Dear ISCHE member,

Almost six months have passed since our successful meeting in Riga with its inspiring presentations, meetings with colleagues, and reunions with friends. I would now like to give you some details about what the Executive Committee has been doing since then.

- As many of you will have noticed, we have made some progress with our website but we are still in the process of redesigning it and making it a more interactive and informative site. Any comments and suggestions are very much welcome. For them and any information you would like us to post on our website please use this address: information@ische.org.

- The constitution was submitted to the German authorities and we are awaiting a response. The EC will continue working on the By-laws, which we will discuss at the General Assembly in London.

- The archivist of the Berlin library came to Braunschweig in November to check the ISCHE and PH records. We now know the amount of work and budget that will be needed in order to preserve and index the records and to make them available to researchers. I will meet Frank Simon in the spring to discuss the details with regard to the further procedure.

- I spent the past weeks in China, South Korea and Japan and had the opportunity to meet the presidents of the Societies of History of Education in all three countries. These meetings were very successful because all three societies are very much interested in working with ISCHE. In particular, we discussed the possibility of holding our next regional workshop in Beijing in 2015 which will address the transnational relations in education between East Asia and other regions of the world.

- Together with our East Asian colleagues we will also organize some sessions on the history of education within East Asia during the World Congress of Historians which will take place in Jinan in 2015 (for information about the congress see http://www.cish.org/). There will be no formal Call for Papers for the ISCHE sessions in Jinan but I would like to ask you to submit a short proposal if you are interested in participating. The deadline would be January 20th, 2014. Please send your abstract to me.

- The three societies are also interested in participating in our project on a “Global History of History of Education as a Research Field: ISCHE and the National Societies”, the “Cartography” project, which aims at providing an overview of the current status of the field across the world, and the compilation of a collection of all journals devoted to the history of education.

- I have also had the opportunity to talk to representatives of other affiliated organizations. One issue which came up time and again, with these meetings proving no exception, is the issue of language at our ISCHE meetings. I suggest discussing this in London and basing this discussion on a statement that the Executive Committee will prepare at its April meeting.
There is good news from the convenors of our next ISCHE meeting. We have had many submissions and I am certain that our London annual conference will be another great one. As last year, I will send you the agenda for our General Assembly in advance, but would like to encourage you to submit any issues you would like to raise. If you wish to do this, please do not respond to the mailing list, but rather send your email individually to me.

I hope you are having a peaceful and relaxing holiday season. On behalf of all EC members I would like to wish you a healthy, successful, and happy New Year.

With warm regards

Eckhardt Fuchs

ISCHE President