



I.V.S.A.

INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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2014.07.01 – Minutes for Emergency Online Meeting

The Emergency Online Meeting of the IVSA Executive Committee (ExCo) 2013-14 was held at 18.15 GMT on the 1st July 2014 via Adobe Connect, the President being in the Chair and the Secretary General present to take the minutes.

Present:

Pim Polak (President)

James Bost (Vice-President and Secretary General (SG)) (until 23.00)

Joseph Lunt (Development Aid Director (DAD))

Hannah van Velzen (Sponsorship Director (SD))

Camille Poissonnier (Member Organization Director (MOD))

Somin Um (Treasurer)

Retorika Galunggung (Public Relations Coordinator (PRC)) (from 20.30)

Theofanis Liatis (Veterinary Public Health Director (VPHD) and Chairman of Standing Committee on One Health (SCOH))

Anne Christine Føllesdal

Apologies:

None

- 1) **Opening**– The Meeting was called to order by Pim Polak. Pim requested that all should endeavour to remain objective during this meeting.
- 2) **Approval of agenda** – James Bost moved to approve the agenda. This was adopted after amendment.
- 3) **Housekeeping rules** – James Bost explained that this was intended to be a closed ExCo meeting with no other guests, so that everyone may speak freely. James moved that all ExCo should be allowed to attend the meeting, as well as Anne Christine Føllesdal, who had recently resigned as President-Elect and Inés Ben Jabara, who had requested to attend. This was adopted after debate.

Inés Ben Jabara was unable to attend.

- 4) **Resignation of President-Elect** – Anne Christine Føllesdal explained the reasons for her resignation as President-Elect, as further detailed in her letter of resignation to Pim Polak.
- 5) **Advice from selected members of the Trust** – Pim Polak explained that selected members of the Trust have written a letter of advice concerning the



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situation. Pim moved to email the Trust member involved, stating that “It has come to our attention that Anne Christine Føllesdal has resigned because of <reasons that Anne Christine has indicated>. We would like to hear your opinion on this.” This was adopted.

- 6) **Procedure for how to continue with vacant position of President-Elect** – James Bost explained that according to our Bylaws, the ExCo could decide to first offer the position to members of the Secretariat, or to continue the rest of the term with a vacancy, with a suggestion to re-open elections for President at Congress.

Camille Poissonnier moved to not appoint a member of the Secretariat to the position and instead to propose to the General Assembly in Indonesia that we re-open nominations at Congress in Indonesia. This was adopted.

Pim Polak stated that he would endeavour to ensure the next President is suitably advised regarding the role of the President, whether or not Pim is elected to the Trust. Anne Christine Føllesdal stated that she will endeavour to assist the next President too, if this is desired.

- 7) **Potential successors** – Pim Polak will contact one person who expressed an interest in being President-Elect before the elections for President. Several of the ExCo stated that they had been considering running for President but that it would not be very feasible for any of them. Pim requested that anyone with an idea of someone who could be interested should contact him.
- 8) **Actions of Trust member which resulted in Anne Christine Føllesdal's resignation** – The behaviour of the Trust member involved and its results were discussed.
- 9) **Measures to be taken by the ExCo** – The measures that could be taken by the ExCo were discussed. Pim Polak moved to send the Trust member involved Anne Christine Føllesdal's resignation letter via email and request that they respond within two days. This was adopted after debate and amendment. It was discussed that further measures to be taken, if any, would depend on the response to this email.
- 10) **External communication** – James Bost moved to adopt the following statement for external communication: “*The President-Elect, Anne Christine Føllesdal, IVSA Norway, has resigned on 1st July 2014. The primary reason for her resignation was due to a conflict of work ethics with a member of the Trust. The ExCo of 2013-2014 will propose to the General Assembly to re-open elections for President during the Congress in Indonesia. More information will follow.*” This was adopted after debate and amendment.



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Pim Polak moved that Camille Poissonnier should contact Exchange Officers and Presidents with this statement on 2 July, and delegates of the Congress in Indonesia on 5 July. This was adopted after amendment. Pim Polak will contact partners with the same statement, and Hannah van Velzen will contact sponsors. Pim will inform the Secretariat and the Trust, and Pim will arrange the composition of a paragraph to advertise the position of President.

James Bost moved that if there were questions from delegates, the ExCo should inform them that we are not at liberty to disclose any more information than is in that statement. This was adopted after debate.

11) **AOB** (*minutes for the final section were drafted initially by Pim Polak as James Bost had to leave*)

- a. **Email to Trust member involved** – Pim Polak moved to draft the final text for the email to the Trust member involved (to include the statement adopted in agenda point 5). This was rejected after debate. It was decided that the letter would be finalized after the meeting, so that everyone who was able to and wished to contribute could attend and others could leave. During discussion, most of the text of the email had already been agreed upon.
- b. **Request for support** – Pim Polak informed everyone that due to the situation he is behind schedule on his tasks and might request any of the ExCo officers or Secretaries to support him with certain tasks.
- c. **Financial consequences** – Somina mentioned that if Anne Christine Føllesdal does not attend the Congress as President-Elect, she should not be reimbursed for her travel expenses and 50% of the Congress fee. All members of ExCo present and Anne Christine agreed that this was the case. Somina will contact Anne Christine to ensure that the situation is resolved.

The meeting adjourned at 23.30 GMT.

James Bost
Secretary General and Vice-President



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