WCAA Biennial Meeting 2012, University of Delhi

Attending: Thomas Reuter, Michal Buchowski, Soumendra Patnaik, Carlos Caroso, Gordon Mathews, Robert Rowland, Graeme Macrae, Jeanette Edwards, Ellen Judd, Clara Saraiva, Antonieta Gallart, Eufracio Abaya, James Fairhead, Annie Benveniste, James Staples, Nursyirwan Effendi, Leslie Bank, Hassen Chaabani, Elisenda Ardevol, William Kavanagh, Rosita Henry, Robert Akoko, Nurit Bird David, Junji Koizumi, Shu-Min Huang, Shao-Hua Liu, Mugsy Spiegel, Chandana Mathur, Hauke Dorsch, Vesna Vucinic-Neskovic, Setha Low, Greg Acciaioli, Bela Feldman-Bianco, Raminder Kaur.

Session 1, 31 March

Introductions and Reporting

Chaired by Thomas Reuter

Following introductions, the Chair explained the upcoming schedule: WCAA business meeting on 31st March and 1st April, followed by the (first ever) WCAA symposium with international WCAA delegates and (another first) anthropologists from all over India on 2nd and 3rd April, and a WCAA session at the ASA conference on 4th April.

Treasurer's Report:

Greg Acciaioli provided a report on finances. He reminded delegates that the discussion regarding a graduated dues structure would have to take place at this meeting. As of 25/3/2012, the WCAA account had a balance of $26,550.23AUD, compared to the balance reported at the IUAES/AAS/ASAANZ meeting on 27/6/2011 of $20,098.24AUD. The balance was projected to go down below $8,000 once all meeting and symposium costs, including reimbursements to international delegates, had been accounted for, but the exact figure could not be calculated until all bills for accommodation, meals etc. had been received from the Indian Anthropological Association, which was being billed by the residences etc., so that the domestic rate for rooms could be obtained. Over the previous year a total of $4276.18 had been received from ten of the member associations as a result of the voluntary contribution drive. WCAA has annual funding of US $15,000 from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for a period of 5 years, until 2015. A book based on the Kunming WCAA panel has been launched in February 2012, which is, among other things, a deliverable for the Wenner-Gren Foundation. In addition to what had been paid already for this meeting, the only other expenses were a payment to Nomad IT (18/7/2011) for $1473.80 for website development and maintenance, and a one-off payment of $535.86AUD to Gordon Mathews' Publication Research Team in Hong Kong to pay for a dinner as compensation for their work on the publications list on the WCAA website.

Task Force Reports:

Carlos Caroso provided a report on the Antropologos Sem Fronteras (ASF) initiative. Having assumed that he could establish the organisation in Brazil using the minutes from this Delhi WCAA meeting, he had recently learnt that Brazilian law requires that the founding meeting for the ASF needs to take place in Brazil. He is seeking legal clarification on this point; also to see if a founding meeting on Skype would be acceptable.

Thomas Reuter reminded delegates of the discussion that had taken place at the Montreal meeting, viz. that ASF will need to be separate from the WCAA for liability reasons, but that the

WCAA wishes to provide support, oversight and input to ASF. Each chapter of ASF must be established separately in the relevant countries. ASF has already been one and a half years in the making, and will continue to be a major initiative and priority of the WCAA.

Action: Carlos Caroso to continue the work needed to incorporate ASF in Itaparica, Brazil.

In the absence of Leslie Aiello, Chair of the Ethics Task Force, Thomas Reuter spoke briefly about the work done by this task force. WCAA members have helped distribute the IUAES statement on race following the Montreal meeting. The question was raised about whether or not WCAA should frame our own ethics statement. Leslie Aiello has collected ethics codes from all member associations, and there was some discussion about what should be done with this compilation. Various suggestions were made: placing these ethics codes on the WCAA website (Bela Feldman-Bianco), providing translations of the codes (William Kavanagh), a comparative analysis of these codes (Eufracio Abaya suggested this, and there was widespread agreement), this analysis becoming a journal article and hence another deliverable for Wenner-Gren (Mugsy Spiegel). Rather than WCAA formulating and imposing its own code, it was agreed that it should only issue guidelines based on an analysis of the compiled codes. Rosita Henry pointed out that some associations are currently involved in revising their ethics codes.

Gordon Mathews provided a report for the Publications Task Force. With the volunteer work contributed by his graduate students, he has been able to place on the WCAA website around 500 international journals, many of them open access, including journals from WCAA member associations and other journals.

Gordon also reported that the WCAA blog has been set up, but there has been little traffic. In order for it to be used, it must be publicised actively by WCAA delegates to the membership of their respective associations. With Gustavo Ribiero, Gordon is attempting to launch a world anthropologies journal online, which will appear annually and carry one article from each member association's flagship journal. However, the issue of funding the translation of these articles into English was raised**.** Once again, participation [and developing an audience] is crucial to the success of this effort.

Action: Delegates to encourage use of the blog by the membership of our associations. Delegates to establish links between the Publications Task Force and our journals to enable the incipient on-line world anthropologies journal.

Rohan Jackson, the WCAA webmaster, provided a report on the WCAA website, once again stressing the need to market the blog to WCAA member associations' membership base, and suggesting that wikis and social media might be used to publicise the website and build up a presence. Thomas Reuter mentioned that the AAA's CWA (headed by Setha Low and Gustavo Ribiero) is working on developing a web facility for collaborating on research. Setha explained that the CWA is trying to increase AAA's involvement in world anthropology initiatives, and can be called upon, for example, to help video sessions from AAA conferences. There was also some discussion about publicising WCAA's web resources on 'Anthropology Matters' and 'Savage Minds'. Rohan stressed the importance of Facebook and Twitter for younger people, who are switching to Facebook and away from email. However, he also said that the development of WCAA internet initiatives should follow the manner in which the WCAA membership uses the internet.

Action: Encourage use of WCAA's web resources.

Thomas Reuter brought up the issue of whether the WCAA should join the International Social Science Council (ISSC), which was established in 1952 by UNESCO. He explained that Mike Murphy of the ISSC would be available on Skype during the second session to answer WCAA members' queries. Some delegates pointed out that the cost of membership is expensive (500 Euro annually for the lower level of associate membership without voting rights) for an organisation like the WCAA. Thomas was in favour of joining the ISSC on a trial basis if it could be done for a nominal fee. Others referred to the opportunity costs of not joining a major lobbying association like the ISSC. Robert Rowland queried how much of WCAA's annual projected income would be taken by a

full membership fee of 700 Euro. He also mentioned that the ISSC was initially led by a Brazilian anthropologist, and had been involved in putting anthropology on the map as a policy discipline. Membership in the ISSC might contribute to keeping anthropology in view as a separate discipline rather than being lumped in with sociology or general human sciences.

Session 2, 31 March

Strategic Planning A

Chaired by Michal Buchowski

Session began with attempted Skype call with Mike Murphy of the ISSC, which was largely unsuccessful for technical reasons. It was resolved that, as a backup, questions would be gathered and presented to him later on. James Fairhead suggested that he [Murphy] should be asked what kind of lobbying ISSC has been involved in, to see if it could be beneficial to WCAA. Thomas Reuter said he had received an indication that WCAA could join for a very low rate for a one year trial membership and that this period would provide answers in a practical way to the questions we might have. He also said that we should consider whether we can do what they can do in terms of lobbying, given that they are represented at UNESCO. There was some discussion of whether the WCAA needed to represent anthropology's interests since IUAES is already a member. Joint membership with IUAES is not possible in the ISSC, according to an earlier conversation with Mike Murphy. Thomas, seconded by Eufracio, tentatively moved requesting an interim membership in the ISSC if a rate between 100 and 200 Euro could be negotiated, but it was unclear what sort of representation on the executive that would bring. Mugsy Spiegel said that in considering a low cost one year trial membership, we should think about how we are going to evaluate the experience, and more importantly, the question of who is going to evaluate the experience.

Mike Murphy was able to be connected to the meeting briefly on skype. On being asked about the issue of a one year fee waiver, he said that an application to this effect should be made by WCAA. Their executive meets in May, and he said he did not anticipate any difficulty in the granting of a WCAA fee waiver request.

He also replied to questions that were put to him regarding the work of the ISSC, esp. lobbying. ISSC tries to get the social sciences to speak to each other, and has been successful in gaining support for their activities. When asked if the ISSC has advocated for disciplines under threat, he pointed to ISSC's Science Advocacy Initiative. In response to a question, he clarified that only international disciplinary associations (not national disciplinary associations) and national and international funding bodies are ISSC members.

Action: Application for membership on the basis of a one year fee waiver to be made to ISSC in advance of their May executive meeting.

As outgoing WCAA Chair, Thomas Reuter commented on a number of structural problems faced by the WCAA, including its lack of an adequate income stream. He queried how the members of member associations might be brought into more active roles, since the presidents of associations serving as delegates were frequently those most pressed for time. He also spoke of the need

- for volunteers in Task Forces

- to activate the WCAA Advisory Council (which all past delegates are free to join)

- to pursue a more active political role for the WCAA, which represents tens of thousands of anthropologists speaking with one voice. A lot more could be done in this regard on a case by case basis (in his view, WCAA is running at only 2% of its capacity in this regard). ASF is a good start for channelling assistance from anthropologists to people on the ground.

Small randomly selected groups were then formed to set priorities for the WCAA, including discussion of such issues as

- funding for WCAA

- human resources
- political role of and practical action by the WCAA
- engagement with public policy
- intellectual challenges (Setha Low noted that this is a particular priority of Wenner-Gren).
- member associations' expectations from the WCAA.

Returning from the break-out sessions, four rapporteurs summarised the discussions that took place in their groups.

Group 1: Gordon Mathews presented the following summary.

(i) The purpose of all WCAA member associations getting together is to take anthropology beyond Anglo-American hegemony. Their group felt the need for a mission statement, and Robert Rowland volunteered to work on one.

(ii) WCAA has a role in making each member association visible and cosmopolitan, and in demonstrating that anthropology is a world project. They recommended that the WCAA should send representatives to regional/national meetings.

(iii) The common intellectual themes WCAA should focus on for the next two years are (a) the future of anthropology, (b) climate change, (c) issues of evidence.

(iv) There has been a tendency in the WCAA to concentrate on procedural issues at the expense of intellectual content. An edited book should come out of each biennial meeting.

(v) A dues policy is needed, but it is unclear how this can be effected practically.

(vi) Membership of member associations should play a role in the WCAA.

(vii) To ensure continuity, each future member association delegate should be committed to attending at least two meetings.

Group 2: Jeanette Edwards presented the following summary.

(i) We need to develop a data base (i.e. an evidence base) regarding sources for WCAA finances. What network funding can we apply for?

(ii) The themes of international importance they proposed were (a) marginalisation and displacement, (b) migration, (c) conflict (war and torture), (d) financialisation of social life, (e) environmental abuse.

(iii) The WCAA should be involved in fact-finding about lobbying and other public engagement strategies on these issues.

(iv) They discussed the devaluation of anthropological knowledge/its subsumption into sociology.

(v) They spoke of the need to resist IRBs and to fight inappropriate ethics constraints (e.g. fieldnotes have to be given to funding bodies in the UK).

(vi) If we went beyond sociocultural anthropology in the WCAA, we would be able to make anthropology's voice speak louder.

Group 3: Clara Saraiva presented the following summary.

(i) They recommended a sliding scale for dues, taking into account not just numbers of members of associations, but strength of currency etc.

(ii) Topics suggested for an intellectual agenda were (a) ethics and human rights, (b) fair distribution of global resources, (c) globalisation and natural resources.

(iii) The WCAA should provide a forum for papers from members drawing on an engaged view of anthropology.

(iv) WCAA should be engaging media.

(v) WCAA should lobby for anthropology in secondary education.

(vi) Anthropology should liaise with other disciplines and engage with government.

Group 4: Vesna Vucinic presented the following summary.

(i) Topic proposed was 'Displacements and Immobilities: Studies in Global Capitalism'.

(ii) WCAA should enable research collaborations since we can offer multinational perspectives on pressing world issues. Perhaps it may be possible to apply for collaborative research funding through WCAA?

(iii) The group also spoke about the need for continuity in WCAA task forces.

(iv) Some member associations should collaborate to produce panels on comparative studies at the AAA and other conferences.

Session 3, April 1

Strategic Planning B

Chaired by Setha Low

Small interest-based groups were formed based on priorities identified in Session 2. These groups discussed the following issues, and reported back in the second half of Session 3.

Mission Statement Group

Robert Rowland reported back, with Michal Buchowski. New text was displayed and discussed. It was resolved that the mission statement and the Constitution should be made to match each other. It was agreed that Article 2 of the Constitution will need to be amended slightly to conform to the mission statement text agreed upon.

A: Existing constitution

Article 1

The World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA) is a network of national and international associations and organizations that aims to promote worldwide communication and cooperation in anthropology.

Article 2

Its primary objectives are:

- To promote the discipline of anthropology in an international context.
- To promote cooperation and the sharing of information among anthropologists worldwide.
- To promote jointly organized events of scientific debate and cooperation in research activities.
- To disseminate anthropological knowledge globally within both the academic and the public spheres.

B. Proposed mission statement

The World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA) is a network of regional, national and international associations that aims to promote worldwide communication and cooperation in anthropology. Its primary objective is to promote:

- the discipline of anthropology in an international context, **with full recognition of the inherent plurality of its constituent national, linguistic and regional traditions**;

- cooperation and the sharing of information among anthropologists worldwide **and between the different anthropological communities represented by its member associations**;
- jointly organized events of scientific debate, and co-operation in research activities and dissemination of anthropological knowledge;

In pursuit of this objective WCAA is concerned with recognizing and debating a diversity of views and perspectives within world anthropologies whilst also seeking to identify and disseminate common concerns and conclusions. WCAA acts as a forum for communication of news, ideas and knowledge, and as a network facilitating the exchange and flow of information. This includes ethical codes and global discussion about how the profession can best respond to contemporary challenges that are themselves often the product of forces and relations beyond the level of the individual nation-state. WCAA aims to strengthen the circulation of ideas and knowledge by facilitating the dissemination of anthropological work in a multiplicity of languages to improve knowledge of world anthropologies, counteract the hegemony of English-based knowledge production, and to enable different local publics to learn about the results of anthropological research in their own languages. WCAA-sponsored panels are to be organized at meetings of member associations and its website has been developed to make it an effective instrument for providing up-to-date information and facilitating scholarly exchange. WCAA seeks to promote international networks of postgraduate students.

WCAA works to improve the profile and image of the discipline through various forms of public engagement. These include a focus on deepening and broadening anthropology's presence in the education system and encouraging anthropologists to contribute to public debates on issues such as multiculturalism, cultural diversity and immigration, by seeking to clarify the meaning of key terms on which anthropologists hold expertise and by practicing appropriate forms of political advocacy. The WCAA itself seeks, when there is a consensus among its member associations, to issue public statements that reflect anthropological knowledge on issues such as the rights of indigenous and minority groups, as well as draw attention to arbitrary acts by states and others towards such groups and to threats to the lives and welfare of anthropologists and others. WCAA also issues statements on matters of worldwide professional concern. These include the impacts and potential biases of academic evaluation processes on the development of anthropology and of changes in funding models and the institutional organization of teaching and research in different national contexts. In some cases, such developments raise ethical concerns and pose threats to academic freedom.

Intellectual Engagements Group

Rosita Henry reported back. They have selected three research themes:

i. War, securitisation and financialisation of social life

ii. Environmental challenges and local knowledge

iii. Displacement and immobilities

Over the next four years, the WCAA should organise a session on at least one of these themes at our national conferences. WCAA should focus on outreach and publication along these lines.

Strengthening the Position of Anthropology Group

James Fairhead reported back as follows.

(i) WCAA can help national associations maintain the visibility of anthropology.

(ii) It is necessary to maintain anthropology's visibility within the social sciences, while still collaborating with, and not battling, the other social sciences. We are sometimes complicit in subordinating our own knowledge, e.g. by calling ourselves social scientists rather than anthropologists.

(iii) They recommended branding anthropology, perhaps by organising coordinated sets of events, e.g. World Anthropology Day.

(iv) It is important to maintain the autonomy of anthropology and resist co-optation into the agendas of nation states (e.g. the Human Terrain initiative).

(v) Southern anthropologists often get co-opted into Northern research agendas. WCAA should help enable the move to non-traditional centres of theoretical anthropology.

Outreach Group

Carlos Caroso reported back.

(i) Bringing anthropology into secondary schools is currently being tried in the UK, though it has happened on a very small scale. RAI will provide a brief statement on this effort, to be posted on the WCAA website. The Portuguese Association is also trying to restore anthropology to secondary school curricula, and will provide a brief statement to be posted on the WCAA website. Though it is Sociology that is taught at the secondary level in Brazil, three chapters in secondary school textbook have been written by anthropologists.

(ii) The importance of communicating appropriately with the media was underscored during this discussion. The WCAA and every member association should have a media spokesperson, with the association president as the default performer of this function.

(iii) It is necessary to establish ASF as quickly as possible. A fuller discussion will take place during the Symposium session on ASF.

Publications Group

Gordon Mathews reported back. Gordon pointed out that WCAA's emphasis has tended to be organisational, but there is no clear-cut intellectual commonality. Our funders, however, want intellectual outputs, and we need to prioritise that. He described the proposal to establish a WCAA e-journal which will contain the 'greatest hits' from member association journals every year. The possibility of themed special issues of the e-journal was also mentioned. Edited books were desirable, but subject, of course, to the difficulty of proposing collected volumes that might be of interest to established publishing houses.

Funding Group

Graeme Macrae reported back.

(i) They proposed the introduction of dues on a sliding scale based on (a) numbers of members in an association, and (b) national economic standing (incomes, exchange rates etc). They recommended 4 basic rates with a statement of criteria, and members were to volunteer which category they belong to. But they acknowledged that dues will never be sufficient to fund the agendas the WCAA wishes to fulfil. Hence other sources are also needed.

(ii) In our dealings with the Wenner-Gren Foundation, it is clear that intellectual engagement, conferences and publications are needed.

(iii) They decided against big conferences, since the WCAA should not compete with IUAES. Commercial conferences to earn money were not seen to be a good idea; WCAA symposia need to be affordable for delegates.

(iv) The importance of open access for the WCAA e-journal was underscored. It was also felt that targeted publications could make some money.

(v) WCAA should not primarily be a research organisation, but it could be a vehicle for applying for research funds at national and international levels.

(vi) Associations should try to build into their cost structures the funding of their delegates to attend WCAA meetings. Host organisations for the meetings and symposia should fund room and board for the delegates, with the WCAA restricted to paying airfares.

(vii) It might be useful to approach philanthropists, e.g. the Sigrid Rausing Trust in London.

Ethics Group

Clara Saraiva reported back.

WCAA should produce a set of suggestions, rather than ethics guidelines that are an amalgamation of member associations' guidelines. All member associations' guidelines should appear on WCAA website. The already collected member associations' guidelines should be analysed. This analysis should be written up and incorporated into the strategic plan. WCAA should promote representation of anthropologists on ethics committees and boards. It would be best if there could be ethics clearance meetings specifically for anthropologists in order to counter medical hegemony in setting guidelines for ethics in research, but in the absence of separate ethics boards for anthropological research, anthropologists need to sit on larger ethics committees.

Session 4, April 1

Structural Reform, Constitutional Changes and Election

Chaired by Michal Buchowski

Discussion was focused on the need to restructure the Executive in order to distribute work among members, allowing the Chair primarily a coordinating role. The composition of the WCAA Organising Committee has been as follows thus far.

Chair: Thomas Reuter

Deputy Chair: Michal Buchowski

Treasurer: Greg Acciaioli (appointed position)

Wenner-Gren Liaison: Leslie Aiello (also non-elected)

Members: Mugsy Spiegel, Carlos Caroso, Setha Low, Shalini Randeria

Thomas will step down and be replaced by Michal, as per the WCAA Constitution. Thus, a new Deputy Chair will need to be elected.

Setha and Shalini will be rotating off, and two new members will be need to be elected.

A new position of Secretary is being proposed by the organising committee, and will need to be elected.

It is also being proposed that the Chairs of the three Task Forces (Outreach and Advocacy, Ethics, Publications) should be elected rather than designated by the Organising Committee, as in the past.

These two constitutional changes were made.

1. Mugsy Spiegel proposed that there should be a Secretary of the WCAA. Thomas Reuter seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2. Thomas Reuter proposed that the Chair of each Task Force will be a formal position, to be elected by WCAA members. Soumendra Patnaik seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Thomas Reuter said that a call for self nominations had been circulated in advance to all WCAA delegates. From the nominees who stepped forward, a slate is being offered at this meeting, rather than a competitive election, since the goal is to involve all those willing to volunteer their time and work.

The slate being proposed is as follows.

Deputy Chair: Setha Low

Secretary: Chandana Mathur

Members: Vesna Vucinic-Neskovic, Gordon Mathews

Task Force Chairs

(i) Advocacy and Outreach: Virginia Dominguez

(ii) Ethics: Raminder Kaur

(iii) Publications: Susana Narotzky

Each of these nominees was discussed in turn, and they absented themselves for the discussion of their candidature.

1. Setha Low for Deputy Chair

The issue was brought up that we will be electing a past President of the AAA as the future WCAA Chair, which may conflict with WCAA's goal of promoting non-hegemonic anthropologies. On the other hand, it was pointed out that the previous three WCAA Chairs have not come from hegemonic centres of anthropology (except for EASA, which Michal had chaired, which might be considered as such), and that it is not useful to bar a strong candidate only for ideological reasons. It was also mentioned that it is important that the Deputy Chair be somebody with previous Organising Committee experience. Others pointed to the existence of allies in the AAA sympathetic to the project of non-hegemonic anthropology, and to the AAA's Committee on World Anthropologies, which has strongly supported the WCAA.

Setha Low was elected (one vote against, two abstentions).

2. Chandana Mathur for Secretary

Chandana Mathur was unanimously elected.

3. Gordon Mathews and Vesna Vucinic-Neskovic as members of Organising Committee

Both were unanimously elected. In their absence from the meeting, however, there was a discussion of the non-nomination of Asian and African delegates. Eufracio Abaya and Shu-Min Huang pointed out that their associations were very new members of WCAA and so they had not felt ready yet to nominate themselves for leadership positions within the network. Robert Akoko reiterated that it was not due to a lack of interest that African delegates did not self-nominate; a much more pressing reason is the lack of resources needed to properly fulfill leadership responsibilities. It was agreed that the WCAA will expressly look for funding in the future that will allow WCAA leadership to be drawn from poorly-resourced parts of the world.

4. Raminder Kaur for Chair of Ethics Task Force

Unanimously elected.

5. Virginia Dominguez as Chair of Advocacy and Outreach Task Force

Elected (one vote against, one abstention).

6. Susana Narotzky as Chair of Publications Task Force

Since this possibility had not been discussed with her prior to the Delhi meeting and it was not entirely clear that she would be willing to assume this responsibility, she was voted in with 11 abstentions. Subsequently, Susana has confirmed that she will be unable to take on this role, and the Organising Committee will shortly hold this election on-line.

Session 5, April 1

Remaining Issues
Chaired by Michal Buchowski

Constitutional Changes

It was decided to postpone discussion of constitutional changes. Proposed changes will be circulated and subsequently voted on.

Mission Statement

The mission statement was worked upon and unanimously approved in principle in its amended form. Also, the meeting unanimously agreed that these changes should go into the Constitutiion.

Office Support from Wenner-Gren Foundation

The following memo had been sent earlier to the Wenner-Gren Foundation.

To: Leslie Aiello

From: WCAA Organizing Committee

Re: Proposal for Wenner Gren Secretarial Support of the WCAA

We would like to propose that the Wenner Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, in its capacity as the sole international foundation dedicated to supporting and funding anthropology research and theory globally, become the administrative address and secretarial center for the World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA). This proposal is based on the understanding that Wenner-Gren's responsibility to the WCAA would be strictly limited to the secretarial functions that are listed below, but that the WCAA requires a permanent address and home for its continued viability and ongoing administrative stability. Because the Chair, Deputy Chair and the Organizing Committee, as well as the delegates are constantly changing, it is necessary to identify one place where mail can be sent, emails distributed, and organizing committee skype meetings arranged. We are proposing that the Wenner-Gren provide the WCAA with 4 hours of secretarial support per week for 50 weeks per year to cover these basic tasks. We should note that without this secretarial center, the WCAA will not be able to flourish, and the organizing committee and delegates able to do their jobs. It is hoped that the Wenner-Gren Foundation will be able to accommodate this new function within their stated goals to support and enhance anthropology globally, without being encumbered with tasks that are inappropriate to their goals and needs. For this reason, the WCAA will hire its own webmaster and conduct its web development through the services of NomadIT, and will also find support services for the organization of their biennial delegate meeting.

This proposal suggests that this agreement would be in place for at least 5 years as stability and continuity is the most important part of this proposal, and that the agreement be reviewed in the fourth year and renewed if the relationship has proved effective.

Specifically the secretarial tasks covered by the Wenner Gren Foundation would include:

1. Provide an address for WCAA surface mail, open the mail and forward the mail to the appropriate officer if needed.

2. Organize skype meetings of the organizing committee

3. Distribute the minutes to all delegates (minutes will be produced by the secretary)

4. Maintain a complete and up to date email list of all members of the organizing committee and delegates and modifying the listserve addresses if necessary

5. Assist the secretary with elections

6. Assist the organizing committee member in charge of the meetings

7. Assist with the use of meeting wizard and the survey monkey

8. Liaison to the webmaster on issues such as updating the listserve and delegate names and addresses

9. Assist the chair and deputy chair in setting up subcommittee meetings and other organization tasks

10. Be a center for information flow and back up of decisions taken through the maintenance of a file of minutes, budgets, emails, etc.

Discussing this request, Setha Low clarified that while Wenner-Gren will now become WCAA's administrative address, we will continue to have our own webmaster and IT services. After some discussion of providing for data security, a motion for this new arrangement was proposed by Ellen Judd, seconded by Shu-Min Huang, and unanimously passed. Thomas Reuter offered WCAA's thanks to Wenner-Gren for additional support.

WCAA Membership Dues

It was proposed that dues should be solicited from WCAA member associations on a sliding scale, depending on

- size of membership
- economic strength of the country concerned

Four levels were proposed, ranging from $1,000 (or more) for wealthy organisations to $50-100 for organisations with very limited resources, with $500 and either $200 or $100 as the two intermediate levels.

There was a long discussion about whether WCAA should ask for compulsory dues as against voluntary contributions. It was suggested that the imposition of mandatory dues may result in the withdrawal of member associations, since at its inception, the WCAA had decided against seeking mandatory dues.

Finally the motion was proposed that all WCAA members should contribute, if they are able to do so. The motion was made by Thomas Reuter, seconded by Rosita Henry, and unanimously passed.

Action: The WCAA will send out a letter listing the benefits it offers to member associations and seeking contributions.

Future Meetings

There was some discussion of a possible venue for the next biennial meeting -- there are preliminary proposals from Brazil, Taiwan and New Zealand. The expectations of a host organisation were laid out. There was discussion regarding possible WCAA panels at various upcoming regional and national association meetings (Brazil, Africa, Portugal, USA). Final discussion centred on the need to set up panels for the 2013 ICAES in Manchester that would address the three priority themes identified by the Intellectual Engagements group.