

**RC08 – Legislative Specialists (RCLS) business meeting, held on 23 July, 2018, from 19:30 – 20:30, Brisbane, Australia**

**Business Meeting Minutes**

**Present 14 RC08:** Zdenka Mansfeldova, Michael Edinger, Hilmar Rommetvedt, Werner Patzelt, Ken Coghil, Ilter Turan, Da-chi LIAO, Julia Schwanholz, Sven Siefken, Vaidas Morkevičius, Emil Voracek, Peter Lilienfeld, Flemming Juul Christiansen, J. Thornton.

**Agenda:**

- 1.) Intro
- 2.) Summary of the RC08 activities 2016-2018
- 3.) Website
- 4.) Financial report
- 5.) Membership
- 6.) Board elections
- 7.) Future plans
- 8.) Misc.

**1. Intro**

The chair Zdenka Mansfeldová welcomed all participants and thanked Program Chair Hilmar Rommetvedt for the excellent preparation of the RC08 panels for the 25<sup>th</sup> IPSA Congress.

**2. Short report on RC08 past activities (2016-2018)**

IPSA 2018 World Congress: The program chair Hilmar Rommetvedt received six panel proposals and numerous individual paper proposals. After the evaluation 10 panels were set up with 56 papers. Due to dropouts at the deadline for registration, several panels had to be reorganised. At the end the RC08 had 7 panels with 36 papers.

At the business meeting in Poznan (2016) we accepted the proposal to issue a RC08 newsletter. Three issues of the Newsletter have been circulated since then. So far very little input has been provided by RC08 members and board members alike. Thanks go to Michael Edinger, the editor, and the board members involved in the Newsletter team for their tireless work on preparing the Newsletter. The next Newsletter will contain information about our activities at the 25<sup>th</sup> IPSA World Congress and the memo from our business meeting. We will then have to decide on whether to continue issuing the Newsletter given the meagre feedback from RC08 members so far.

Events. Irina Khmelko organized a RC08 section at the annual meeting of the Policy Studies Association (PSO) together with the World Bank and USAID at Washington DC in early December 2016. Rick Stapenhurst and Robert Nakamura contributed to the UNDP Global Parliamentary Report 2017.

Publications. In our Newsletter, information is provided on all publications about which the Board was informed by members. Unfortunately, this is only a fraction of the publications of RC08 members. We, therefore, ask all RC08 members once more to send us the information

on their publications, ideally with a blurb and the front page. Please direct your messages to michael.edinger@uni-jena.de.

### 3. Financial report (delivered by Rick Stapenhurst)

Our opening balance, two years ago, was \$1,142.00. Since then, eight members have paid the \$25 membership dues, with the result that our current balance is \$1,342.00. No expenses have been incurred.

We need to improve the fee collection so we can implement our planned activities. Payment is preferred by money order or draft, sent directly to the treasurer; alternatively, by wire transfer (in which case, an email should be sent to the treasurer as the bank does not track the name of the person sending the transfer).

Zdenka Mansfeldova will clarify once more with the treasurer Rick Stapenhurst the account number and the instruction for payment in general. This information will be published in the next RC08 newsletter, circulated to members via e-mail and published on the RC08 - Legislative Specialists website.

### 4. David M. Olson Prize.

At our business meeting in Poznan (2016) we unanimously decided to establish the RC08 David M. Olson Prize for best IPSA World Congress paper by a junior scholar. RC08 panels chairs and discussants will be asked to nominate excellent single authored papers presented by junior researchers in Brisbane. Junior researchers are all scholars with up to 7 years since completion of their PhD provided that they are not full professors. **Please**, send your suggestions to the RC08 chair (zdenka.mansfeldova@soc.cas.cz) and to the new program chair ([michael.edinger@uni-jena.de](mailto:michael.edinger@uni-jena.de)) until 30 August 2018 indicating why the proposed candidate's paper qualifies for the RC08 David Olson Prize. A jury composed of the RC08 chair, the RC08 co-chair, the RC08 program chair and two further board members will choose the best paper among the proposals received from the panel chairs. The winner of the first RC08 David Olson Prize will be announced on 30 September 2018.

Only single authored papers qualify!

5. **Website** – We need to find somebody to replace our current webmaster Erik Fritzsche and take care for our website. Erik Fritzsche will be leaving Dresden University in autumn 2018. RC08 board members who have not actively contributed to the RC since the World Congress in Poznan are strongly encouraged to consider taking over as webmaster.
6. **Membership.** Zdenka Mansfeldova commented on the existing list of RC08 members. Until now, the list of RC members that the IPSA Executive was able to deliver included only IPSA individual members interested in joining RC08. This has never been a complete list of RC08 members. As the IPSA Rules and Procedures state, RC members – unlike RC chairs – are not required to be IPSA members. Membership in the RCs is open to any political scientist who is a member of the national association affiliated with IPSA, and to individual members of IPSA (Article 4). The IPSA Executive will be asked to provide a full list of RC08 members. However,

on the basis of available information, there is a substantial underrepresentation of some regions (Latin Amerika, Africa, and Asia-Pacific). The new RC08 board will consider promoting RC08 activities through the national political science associations.

## 7. Board Elections

RC08 Board as of 23 July 2018:

### ***RC08 committee officials:***

Dr. Zdenka Mansfeldova, Chair, elected until 2020

Prof. Frederick Stapenhurst, Vice-chair and Treasurer, will finish the term as vice-chair and continue as Board member/treasurer

Prof. Hilmar Rommetvedt, Program Chair, will finish the term

Board members, elected in 2016 in Poznan:

- Dr. Irina Khmelko, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, USA, research director for USA – will stand for vice-chair position
- Prof. Dr. Omer Faruk Genckaya, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey – will continue
- Adjunct Prof. Ken Coghill, Department of Management and Marketing, Swinburne University, Australia - will continue
- Prof. Werner Patzelt, University of Technology, Dresden, Germany – will continue
- Dr. Michael Edinger, University of Jena, Germany - will stand for -program chair position
- Prof. Irmina Matonyte, ISM University of Management and Economics, Vilnius/ Military Academy of Lithuania, Lithuania – will resign, email from 27.5.2018
- Dr. Petra Guasti, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany and Institute of Sociology at the Czech Academy of Sciences – will continue

### **New candidates for vacant positions:**

Dr. Julia Schwanholz, Institut für Politikwissenschaft , Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

Dr. Sven T. Siefken, Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg, Halle (Saale), Germany

Dr. Osnat Akirav, Western Galilee College, Israel

Professor Da-Chi LIAO. National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Colleen Lewis, Adjunct Professor, National Centre for Australian Studies, Faculty of Arts, Monash University, Australia

The candidates present at the business meeting introduced themselves, whilst the others had sent written information that was read out at the business meeting. All candidates were elected by majority of votes. With the election of the new Board members, we reached a better regional representation and increased the thematic diversity.

## **IPSA RC08 – Legislative Specialists, new Board after the business meeting held on 23 July 2018**

### **RC08 committee officials:**

**Dr. Zdenka Mansfeldova**, Chair

Institute of Sociology, Czech Academy of Sciences, [zdenka.mansfeldova@soc.cas.cz](mailto:zdenka.mansfeldova@soc.cas.cz)

**Dr. Irina Khmelko**, Vice-chair  
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, USA, [irina-khmelko@utc.edu](mailto:irina-khmelko@utc.edu)

**Dr. Michael Edinger**, Secretary – Program chair  
University of Jena, Germany, [michael.edinger@uni-jena.de](mailto:michael.edinger@uni-jena.de)

**Board members:**

**Adjunct Prof. Ken Coghill**  
Department of Management and Marketing, Swinburne University, Australia,  
[kcoghill@swin.edu.au](mailto:kcoghill@swin.edu.au)

**Prof. Dr. Omer Faruk Genckaya**  
Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey, [genckaya@bilkent.edu.tr](mailto:genckaya@bilkent.edu.tr)

**Prof. Frederick (Rick) Stapenhurst**, Treasurer  
McGill University, Montréal, and Laval University, Québec, Canada, [frederick.stapenhurst@mcgill.ca](mailto:frederick.stapenhurst@mcgill.ca)

**Prof. Werner Patzelt**,  
University of Technology, Dresden, Germany, [werner.patzelt@tu-dresden.de](mailto:werner.patzelt@tu-dresden.de)

**Dr. Petra Guasti**  
Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany and Institute of Sociology at the Czech Academy of  
Sciences, [petraguasti@googlemail.com](mailto:petraguasti@googlemail.com)

**Dr. Julia Schwanholz**  
Institut für Politikwissenschaft , Georg-August-Universität Göttingen,  
[julia.schwanholz@sowi.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:julia.schwanholz@sowi.uni-goettingen.de)

**Dr. Osnat Akirav**  
Western Galilee College, Israel, [Osnatak@bzeqint.net](mailto:Osnatak@bzeqint.net)

**Dr. Sven T. Siefken**  
Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg, Halle (Saale), Germany  
[sven.siefken@politik.uni-halle.de](mailto:sven.siefken@politik.uni-halle.de)

**Professor Da-Chi LIAO**  
National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan (R.O.C.), [dcliao@mail.nsysu.edu.tw](mailto:dcliao@mail.nsysu.edu.tw)

**Adjunct Professor Colleen Lewis**  
National Centre for Australian Studies, Faculty of Arts, Monash University  
Australia, [colleen.lewis@monash.edu](mailto:colleen.lewis@monash.edu)

## 8. Future plan

- To maintain existing partnerships with practitioners (e.g. the work done by Irina Khmelko with Rick Stapenhurst on collaboration with the World Bank) and initiate further cooperation with practitioners (e.g. USAID). Another possibility is cooperation with IPU.
- To support stronger cooperation of US legislative specialists and scholars from outside the United States.
- To support cooperation among IPSA RCs.
- To support activities organised in cooperation between RC08 and national associations.
- To strengthen cooperation with ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments.
- To take advantage of the possibility to get financial support from IPSA for cooperative conferences/workshops of two or more RCs.

Zdenka Mansfeldova, Brisbane 30.7.2018

Comments by Michael Edinger and Ken Coghill.