



International Standing Conference for the  
History of Education



GEORG-ECKERT-INSTITUT  
FÜR INTERNATIONALE SCHULBUCHFORSCHUNG

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16 February 2013

Dear ISCHE member:

I would like to thank you again for the trust you put in me by electing me president of ISCHE at the Geneva conference. With this newsletter I would like to start a way to foster the communication between the Executive Committee (EC) and you in between our annual ISCHE conferences. I will send you information about the EC activities and other relevant issues at least twice a year. In doing so I hope to get you involved in ISCHE activities, the work of the EC and in decision-making processes. An organization only works as well if its members are active. For this reason we also want to make the General Assembly a more interactive and discussion forum. The overall goal is to further strengthen the collaboration among historians of education. ISCHE is our professional home, whose sturdy foundations and robust structure depend upon the vitality of its members.

As any new president I have suggest an agenda which I would like to realize together with you in the coming years. The main outline I presented at the General Assembly in Geneva but since not all of you were able to attend this event, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to the main points of this agenda and what the EC has accomplished since the Geneva meeting.

First, we need to provide ISCHE with a legal foundation as an international organization. This is not an easy task because ISCHE needs to be registered within a national legal framework. This means that the official office of the organization must be in one country. We need to draft of a new constitution and re-think our membership regulations. At our EC meeting last December we discussed this issue with a lawyer. We suggest establishing a permanent ISCHE office in Germany.

Second, we want to put ISCHE's relationship with the Foundation Stichting and the publisher of Paedagogica Historica, Taylor & Francis, on more formalized grounds. We also need to secure the ISCHE records and to ensure a sustainable location for them. We plan to move the records which are currently in Paris to the Research Library of the History of Education in Berlin ([http://bbf.dipf.de/en?set\\_language=en](http://bbf.dipf.de/en?set_language=en)). The library would be willing to take the ISCHE and PH archives and - with the support of the Georg Eckert Institute - would be able to do an inventory and make the records available for research..

Third, we would like to further improve ISCHE's electronic communication and internet presence. In doing so, we are currently redesigning the ISCHE homepage (<http://www.ische.org/>).

Fourth, during my term of presidency we will initially continue to expand communication and research links with historians of education, especially in Asia and Africa, by organizing regional workshops and by addressing colleagues from these regions personally. This year we will have a workshop in Cape Town, a next one is planned for the Middle East region in 2014 or 2015. I am inviting you to make any suggestions.

This year we will also start with a pre-ISCHE workshops. They aim at bringing together scholars who are working on the same theme. The topic in Riga will be "The League of Nations and Education": You can find the Call for Papers on the ISCHE website. I would appreciate any suggestions for future pre-ISCHE workshops.

Fifthly, we will assist the scholarly development of young scholars by, for example, planning special career workshops for them, and by continuing to support the Summer School program. We are also considering the possibility of setting up a dissertation prize.

Sixthly, we are discussing the possibility of writing a historical account of ISCHE and its affiliated national and regional organizations. We are also thinking of establishing an ISCHE book series.

Besides presenting this agenda to you, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the organizers of the Geneva conference for an excellent and very successful event. I also very much welcome all new members of ISCHE. And it is my pleasure to introduce to you the new EC. It consists of eight members who come from Western Europe (4), Eastern Europe (1), South Asia (1), South America (1) and North America (1). Their main assignments are:

Noah Sobe: Secretary  
 Gary McCulloch: Treasurer  
 Iveta Kestere: Website, Membership issues  
 Ian Grosvenor: Paedagogica Historica, ISCHE Prize  
 Thèrèse Hamel: Standing Working Group  
 Marta Carvalho: Early Scholars  
 Barnita Bagchi: Global Research Network

We will have new vacancies in the EC that need to be filled at the upcoming Riga meeting. I would like to invite you to submit suggestions for a new EC member. According to our current constitution a nomination for the position of an ordinary EC member may be received from any two members of ISCHE or an officer of an Associated Organisation/National Society on behalf of such an. Please send your suggestions with a short rationale to me.

All together, we aim at strengthening a Global Research Network of History of Education while encouraging you as ISCHE member to lend as much support as possible. In order to realize our goals we will soon be contacting you to hear about your ideas and advice. We will send you a questionnaire asking you about your feedback on many of the points raised above and discussed at the Braunschweig EC meeting.

I am ending this Newsletter with some very sad news: We are grieving for Jurgen Herbst, the former president of ISCHE, renown scholar, good colleague, and friend – his decease is a great loss for our community. We will commemorate him with an obituary on our website shortly.

With warm regards,



Eckhardt Fuchs  
 ISCHE President