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This newsletter is published under the responsibility of the Board of the International Federation for Information Processing - Intersteno and sent to all e-mail addresses of persons participating in the work of the members of Intersteno, known to the Board. Contributions to the newsletter can be sent to news@intersteno.it.
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Board meeting 2005 in Vienna

From Friday 4th till Monday 7th of February the Board held a meeting in Vienna, hosted by its president, Ms. Marlis Kulb. The meeting took place in the office of the Österreichischer Verband für Stenografie und Textverarbeitung. Mr. Jaroslav Zaviacic, Mr. Gian Paolo Trivulzio, Mr. Boris Neubauer, Mr. Franz Sager and Mr. Jaroslav Polaçek attended the meeting as guests. A large number of subjects was discussed and there was agreement about the solution of many problems. A number of participants visited the school centre at the Längenfeldgasse, and admired its excellent facilities for the congress in Vienna.

Among the subjects discussed, we mention the following points.

Next congresses and meetings.

The Board will propose to the Central Committee that the 46th Intersteno congress be held in 2007 in Prague and that, for the election which is necessary to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Marlis Kulb at the end of the 45th congress in Vienna, the Central Committee should propose to the General Assembly the nomination of Mr. Jaroslav Zaviac, being the only candidate, as next president for the period 2005-2007.

The term of all members of the Board ends in 2007. According to the prevailing Constitution, in 2007 the General Assembly has to nominate, on the proposal of the Central Committee, the president, the vice-president and the secretary-treasurer for the period 2007–2011 and the Central Committee has to nominate for that period the coordinator of the Jury and the coordinator of the Scientific Committee as members of the Board. The National Group of Turkey has offered to host the meeting of the Central Committee in 2006. The Board will propose acceptance of this offer. **No decision was taken about the host country for the 47th Intersteno congress.**

Competitions.

The aim of the Board is **create a permanent task force assisting the Jury**. This task force will consist of volunteers from the National Groups who are professionals in the subjects covered by the different kinds of competitions, will be well informed about the regulations and can perform the work that has to be done before and during the competitions. Therefore a proposal to modify the Constitution will be prepared. In anticipation of this modification **Mr. Mauro Panzera will select for the congress in Vienna competent helpers** out of those who are proposed by the National Groups. All participants in the competitions will be informed in advance about the regulations.

The **Intersteno Internet-competition keyboarding 2005** will take place from April 25 till May 13 and **will be offered in two modules**, the Italian module in Java and the Czeck ZAV-module. While it is not possible to prevent competitors from taking part in both modules, it was agreed that, if they do, the worst results of their two entries will be put in the list of results. The fee for taking part in this competition is 4 euro for each competitor.

For the *competitions in shorthand there will be one world champion*, regardless the way in which the spoken word (the dictation) was captured (by pen writing, steno machine or speech recognition).

For the keyboarding competitions the world champion will be chosen from those who use a normal keyboard. Competitors who use a steno machine or speech recognition will be placed in separate lists. The best of each of these lists will receive a prize, but there will be no title of world champion in keyboarding awarded in this category.

The competition in professional text processing is now one of the standard competitions. Therefore, in this competition also, there will be a world champion.

Communications.

A **website of the central organisation of Intersteno** is in preparation. Mr. Jaroslav Zaviacic and Mr. Gian Paolo Trivulzio are cooperating on this matter. If the necessary tests are successful, Mr. Zaviacic will transfer the web name www.intersteno.org which the Czech National Group now owns, to Intersteno. The website will give general information about Intersteno, with links to the websites of the National Groups and the Individual Members. A ruling for the hosting and the maintenance of the website will be drawn up. Everybody was enthusiastic about *Intersteno enews.* This newsletter is meant to deal with current affairs, but it also serves the purpose of bringing the work of National Groups and Individual Members to the attention of all members of Intersteno.

New members and IPRS.

The Board will propose to the Central Committee the acceptance of NVRA (the National Voice Reporters Association) Mr. Dave Rogala from the USA, the Scuola Galotta and Stenotype Italia from Italy, Mr. Dan Glassman from World Technologies, USA, Mr. Pius Onana from Uganda and Mr. Ramaswamy, president of the Stenographers Guild in India, as **individual members of Intersteno.** Mr. Glassman will try to form a National Group in Mexico. If FIAT (Federción Iberoamericana de Asociaciones de Taquigrafos), a federation of associations of reporters in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Spain, applies for membership, the Board will propose that the Central Committee accepts this federation temporarily as a special area group, paying twice the minimum fee.

IPRS has to be revitalised. Following the Rome congress the coordinating committee of IPRS did not function well. Recently Mr. Paul Hadlow had to resign as coordinator for health reasons. It was decided that the Board would try to contact by e-mail as many parliamentary reporters as possible from all over the world and that in every Intersteno e-news short articles about parliamentary reporting would be published, especially highlighting new technologies which are now available for capturing the spoken word and publishing the reports. The aim is to publish in 2006 a special newsletter with detailed information, which will be sent to the parliamentary

reporting services that are individual members of Intersteno.

Constitution of Intersteno.

The decisions taken by the Central Committee in Helsinki regarding the **number of delegates in the General Assembly** and the possibility of giving a **temporary reduction in the membership fee** to National Groups in countries which have economic or organisational problems will be translated into a proposal to the General Assembly in Vienna to modify the Constitution. A proposal dealing with other amendments to the Constitution, e.g. regarding the structure of the Jury and the introduction of special area groups, will be prepared. It is also possible that National Groups will put forward proposals to amend the Constitution. The Central Committee will have to decide about all these proposals in 2006 and thereafter the General Assembly in 2007.

Report prepared by Cees van Beurden - text revision by Peter Walker

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