marina & Annette) will make a report about this.

*New ideas without frontiers*
There were 6 people. They brainstormed about new ideas. They came up with old ideas (which is pretty cool off course!) and new ideas. The coordinator (Markus) will make a list of these ideas.

*How to manage a national organization?*
There were 15 people. They brainstormed about the different kind of problems national organizations have and their solutions. The coordinators (Mairi & Annette) will make a report about the problems and solutions.
How to coordinate an organization like EFPSA?
There were 10 people. They brainstormed about how to coordinate EFPSA. The coordinator will make a report about the brainstorming.

How to use the new Travel Network?
There were 15 people. They brainstormed about the developing of the new TN. They discussed problems, promotion and they came up with good new ideas (for example: a price for every 100th user!).

GA’s
There were 3 GA’s at the congress. At the first GA there was a presentation about EFPSA in which Attila showed what EFPSA is and does. Furthermore, all the countries had a country-presentation. Some of them contained information about the country, some of them contained information about the organization in their country and some of them had both. The second GA started with a yearly report in which Attila showed everybody what happened last year and what goals were met! There were also presentations about:
- IAAP: Contact: Pedro Neves; www.iaapsd.org; iaap_sd@yahoo.com
- IPSO: Contact: Edward van Rossen; www.psychologystudents.org
- Travel Network--> to come to the presentation
- Homepage--> to show what work has been done!

The third GA was a voting GA: We voted on:
- President: Vladimir Lelicanin
- Vice-presidents: Romana Pelcova and Annette van Weel
- Next years congress: Spain
- New countries: Lithuania, France, Spain and Romania
- Yearly fee: fair trade:
  - 130 euro: Luxemburg, Switzerland, Norway, Belgium, Netherlands, Finland, Germany, United Kingdom.
  - 90 euro: Slovenia, Portugal, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Poland, Croatia
  - 60 euro: Turkey, Serbia Montenegro, Bosnia Herzegovina
- Congress organizers in 2006 (in two years) will be decided at the EB meeting in Switzerland (in a half year). After that the congress organizers will be decided two years before the congress. (So at the congress in Spain, 2005, we will decide about the organizers for 2007)
- The budget for next year: the EB will decide what money goes where. The new president and vice-presidents will make a proposal.

EB meetings
There were 5 EB meetings. The first four EB meetings were participated by the old EB members. The last EB meeting was participated by the new EB members.
The first EB meeting was an introduction. At the second EB meeting we worked in workgroups. There were three workgroups: Structure, Services and Travel Network Homepage. They all brainstormed about the problems within these contents. At the third
EB meeting we discussed the new structure of EFPSA. The main things we decided on (also at the GA) are the following:

- From now on we think of EFPSA within the new structure. We will work to this structure till next year when we will have this structure. Along the way we will see the problems with this structure and then we will try to solve them.

- We use the terms:
  - National Representatives
  - Executive Board members (the old task forces)
  - National Reports (the old EB letter)
  - Executive Board Reports
  - Services (not task forces!)
  - Services coordinators
  - Projects
  Markus and Sven will make sure everybody uses these terms (so watch out! ;))!

- The EB has the following functions:
  - President
  - Vice-President
  - Applications
  - Fundraiser
  - Country coach
  - Treasurer
  - Webmaster
  - Project manual, EDP and Structure implementation
  - TN coordinator
  - RN coordinator
  - Activities coordinator
  - Study & Work abroad coordinator

- Sven is working on the role descriptions (with some help) for each of these functions, so that it is clear what work has to be done.

Furthermore we had a presentation of the Services/Support Workgroup. They showed us their ideas. Their ideas are the following: having an contact person on each university, having an European University Database (with general information about curricula, special interest, research etc), finding out about the different student statutes in each country, articles database, promoting EDP, promoting international cross-cultural research, promoting research network and article exchange, inter-organizational exchange (meetings of two national executive boards), group of trainers/advisers within EFPSA, EFPSA manual. They will work out their ideas during this year.

At the fourth EB meeting we voted on:

- EB meeting next year: Switzerland

Furthermore we decided who of the EB is going to do what function next year:

- Applications: Blanka, Elisabeth, Simonas
- Fundraiser: Gabi/ Igor
- Treasurer: Johanna
- Webmaster: Markus
- Country coach: Benny
- TN coordinator/team: Triin, Nikolai
RN coordinator/team: Radu/ Yvette, Johanna, Angel
Activities coordinator: Marina
Study & Work Abroad coordinator/team: Mairi/ Benny, Alex, Rabia, Ezkki
Project Manual: /Radu, Romana
Project EDP: /Angel
Project Structure: Sven

At the fifth EB meeting (The next generation) we welcomed the National Representatives and explained them what their task is: the link between their national organization and EFPSA. Also, we told them they would receive an email within one week after the congress with all the information they will need. Furthermore, we welcomed the new EB members and told them as well that they would receive an email within one week after the congress with all the information they will need. Then we had a small evaluation of last EFPSA year. Most often it was mentioned that the EB’s liked working in workgroups and that that keep people working and motivated. Some points that were mentioned for improving are: the GA’s, the RN, promotion and involvement. Then the new presidential team showed their ideas for next year (promotion of EFPSA and her services, improving internal structure, communication, services). Finally we had a presentation of the Study and Work abroad group who showed us their ideas and plan of action. We also voted on the amount of NR reports and EB reports:

NR reports: 4 times a year
EB reports: 6 times a year (after congress, before EB meeting, after EB meeting, before congress and two in between)

Other things that happened at the congress:
- Motivated people working!!
During the congress a lot of EB’s were working in small groups about different topics. Some workgroups even worked during the party’s at night!
- Travel network presentation
An information presentation of what Travel Network is, does and can do for you!

Topics that are now in the EB:
- Structure of EFPSA-->role descriptions
- RN/TN/Study and Work abroad -->ideas, promotion services
- Promotion EFPSA
- Homepage

Fun part:
- Family song
- Ski club
- International disaster
- Great cultural evening
- Mushi mushi dance??
- Cultural day
- Great closing (what an explosion!)
- Relationships???
- Best congress ever?
The end of the congress: a lot of tears and goodbyes!!! But also a lot of people going home with great ideas and motivation!