

Protocol (Draft)

Directors' meeting UBIAS-network

Birmingham Directors' conference June 19-22 2016

"UBIAS into Impact: Networking our academics to meet global challenges"

Wednesday June 22 2016, 15.30-17.30,

University of Birmingham-Center at Stratford-upon-Avon

Participants

Professor	Clarissa Ball	Director, Institute of Advanced Studies	University of Western Australia
Professor	Cong Cong	Deputy Dean, Nanjing University	Nanjing University
Dr	Caitriona Curtis	Trinity Long Room Hub, Institute Manager	Trinity College, Dublin
Professor	Mike Hannon	Director, Institute of Advanced Studies	University of Birmingham
Ms	Sue Gilligan	Deputy Director and Manager, Institute of Advanced Studies	University of Birmingham
Professor	Risto Heiskala	Director, IASR	University of Tampere
Professor	Jaewan Kim	Korea Institute for Advanced Study	Korea Institute for Advanced Study
Dr	Sari Kivistö	Director, Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies	University of Helsinki
Professor	Bernd Kortmann	Director of the FRIAS	Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg
Dr	Carsten Dose	Administrative Director	University of Freiburg
Professor	Morten Kyndrup	Director, Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies	Aarhus University

Professor	Michal Linial	Director, Israel Institute of Advanced Studies	Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Ms	Iris Avivi	Administrative Director, Israel Institute for Advanced Studies	Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Dr	Britta Padberg	Executive Secretary, ZiF Centre for Interdisciplinary Research	Bielefeld University
Professor	Guilherme Ary Plonski	Deputy Director, IEA	Universidade de São Paulo
Professor	Ilaria Porciani	Resident Fellow and Board Member	University of Bologna
Dr	Ana Santos Kühn	Managing Director of TUM-IAS	Technical University of Munich
Professor	Veronica Strang	Exec Director of the Institute of Advanced Study	University of Durham
Dr	Hartmut von Sass	Associate Director, Collegium Helveticum	Collegium Helveticum/ETH Zurich

Guests

Dr	Valtteri Arstila	Participant Intercontinental Academia 'Time'	University of Turku
Dr	Florence Brouillaud	Secretary General Institute for Advanced Studies	University of Cergy-Pontoise (UCP)
Dr	John Burden	Warwick Institute of Advanced Study Strategy Manager	University of Warwick
Professor	Martin Grossmann	Former Director, Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Sao Paolo	University of Sao Paolo
Dr	Léan Ní Chléirigh	Grants Coordinator	University College Dublin (UCD)
Professor	Sami Pihlström	Professor of Philosophy of Religion	University of Helsinki
Professor	Cossimo Gonzalo Sozzo	Founding Director	Universidad Nacional del Litoral
Professor	Vicente Tavares dos Santos	Diretor do ILEA - Instituto Latino-americano de Estudos Avançados, Brazil	Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul
Professor	Attila Sik	Medical and Dental Sciences	University of Birmingham

Introduction

The session is chaired by Carsten Dose, FRIAS, Germany, in his function as network coordinator.

Carsten Dose welcomes all members and guests to the official Directors' meeting. He explains that each member institute present carries one vote. He explains that the members' assembly is the one body of the network to make longer-lasting decisions. The Steering committee has met two days before to prepare this members' meeting not to take any decisions by itself.

In the name of the whole network, he again thanks the Birmingham IAS, namely Mike Hannon and Sue Gilligan and of course the whole team, for having organized the 2016 conference. Everyone will agree that the conference was a great success and that it was of crucial importance for the further development of the network.

He gives an overview of the topics for which decisions need to be taken.

Coordinating function

After having served as the coordinating institute for the network since its inception in 2010, FRIAS had notified UBIAS-members that it was planning to hand over this function to another institute (mail from June 10 2016 to member institutes).

FRIAS had already made a suggestion for a successor in this role, namely Morten Kyndrup from AIAS, Aarhus, Denmark. Since then, no other institute has signalled an interest in or was put forward by another member for this function.

Before the vote, there is a lively discussion on the formal aspects and implications of this function. This discussion leads to the following clarifications:

1. The position of coordinator will be taken over by a person (must be a representative of a member institute of course), not by the institute.
2. There is a unanimous realization that functions and procedures in the network need to be more formalized, this holds true for the function as coordinating institute as well (see below).

3. To clearly signal the role in a decentralized network of equal-ranking institutes, the term “coordinator” is most appropriate and will be maintained.
4. Two representatives from member institutes shall take over the role of deputies.
5. The terms of office for coordinator and his deputies will stretch from one directors’ conference to the next and will thus be the duration of app. 2 years each. Reapplication is not excluded.
6. The coordinator’s institute will be a member of the steering committee, and the coordinator will as hitherto act as chair of the steering committee.

Morten Kyndrup addresses the audience and clarifies his motivation for accepting to be a candidate for the position of coordinator. He leaves the room.

He is unanimously elected as the coordinator for the period from the present to the 2018 directors’ conference.

Two colleagues are suggested for the role of deputies to the coordinator: Bernd Kortmann, director FRIAS, Freiburg, and Ary Plonsky, deputy director IEA São Paulo.

There is widespread support that in principle the deputies should come from different continents than that of the coordinator. Bernd Kortmann clarifies that FRIAS is applying for the deputy position in order to facilitate the hand-over to Morten Kyndrup and best support him in taking over the new role. There is a clear intention on the side of FRIAS not to reapply for any of these positions in 2018. As several representatives from Asian institutes have already left, it is agreed that the issue of geographical representation shall be taken into consideration at the next election for these positions in 2018.

Representatives from FRIAS and IEA São Paulo leave the room.

Bernd Kortmann, FRIAS, Freiburg and Ary Plonsky, IEA Sao Paulo are unanimously elected deputy coordinators for the period from the present to the 2018 directors’ conference.

Steering Committee

The present Steering Committee (including Morten Kyndrup and AIAS, cf. above) will stay unchanged until the next Directors’ conference where an election for membership shall take place. Two institutes, seemingly not UBIAS-active anymore (IAS Stellenbosch, South Africa,

Stanford Humanities Center, Palo Alto, USA) will be asked whether or not they wish to stay in the Steering Committee.

Future structures for the network

Discussion on the internal structures and processes of the network need a clear result: There needs to be greater formalization of structures, responsibilities and procedures (i.e. election of coordinator, steering committee members, membership granting process, procedures concerning the status of inactive member institutes). The new coordinator will work out a proposal in close cooperation with the members of the Steering Committee and present it to the members at the next directors' conference. He will prepare for elections for all positions at the next conference.

Directors' conference 2018 and 2020

IEA São Paulo has offered to organize the next Directors' conference in 2018. Waseda IAS has offered to organize the conference either in 2018 or preferably in 2020. It is thus agreed that the Directors' conference 2018 will be held in São Paulo. Members welcome Waseda's offer to hold the Directors' conference in 2020, the final decision shall be made in 2018.

The coordinator shall invite members and institutes with guest status as well as institutes being interested in joining the network to the 2018-conference.

Application for membership

Carsten Dose reiterates the principles for granting membership decided upon in Taipei (<http://www.ubias.net/membership-participation>). He explains that several institutions have voiced an interest in membership but for several reasons do not (yet) fulfil the membership criteria. The Steering Committee has discussed the different cases and suggests granting guest status to the following institutions:

- Latin American Institute for Advanced Study (ILEA) at UFRGS (Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil)

- Warwick Institute of Advanced Study, Warwick University, UK (did not hand in an application)
- The Institute for Advanced Studies (Institut d'Etudes Avancées – IEA), University of Cergy-Pontoise (UCP)
- UCD Institute for Discovery, University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland
- Instituto Latino-americano de Estudos Avançados (ILEA), Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
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This suggestion is unanimously supported.

Two institutes (Max-Weber-Kolleg Erfurt, Germany (<https://www.uni-erfurt.de/max-weber-kolleg/>) and UvA-IAS (Universiteit van Amsterdam – Institute for Advanced Study (<http://www.uva.nl/en/home>)) have handed in application material but have not sent a representative to the conference (though having been asked to join the present conference). It is suggested to grant guest status to both on the ground that there is no chance to have a discussion with a representative from the institute, as had been the practice at the Jerusalem- and Taipeh Directors' conferences.

This suggestion is challenged on the ground that a presentation of the institute in person is not required in the membership procedures published, even if it was practiced like this up till now. This view is supported by a majority of institutes.

Carsten Dose and Britta Padberg give some first-hand evidence concerning the application of the Max Weber-Kolleg Erfurt. The institute is a highly respected, internationally oriented university-based IAS that easily fulfils all formal criteria.

The application is granted permission and Erfurt is accepted as a new member institute.

As for the application of UvA-IAS, it is pointed out that the institute is not yet (but very close) to commencing its activities. It thus does not fulfil the membership criteria as yet and the institute is therefore given a guest status for the time being. (Both institutes have been informed of the decisions.)

Rules for membership application

It is agreed that for future applications, presence of a representative of the applying institute is mandatory and that there shall be a presentation and Q+A at each Directors' conference before deciding on granting membership. The information for new applicants available on the internet will be updated accordingly.

Securing Trademark status for important terms

On the suggestion of Mike Hannon (Birmingham), it is agreed that efforts should be made to get trademark status for important UBIAS-related terms (e.g. UBIAS and "Intercontinental Academia", "Topic of the Year" etc.). IAS Birmingham and FRIAS will work out a proposal how to best get international protection.

Intercontinental Academia

Members again express their gratitude towards the four institutes that have successfully organized the UBIAS-ICA 1 and 2. Both ICAs are seen as great successes realizing the network's commitment to furthering junior researchers, international and interdisciplinary exchange. Deliberations show that at this moment there are no institutes which are prepared to organize a third ICA. All member institutes are asked to again reflect on whether they would be interested to take up this idea and organize a third ICA. Again it is stressed, that any future pair of organizing institutes can rightfully expect the support from member institutes (e.g. financing travel costs for a participant etc.). Institutes interested shall inform the coordinator about their interest (there is no need to wait for the 2018 Directors' conference).

Prof. Kim (KIAS, South Korea) suggests a topic for a potential new ICA: Collective intelligence, a topic encompassing neuro sciences, social sciences, computer sciences, psychology, etc.

"The space" – Publication platform

The junior participants from ICA 1 have presented a „spin-off“ project from the ICA-meetings (in addition to the MOOC (online course) that the groups will finish later this year: An academic online journal and discussion forum. Valtteri Arstila, ICA 1-participant, Turku, Finland, presented the idea at an earlier session already. The group has offered to the UBIAS-network

that the online-forum could be run in affiliation with the network, making reference to the network and its members and pursuing contributions from member institutes and their fellows.

In the ensuing discussions several colleagues point out potential difficulties if a certain content runs contrary to the interests of member institutes. Also there are complex questions of deciding on an appropriate structure for such a cooperation.

It is therefore unanimously decided that an institutional cooperation is not in the interest of the network. However, as this project is a direct and potentially very attractive result of an UBIAS-activity, individual institutes may want to lend their support.

Exchange about on-going bi-lateral activities, planning for new activities.

Due to a lack of time, this topic could not be discussed.

Topic of the year

Bernd Kortmann sums up the discussions in the ad-hoc working group on this activity which had met during an earlier session of the conference. He briefly sketches out current activities undertaken by the institutes for the 2016 Topic of the Year “media and data control”. He reminds institutes of the benefit of staging an annual event under the heading of this joint activity.

Two topics have been suggested for 2017:

- a) “Fear”,
- b) ♥ (The heart *and* the symbol of heart).

Suggestion a) is agreed upon as topic for 2017. A short text laying out the different aspects and potentialities of this topic will be distributed.

A topic for 2018 shall be agreed upon at a later point in time. The coordinator is asked to set out a process for this.

It is agreed that this activity needs added visibility.

Future tasks for the coordinator, the Steering Committee and the network as a whole

Over the course of the conference, a number of tasks have been identified that need to be taken up. These include:

- Liaising with potential new partner institutes worldwide
- Contacting inactive members seeking to clarify their future role in the network
- A proposal for rules and regulations for the network
- Showcasing member institutes' activities on-line
- Procedures for the selection of the "Topic of the Year" (including selecting the ToY 2018).

The meeting is closed as 17.50.

Protocol: Carsten Dose