

President's report 2010

The EASR had no annual Congress in 2010, but joined the quinquennial meeting of the IAHR in Toronto to host its regular business meeting and General Assembly. In consequence, the committee was spared its most important business during the year which is the organisation of its annual conference. However, there was another item that has kept the organizing committee very busy, i.e. the voting process related to the filling of vacant positions in the executive committee for the next turn (2011 to 2013). This was also the main point on the agenda of the annual meeting. Several members left their positions, others agreed to stand for a second turn. I will start with those who leave us:

The most important and in a way sad event, is that our secretary Kim Knot has reached the term of 6 years in her position as the General Secretary of EASR.

She was elected in 2004 in Santander and occupied the position for two turns. Kim Knott has been an exceptional secretary. She has done her work at its best and has been very efficient in shaping EASR into a well organized institution. Besides working very hard to make the EASR a success, Kim Knot has also been, humanly speaking a very positive personality as representative of EASR: Open minded, inspiring and encouraging. She helped new associations to form and to join EASR, she sustained working groups and was generally open for discussion of projects. Besides fulfilling her duty as general secretary, she also never failed to communicate during the conference parts of her research work, hence combing the administrative work with solid scholarship and research. This is remarkable and should be seen as an example.

The EASR committee is expressing today its deep gratitude to Kim Knott. We thank her for all she did and we can only wish that she continues to participate in the EASR in the future and that we may count on her advice and expertise.

The other members who leave us this year:

- the two vice-presidents, Hubert Seiwert from the German association and Veikko Anttonen from the Finnish association. We also thank them for their contributions.
- A special thank goes to Mar Marcos, from the Spanish Association. She has been elected in Santander as Membership Secretary and has successfully occupied this position for 6 years. On behalf of EASR we would like to thank her for her solid work and fidelity to the organization.

The Nominating Committee has proposed several new names and we are happy to welcome new members, who have been accepted:

- Vice president: Francesco Diez de Valesco, Spanish Association
- Vice president: Einar Thomasson : Norwegian Association
- General Secretary: David Vaclavik : Czech Association
- Membership secretary: Jenny Berglund: Swedish Association

The other positions are occupied by those who agreed to a second turn:

- President : Maya Burger, Swiss Association
- Deputy General Secretary, Jim Cox, British Association
- Treasurer : Marco Pasi, Netherlands Association
- Deputy Treasurer: Wim Hofstee, Netherlands Association
- Internet officer: Katja Triplett, German Association
- Publications officer: Eugen Ciurtin, Romanian Association

Besides we have one representative of the individual members elected for the new turn : Ivar Maksutov, Russian Association.

The Executive committee is composed of scholars from various European countries. Year after year the horizon of our organization expands and we are truly happy to welcome such a variety of scholars and representatives of national associations. It is this variety that makes our organisation so dynamic and special. All these countries contribute in their own ways of doing the study of religions and allow us to be a platform of discussion. Let us cooperate so that this variety can be preserved.

For any other business I refer to the reports of the other officers of the executive Committee to whom I express in the name of our association our warm thanks for their genuine work and commitment.

The next conference will be held in Hungary from 18th to 22 September 2011. May many of us and our colleagues be able to follow this invitation.

Maya Burger