

eCAADe Administrative Council Meeting

**Meeting held on
17 September 2013**

Technische Universiteit Delft
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment
The Netherlands

MINUTES

1. Attendance

Present were:

Aleksander Asanowicz (AA), Andre Brown (AB), Birgul Colakoglu (BC), Bob Martens (BM), Emine Thompson (EM) (Newcastle 2014), Henri Achten (HA), Joachim Kieferle (JK), Jose Duarte (JD) (President), Marc Muylle (MM), Nele De Meyere (NDM) (Secretariat), Rudi Stouffs (RS) (Delft 2013), Tom Maver (TM), Wolfgang Dokonal (WD).

Apologies for absence:

Antje Kuntze (AK), Dana Matejovska (DM), Johan Verbeke (JV), Martin Winchester (MW), Tadeja Zupancic (TZ), Vassilis Bourdakis (VB).

2. Agenda

There were no matters arising not already in the Agenda for this meeting.

3. Minutes of the previous meetings

- (i) The Minutes of the eCAADe Administrative Council Mid-Year Meeting, held at Sint-Lucas School of Architecture in Brussels on 15 and 16 March 2013, were circulated and checked. The minutes were agreed upon and will be published on the eCAADe website.
- (ii) The Minutes of the eCAADe Annual General Meeting, held at Czech Technical University of Prague on 14/09/2012, were agreed upon.

4. Secretariat of eCAADe

It was noted that Nele De Meyere will be taking the Minutes of the meeting.

5. Administrative Council

- (i) During the Delft conference, the term of JD as president of the association ends. As no proposals from the membership for a new president were received, no election is needed and JV, the council's candidate, will be announced as the new president of eCAADe for the next two years during the AGM on Friday 20/09/2013. The new presidential team will then consist of JV as president and two vice-presidents: JK as "vice-president elect" (our candidate for future presidency) and JD as "vice-president emeritus" (the former president).
It was asked whether a combination of the function of president and treasurer is allowed. This will be checked with JV. The council is in favor to continue with JV if possible. In any other case MM is prepared to take over. It was noted that the treasurer should be Belgian.
- (ii) Emine Thompson as future conference organizer (Newcastle 2014) now officially steps in as council member for the period from September 2013 to September 2015. BM said that no other member of the Vienna's conference organizer's team will become member.
- (iii) There were no recommendations for honorary membership.

6. eCAADe conference 2013 Delft

Overview of arrangements: RS welcomed everybody to Delft and informed the Council on the state of matters for the eCAADe 2013 conference.

- Numbers: 210 paying participants (170 from Europe and around, 12 from Asia, 6 from

Australia and New Zealand, 20 from North America and 9 from South America), 230 expected attendees, 12 cancellations from presenters.

- Facilities: Combining the conference with education going on puts some pressure on the organization.
- Conference proceedings were finished and delivered in time. References are not completely formatted as wanted because of lack of time. The Vienna organizer is developing a system for automatic formatted creation of the proceedings. It may be an option to use it after Vienna too. BM will check whether it could already be available for Newcastle 2014.
- The workshops were a big success in terms of attendance. There is no feedback yet on the content.
- PhD-workshop: this year there were 2 submissions from the organizing institution, therefore it was decided to allocate four grants (instead of 5) and 2 conference fee payments for the submitters from TU Delft. For the future WD proposed to continue with this way of working: 4 grants are allocated after having passed the reviewing committee. Two local ones (from whom the conference fee is paid) can be appointed by the organizer.
It was stressed again that PHD-students who have an accepted paper or have presented before at the conference, are excluded from the grant. The goal remains to bring young people to eCAADe and to support them in their PhD-work.
WD will gather feedback from the PhD-participants.
- Streaming: The council thinks that Virtuvent (firm presented during the mid year meeting) is not a good solution as it is a profit-making organization. WD reported that only two sessions will be streamed (because of availability problems at TU Graz). For the third session video-recording is provided. A new system is in development. The idea is to provide a link in CUMINCAD to the presentation and the ppt. Because of lack of time this was not finished yet but WD will take care of it.
As for the statistics, in the streams the numbers are indicated.
- Arrangements for the AGM: during the AGM the new presidential team will be presented, each sister organization will be asked to make a brief presentation (it is to be checked which representatives are attending) and the AGM will be finished with the prize ceremony. After that an after conference drink will be offered (vouchers are provided for this).

7. Future conferences

- i. Newcastle 2014 (from 10/09/2014 till 12/09/2014)
ET presented the state of affairs.
Venue: There will be a use of two different locations at city campus. It was asked to think about a good location of the PhD-workshop that may attract some public.
Arrangements: Some arrangements for hotels have already been made. It will be possible to make the hotel booking via the conference website. Payment by credit card will also be possible on the website.
The website will soon go live, now there is a holding page. It was said that the online schedule should also include the preceding workshops.
It was also said that it is important to provide some touristic teaser on the website (location of Newcastle within the UK, travel info with flight stops in London and Amsterdam, pictures, ..). This info will also be presented by ET at the AGM. WD will take the presentation to ACADIA.
ET also presented an outline of the budget.
- ii. Vienna 2015: BM said that a good team was installed with several people linked to eCAADe. The outline for the website is ready and the flyer is finished. It will be sent out by email to the council for comments. The venue is already secured for (the academic year only starts in October).
- iii. Oulu 2016 and onwards: The University of Oulu made a good proposal which was accepted during the previous meeting. The representative will be taken on board of the council as from the next mid year meeting. BM will contact them for this. It was checked and Oulu is not present at this conference.
Onwards - There were several expressions of interest but nothing concrete yet. It was said again that a team behind the proposal should have been visible in the association in the preceding years.
- iv. Regional international workshop
 - 2013: Future Traditions - Rethinking tradition and envisioning the future in

architecture through digital technologies, organized by the University of Porto (FAUP). JD and JK attended the workshop and reported on a very successful and well organized event with a nice balance between local and outside people. It was said that the goal of attracting new groups was definitely reached. The format worked really well and the template may be used in the next year.

Some practical matters still need to be taken up: reimbursement request and supplying the meta-data for import in CUMINCAD.

- Selection of 2014 organizer:

The call was a success. 5 proposals were received from: Bialystok University of Technology, Bialystok; IE University, Madrid; Politécnico, Milano; Open University, Milton Keynes; La Sapienza, Rome.

The council supported the feedback on (dis)advantages of the various proposals, already sent out by email by HA. It was said that the strategy to reach other groups should be maintained and that the Bialystok proposal has the biggest advantage of attracting groups we do not reach now for this year and is thus chosen. JD will check with the other submitters the possibility of re-applying next year or even widening to a proposal for the full conference organization. (It is evident that this decision is only made on basis of a sound proposal.)

JK said that the workshop is a good vehicle to widen up the eCAADe focus (for instance to design) and the council agreed with it.

There will be no new call for next year. In any way the workshop is said to be a good initiative as it generates a lot of interest.

8. Parallel organization conferences

(i) Reports from the 2013 conference representatives:

CAADRIA (May 15-18 2013, Singapore). JK reported on a very nice conference in which the link to practice is stronger than in eCAADe. The question about strengthening this link in our organization was also raised within this context.

(ii) Future conferences

- ACADIA (October 24-26, 2013, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada). Rep.: WD
- SIGRADI (November 20-22, 2013, Valparaiso, Chile). Rep.: JK
- ASCAAD (December 16-18th, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 2013). Rep.: BM. ET has a link with the ASCAAD president, who is also linked to IBPSA and will contact her.
- CAADRIA (May 14-17, 2014, Kyoto, Japan). Rep.: BC (to be confirmed in November). Otherwise: RS or JD or AB.

(iii) IBPSA as sister organization? JD will try to report on this during the next mid year meeting. IBSA attracts 800 people. There may be benefits.

9. Reviewing system

- Open Conf: It was said to work well. JK will check with MW during the conference to remove some non useful questions.

10. Publication, Networks and Contacts

(i) Digital or printed proceedings (HA) - This was not taken up again as it was already extensively discussed via email. On the long run it may become evident to continue in a digital way as libraries are going digitally more and more. It was noted that for digital proceedings a DOI (Digital Object Identifier, cfr. ISBN) would be needed.

(ii) Thomson Reuters - HA submitted the 2012 proceedings to Thomson Reuters for inclusion in their Conference Index. Currently they are taking the 2012 proceedings for consideration. If they have interest, then we can try to get the other proceedings indexed as well. Their time-limit is 2009, so if everything goes well, we could have Istanbul, Zurich, Ljubljana, Prague, and all forthcoming proceedings indexed - which will be a big boost for people to have their papers in eCAADe. HA will keep the council informed how things are going.

(iii) International Journal of Architectural Computing (AB, JV)

- Agreement with MultiScience (listed in SCOPUS) for a book publication on a specific theme topic. This may lead to more and more references which is a good thing.
- 1st issue for 2014 is edited by RS for CAADRIA.
- Issue 12-2 due May 2014: strong preference for eCAADe to take this issue. Call could be launched by AB at the AGM.
- IJAC abstracts are listed in CUMINCAD. AB will check whether this is also possible

for dated full papers.

- (iv) CUMINCAD (BM) - As mentioned during the mid year meeting the engine behind CUMINCAD has not been further developed which may create a risk of the system collapsing. It was said that further comments from TZ should be awaited but that it is needed to think thoroughly about this with the sister organizations. It was said that some investment may be needed for development. This should also be discussed with them. It was agreed that BM would put the problem setting on paper and that JD would take this up with the other presidents.
- (v) Non-fee paying (recall ACADIA initiative) - WD informed the council during the mid year that ACADIA is thinking about open access to the database. It is not clear but uncertain that it is already established. The council is in favor of scientific sharing and thus opening but understands that for other organizations like CAADRIA who are not asking contributions from the conference organizer (to keep the fee low) it is more difficult situation. In the discussion there are two topics (payment for maintenance of the system + making it non-fee paying). It was agreed that WD, JK and BM would launch this idea with the colleagues from the sister organizations and that they would report to the council on their approach. After that a date could be discussed to fix a meeting where implementation could be discussed more in depth and with the group. It was stressed that this should be prepared well with a proposal on paper.
- (vi) CAAD social network (Facebook/LinkedIn like application) - Facebook is maintained by the conference organizer. As for LinkedIn: HA will show statistics at the AGM. There are now 681 members for the Linked In-group.

11. Awards

- (i) Online voting system for presentation prizes: The online voting system was set up. People will get the links from MW by email. It will be announced at the opening and also the chairs may be reminding people. The systems includes voting for the Ivan Petrovic prize and the eCAADe best presentation prize.
- (ii) eCAADe poster competition: Did not go as expected so it is now agreed that WD and MM will develop a design and that JD will request for a printing offer in Lisbon. If reasonable, Lisbon can also sent out the posters. In the coming time it will then be checked whether an update is needed. In that case a new competition may be launched. ET will include the poster in the Newcastle conference bags.

12. Any other business

- (i) EAEE (JV) - not dealt with because of apology for absence from JV.
- (ii) Report VSDC-membership - VSDC is only providing support for national associations. So NDM and JV will check out other possibilities because it is felt that it would be good to check our way of working on the juridical/financial/fiscal level.
- (iii) Streaming - access data for the archive for evaluation of the investment (WD) - see above.
- (iv) Link to practice? It is felt that the association would benefit from a stronger link to practice. There is also an interest from practice in eCAADe although they are now not addressed in a direct way. These links would be more on the level of local professionals and the language barrier should be taken in mind. A smaller group (JK, HA, BC, WD and ET) will explore which formats could be suitable to involve them more.

13. Next Council Meeting

- i. Arrangements for the mid-year meeting. The following dates were set: 21 and 22 March 2014. The meeting will take place in Ghent.
- ii. Items for the meeting are invited (to JV).
- iii. The Meeting was closed and RS was thanked for hosting the meeting.