



European Co-operation
in Anthroposophical Curative
Education and Social Therapy
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Minutes General Meeting ECCE 2014

May 8th 18.00h – May 11th 12.30h
at Emerson College, Hartfield Road, Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5JX

Record of those present and excused: see appendix

Thursday May 8th, 2014 at 18.00h

1. Opening and welcome

The Vice-president, Mr. Bernard Heldt, opens the General Meeting with a word of welcome and mentions those who are absent.

He thanks **Paulamaria Blaxland de Lange** who hosted this meeting. She coordinated the preparation of the GM with enthusiasm and invited a number of friends from UK, who gave their contributions to this ECCE meeting.

The first contribution was a very touching harp concert accompanied by storytelling, given by **Paulamaria, and 3 of her daughters** and harp group.

After that she gave a short introduction to the AGM theme:

At the Tokio Summit in 1996 three new areas of growth were adopted after over-investment in IT and the subsequent bankruptcy of Japan and Argentina.: namely Education, Social care and Medicine;

We have a choice - to remain aloof or to engage: to move from the two to the three, from dichotomy to dialogue.

To **collaborate** we need to loosen our boundaries, to learn to trust, and to be more selfless.

To **associate** we need to be willing to share; to show commitment and loyalty.

and to **cooperate** we need to share research: 12 senses, 7 life processes, human gesture and mask. (mask in the sense that Karl König spoke of it).

After that **Richard Steel** (The Karl König archive, Berlin) shortly addressed the delegates and introduced details of Karl König's life and his original drawings of Rudolf Steiner's Soul Calendar and presented the exhibition of Kaspar Hauser paintings by the English painter Greg Tricker, who was himself present at the AGM.

Friday, May 9th 2014

Singing with Gregers Brinch, after a warm up he awoke us with the Limerick

There was a young woman of Ryde,
who ate too many apples and died.
The apples fermented inside the lamented
and made cider inside her inside.

We then learned a very different piece of music and sang in parts.

2. Friday morning - THE PAST

Béatrice Cussac opened the morning session, introduced herself as the President of the French parents organisation and hopes for a good meeting.

The theme of this General meeting is 90 years Curative Education and Social Therapy, which is starting that morning with the past, the history and impulses.

- **Richard Steel Steel**

(Member of the Movement Group at Camphill Movement; publishing co-ordinator at Karl König Archive) mentions the **Curative Course of Rudolf Steiner 90** years ago, and raises the question:

“How do we live with it now?”

The first time the wording “Heilpädagogik” was mentioned by Heinrich Marius Deinhardt (1821-1880 in Vienna) in 1861 and was quite some time before Rudolf Steiner used it. So we could say the seeds for the future for health and social care of humanity had been laid already at that time. Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925) started his life in Austria (a state of many peoples) which was the gateway to the East, then he moved to Germany because of his tasks (Goethe) in Weimar. There he entered to spiritual life in Germany. At the time of the first world war esoteric work had to be stopped and was continued at the Eastern part of Central Europe (Selesia/Koberwitz, Poland/Breslau) where Steiner sent his best people, planting the seeds to the earth. Also at Lauenstein the seed of Curative Education was planted into the ground. Richard Steel spoke about the way of casting seeds by Rudolf Steiner, who had to move to Switzerland/Dornach because of the war.

a - The word that Rudolf Steiner created „**Seelenpflege-bedürftig**“ „soul-care“ does not mean ill, or defect, or inferior – but the being of the soul. How to care for the soul - this is the anthroposophical basis - everybody is responsible for himself, for his own soul.

b - But we also grow as social beings through others, which is the way of humanity. We are not only responsible for our own soul, but also for the soul of the other – which means to be our brother’s keeper

c - The reality of Reincarnation and Karma – in practical use, Steiner gave 72 Karma lectures in 1924 and practical Karma exercises.

These 3 points Rudolf Steiner gave to the young people for their future. In a rotting fruit are seeds for the future. He spoke about the essence of the anthroposophical curative education course and we have to find the significance for the near future.

Bernard Heldt thanks Richard for his words and is proud to work for the Curative Education from the vision which Richard Steel expressed in an appealing way. He gives a short overview of the past of ECCE since 1992 and refers to the document ‘Objectives and Results 1992-2012’, which is available on the table with brochures. He reminds on Mr. Jack Reed and Mrs. Margareth Mac Donald Bain, 2 British founders. ECCE works behind the scenes in the European labyrinth for which it is founded. You will not see ECCE in an institute, but probably once a year during the General Meeting.

- **Simon Blaxland de Lange – UK (ACESTA, Pericles)**

Gives a short overview of the beginning of Steiner Curative Education in England and how Emerson College was founded.

In 1927 Beatrice Sargeant, inspired by R. Steiner’s ideas, started a Curative Home for children with special needs in her own house . In 1932 the home moved to Larkfield Hall. Edith Biermann, who by the time of her death in 2012 was the last person alive to have known Rudolf Steiner, joined Larkfield Hall in 1947. Sunfield was the second home to have started in this country (in November 1930); and Fried Geuter, who together with Michael Wilson founded Sunfield, had worked at Larkfield when it was still called by its original name, Homesdale in South Darent. Emerson College started in 1962 in the grounds of Sunfield Children’s home and moved to Forest Row in 1967. Now the college is also developing a living and learning community.

- **Richard Steel** talks about Karl König's life and the beginning of Camphill

Karl König, born in 1902 studied medicine in Vienna and came in contact with Rudolf Steiner's work in 1921. In 1928 Dr. Ita Wegmann sent Karl König (who was persecuted for his Jewish background) to Scotland, since Anthroposophy had been prohibited at that time in Europe. Camphill started in 1939 in Kirkton House near Aberdeen, where the ideas for a new kind of life were put into practice, inspired by Rudolf Steiner's Anthroposophy.

In artistic speech-work with **Sarah Kane** (Starting Perform International" a Michael Chekov Speech & Drama course at Emerson College) we worked on Shakespeare's drama "The Tempest" where we started to experience how the past influences the present and the future and what happens if the future is going its own way.

Outing

to Pericles Woodland Project. Pericles was founded in the late 1990s when a part of the local mental hospital housing adults with a learning disability was closed and Social services started a „homefinders“ project to house people in the wider community. Pericles now has two residential houses with extended families, craft workshops, a Community Centre and Café and a theatre company as well as two woodland projects at two local Biodynamic farms, where the teams learn a number of woodland crafts, as well as managing a small woodland and sometimes helping on the farms. Woodland crafts include activities such as coppicing, charcoal burning, greenwood turning and carving, toy and furniture making, in addition to learning about natural heritage, local history and ancient traditions.

3. Friday afternoon THE PRESENT

Contributions by ECCE members on the present situation

- **László Jakubinyi/Hungary** - tells about the impact of the last year's visit of ECCE. Since then it has been decided to found a National Anthroposophical Institute in Hungary. At Szimbiozis a new project has been started. They have regular groups of visitors - pupils from primary schools for one week. These pupils can be seen to have changed in this 1 week in their social life. They have learned from people with special needs. This project will be continued. Laszlo is sure that this is one of the roles of people with special needs in our society.

- **Elena Nardini/Italy** tells about her work which she started 24 years ago. A family with a child with behavioural problems came for Elena's help. This family had an elder child and a younger one with Down Syndrome. She went into the family and helped them with their daily life. Since this successful approach she continued with this method – since then people from all over Italy come to her and stay for 2 ½ h days and have „daily life“ together, eat, dress, wash, sing, talk, play, sleep. She realizes that her clients have changed in the last 20 years. Today 25 % of her clients have a disability and 75 % are “normal children” having social problems. She thinks that the greatest danger of today is to the inner life of the families. These children often at an age of 4,5 6 years old need to learn the ordinary things of every day's life, and only then parents can continue and know what to do with their children. In school it is more difficult, because these children miss things of everyday life and therefore have problems with concentration and attention. She wrote a book about her work.

- John Benjamin/The Netherlands

In the Netherlands new legislations have been introduced, they changed from national to local (council), which means less money, contributions have been reduced from 100 % to 65 %, which effects day care, and therapies. The result is less employment in institutions. And fewer co-workers are necessary. Anthroposophical Centres merge with other health care companies and are forming larger organisations. On the other hand parents are looking for smaller care centres as well.

- Fidel Ortega/Spain, Tenerife and Portugal

In 1985 he lived in a comfortable situation in Europe, before he received a SOS-message from Tenerife, where a residential home was founded in 1994. We have the trust to look in the future despite all the problems in Tenerife. In 2003 Fidel went to Strasbourg where they organised an International Congress. He started to found an organisation for parents and one for professionals. In 2004 they started the first Congress for residents.

Between 26.-30th May, 2014 the Congress „El Congreso de Compañeros Hispano-Portugues“ Congress will take place at Tenerifa – title: “The Dream your life can become reality”

Contributions about THE PRESENT situation in UK

- Michael Luxford

(Member of ACESTA, long term Camphill co-worker, coordinator of the Camphill association of UK and Ireland)

“In the GB context we would include youth guidance alongside curative education because the work with young people developed strongly in a specific way from 1980 onwards and led to the forming of an international training course in youth guidance. With the child our role can be as a teacher, with the young person as an example and with the adults we can be as a fellow traveller. I would like to say something about the situation with Social Therapy in England and Wales and in the Camphill movements, which is what I am speaking about in this field of work when we make use of Karl Königs lectures and the seeds for social renewal that Floris Books published. These were given 7 years after the founding of the first Camphill village in Botton. Reading these lectures presents a dilemma, which comes about because today 3 elements influence our work.

1. the social policy of personalisation of support,
2. being a service provider
3. difficulties which effect the possibility of providing meaningful work for individuals.

What has developed in the Camphill Movement has been the image of the individual human being requiring a social context in which development as an individual person is carried and becomes possible.

This is our star and it is informed by anthroposophy.

Also to be a co-worker is something different from being a service provider and in our field of work we want to be free to meet the needs of people without restriction; this becomes difficult when money comes to the forefront.

We wish to create collegial relationships amongst co-workers and to seek ways to make a 3-fold social order visible in today’s world.

We can recognise where we have failed or not managed, but this also points us towards work that we could now do to move into the future.”

- Anne Hunter (Garvald, Edinburgh replacing Jack Reed)

Ann has been working there for 32 years as a house parent and told us about the history of Garvald which was founded in 1944 in West Linton as a school for children with special needs. Since then five more places near Edinburgh have been set up, where residential care and supported living, as wells as day services and training places are offered for about 200 adults with special needs.

- Richard Tucker (St. Christophers school, Bristol)

This is a residential school providing special education for children and young people with severe and profound learning disabilities.

It was founded in 1945 by Catherine Grace .

She used to work in a mental hospital and was shocked about the manner of treatment of patients.

Starting with just six pupils, the school’s aim was to educate and care for those children described as “non-educable”. She was in contact with Karl König.

There are now new laws in place that restrict the parents’ input ends from the age of 16 years – when a best interest meeting is held. Another change is that National Health Care is becoming privatised in UK, which will make the situation even more difficult.

Richard is sure that **children are teaching us!**

- **Johanna Baker** (Nutley Hall)

Nutley Hall started in 1959 in East Sussex founded by 2 ladies and a medical doctor
Now they offer adult homecare and artistic and craft work; adults from the age of 18 years live in Nutley Hall.

Before Johanna moved into Nutley, there was a crisis. The parents as trustees decided: organic food is too expensive!

Mrs. Baker spoke about the history of Nutley Hall, which was not always easy, but now they are on a more even keel. Originally they had only girls, now there are also men in Nutley Hall. Most of their residents stay there for a long time – now they have 33 residents; there is a rich offering of therapies available.

4. Inclusive round table conversation with Thomas Kraus

How can THE PRESENT be transformed into and out of THE FUTURE?

Julie, Jasmin, John Alexander, Susan, Ziggy, Michael (residents from The Mount, Nutley Hall and Pericles) and Thomas Kraus introduced themselves

Thomas Kraus What is your personal success?

-**John Alexander** (The Mount) I found a way to be happier. My family and the people I know (I love my parents in my heart) want me to be happy, they like me to be strong. Eurhythmy is good, but I don't like it. I did Bothmer-gymnastic.

Thomas Kraus What have you achieved in the last years?

-**Julie** from **Pericles** – I am more independent, I can do a lot more than I did before, I can go into the office and put information in the computer. The community helped me a lot, especially the secretary Carole. The community Pericles is very caring, they look out for the people. They also care for children, there should be more of them. There are difficulties as well: people sometimes think they have communicated! Sometimes there are disagreements. They do their best in their situation.

I was at home until the age of 37. My parents had not heard about Rudolf Steiner or Camphill, my brother found this wonderful place for me. I have live a life of my own, it made me what I am today. I like music and eurhythmy, it can be curative and I keep my balance and it helps if you have pain. People don't know about eurhythmy if they are not in a Steiner place or school.

-**Jasmin** from **Pericles** I achieved a lot in the last 2 years, I work in a workshop, becoming independent, I love working there, especially in the workshop, I like knitting. The community is beautiful, there are other people, I have company. I have done eurhythmy, I like it and I like music, it helps me a lot. I feel calm with eurhythmy.

-**Ziggy** from **The Mount** last year I had ups and downs, I was very sad – this year I feel much more confident myself, after singing songs I feel better (it's now the 5th year I live here)

Thomas Kraus What is the success of the whole community?

-**Ziggy** Having community and doing things together, helps me. I have been to Rudolf Steiner school, I dropped it, then I went to the Mount. My family wants my freedom and my best. In school we did not play football. In school I did not like eurhythmy, because it is not cool to like it. In the Mount it is better, I like it now, although the language with eurhythmy is strange and the movement. For me Eurhythmy is cooler than football.

-**Michael** did eurhythmy at Peridur School and now at **Nutley H.** I like eurhythmy, I think it helps me

Thomas Kraus **THE PRESENT – how can we deal with the problems of regulations?**

-**Ziggy** Other people are kept behind their computer, they live in their dark motion, we should talk to them, they need communication, find subjects for conversation then they will be happier.

-**Jasmin** it is good to be happy

-**Julie** people are in themselves, they miss communication, people think to be happy with materialistic things, but miss friends and communication. Open days were the community is accessible to other people, they will know what we do, see and buy our products, look at our website, to communicate with them. Freedom of thought, there must be the choice.

Beatrice Cussac **How do you know if you are accepted?**

-Julie I hear in the voice of the other person if I am accepted.

-Ziggy I cannot talk to other people because of their head-phones, x-box, games, etc. I read books now, I am older now, I have learnt a lot. Facebook and internet is quite good.

John Benjamin **Have you got friends outside?**

-Ziggy yes, I had. I went to Capetown by myself (with my parents). I went to the Safari-park to see Lions and Zebras, I like Nelson Mandela. I do see my friends at home only on birthday parties.

Thomas Kraus **To future, what are your WISHES FOR THE FUTURE?**

-**Ziggy** I wish the participants to bring home freedom for people with special needs
confidence in themselves for Italy

-**Jasmin** hope for Germany

-**Julie** lots of lovely people and enough money to travel back again.

5. Saturday morning THE FUTURE

Report of the **project group** (impulse by Paulamaria Blaxlang de Lange)

“Future of ECCE” (Ann Naeyaert and Fidel Ortega)

The Committee decided not to work with Clarine because of the costs, but to build a working group. **Participants:**

Ann Naeyaert/Belgium, Helle Hansen/Denmark, Rigmor Skålholt/Norway, Fidel Ortega/Spain

They met on Wednesday May 7th, 2014 at Emerson (encl. minutes of the “future of ECCE”) and started with the collection of everyone’s expectations. So they got 3 themes to work on:

5.1. The structure of ECCE:

5.2. The UN-convention and the reality of everyday life.

Question to Bernard Is that still possible to bring in elements to the shadow-report?

Bernard: yes, there is a possibility through EASPD, it is still open, we have already 3 themes – the meaning of work, ethics and persons with complex dependency needs.

Ann: On the other hand everyone could also bring in examples of good practice, Sometimes despite the law. Question to Michael Mullan about the suggested competition of good examples?

Michael: It is still open

Ann: We wondered if the ratification of the UN-convention is known enough by parents and co-workers. Do we have work to do on behalf of this matter in our own organisations? The professionals should empower the parent organisations. We experienced in this future group that it is fruitful to work in a small group, but we also want to be in relation worldwide. For example with the Camphill organisation in America, where the parent’s organisation is strong - Rigmor Skålholt will contact them

Question to the participants: Who reads the ECCE-Link? - **the majority is reading it**

5.3. The 2nd lecture of the Curative Education Course of Rudolf Steiner **Fidel** gives an imagination of the “future-meeting”

ECCE is now 22 years old – more than 25 members from 18 countries – the aim is to come in to work – like a fountain of inspiration for all of us – communication, to develop human consciousness, the spirit of wisdom is developing in our countries.

We should never forget that we are all individuals. What we can do to overcome this threat inherent in current legislation and normalisation. How can we achieve these common objectives? It is a process, also the course of curative education. The Calendar of the Soul is also translated into Spanish, it accompanies me every day and helps me. It is a guide in our work. How to take care of social therapy? It is a process that we try to follow, like Paulamaria mentioned on the first evening. The encounter between all of us. Passion for Knowledge; we have to look at the other. This true image of man this is what we have to look for, to find the image behind the external.

In the 2nd lecture of the Curative Education Course of Rudolf Steiner states that there are different ways to bring our work into practice. We have to look for the truth behind the symptoms. We create our thoughts, but where do they come from? It is not a community where they come from (not found yet) but there is a collective thought and this fountain of inspiration/thoughts can come from the whole community. Sensibility comes from the eye, which enlivens what is next to me. Life becomes understandable.

What is the Karma of ECCE? It is our task during the day time, but during the night answers come to us – we can have it in our hands, it is our choice and the door is open. He thanked the participants of the group - this was the result and the inspiration of a common work

Ann wants to take care about the future of ECCE. She has a warm heart to ECCE, she is standing for ECCE-treasurer. In Belgium curative education is very small. She went to Sweden/ Järna where she learnt about Anthroposophy. These experiences helped her a lot. Ann is working at Christophorus; she is involved in the 6th Congress “Living in the Encounter” in Brussels, May 2015.

Adrienne:

Leonardo Fulgosi suggested that Fidel should represent the southern part of Europe.

In the beginning the centre of Europe was important. Our brothers from the eastern part have arrived, but also the southern part should not be forgotten. It is a pleasure that Fidel wants to join the Committee of ECCE.

Together with **Sarah Kane** we experienced again and deepened how the past influences the present and our future with Shakespeare’s play „**the tempest**“

Thomas Kraus

gave a short introduction about the past Congresses “Living in the Encounter” and the upcoming Congresses in Europe and worldwide

6. Saturday afternoon Public Mini Conference and Festival

introduction by Paulamaria – (see part 1)

organisational response:

1. collaborate
2. associate
3. cooperate – research

666 years of the beast 1998 = 3 times = millennium window for Ahriman

the cold comes from the new legislation in the way it can make it difficult to communicate, as communication is replaced by IT. How do we work with these forces of the cold?

We need to work together as individuals; out of relationships something new can be born. How have I experienced past, present, future in the way that I meet the other?

Teenager: I know	I pity - I feel for you	I do it for you
Adult: I understand	I feel with you (empathy)	I do it with you
older insight – experience	reverence for the other (human being)	responsibility

But there is a **4th step** awaiting us now, which Rudolf Steiner indicated in his Philosophy of Freedom: To be able to think, feel and will out of the moment itself:

Conceptual Intuition Love for the Deed Practical Reason

Mini Conference – the Panel

Paulamaria Blaxland de Lange, Michael Luxford, Simon Blaxland de Lange, Michel Collins

Paulamaria – chair of ACESTA and member of ECCE

How can we find ways to work together?

The future can only arise with, from and between all of us

Michael Luxford (coordinator of 50 Campill communities in UK and Ireland) – opening and transparency is very necessary today

Simon works at Pericles, was chairman of ACESTA (Anthrop. Curative education and social therapy) for a long time

Michael Collins lives and works in Nutley Hall community

-Anne: (Garvald) asks Simon about Emerson College (for adults education)

Can the advantage of curative education and social therapy be used?

Emerson started in the grounds of Sunfield Homes in the Midlands. This present event has been the second event over the last year where this neighbourhood has been the meeting place of Karl König's paintings and the paintings of Kaspar Hauser by Greg Trigger. Why is this happening?

-John Benjamin to Michael Luxford

You have been around in the world, what will institutions be like in the next 10 years?

-Michael Luxford: younger people will become involved and bring a fresh vision into it. We need refreshment into what has been established.

John Benjamin Will there be young people?

-Michael Luxford: we must ask young people and let them in, we have to listen to them. We have to invite young people.

-Béatrice Cussac: people in France are like consumers, they are just waiting to get things done. How can we make people be hungry to act? How can transformation from consumers to actors take place?

-Paulamaria: In the poorer countries people are hungry and spend all their time/life in getting food, so have little time for culture and development. In the West it is the other way round. Some suffer from too little, but some suffer from too much! And with a similar result. 1 of 54 boys has autism in the USA. We tend to think of Germany as an old and established state– but it is quite young as a nation! The opposite of what was born in Middle Europe has come about: a surfeit of materialism and, consumerism. I cannot really answer your question. There is no quick answer, as it lies in people's hearts.

-Michael Mullan – 25 % of people have no work, nothing to do, no perspective. How can we strengthen them?

-Ulrike Benkart sees quite a lot of ambitious people who want to get involved, want to change – but they are stopped by the elder professionals, they get no space.

-A young female Co-worker of Pericles - in the anthroposophical Course here at Emerson, we come from different Communities, what is my role? what is my vision? what is the leader's vision? Most of us hear in our institutes „it used to be like this“, „I do it like this“. We cannot work on this basis of many years ago.

Yulia Gedeyko: I do not experience this difference in the generations, our work out of Anthroposophy carries us beyond all that. The task stands in the middle. Our differences serve the whole.

-Bernard Heldt This change of millennium is a window for Ahriman – 30 years ago Ahriman was a devil to be sent out, now we see it is a challenge. There is a new look at anthroposophy – Steiner said: listen to me, but act how it is possible in your country, Institute – don't be dogmatic!

-Michael Mullan to the young co-worker – philosophy of freedom cannot be our motor to tell us what to do; do it as you want to do it - as an individual – **do what you love, love what you do**

-Yulia, speech and drama student doing a Masters degree at Peridur, was very inspired last year by the story of Kasper Hauser and worked with a number of people of the different local places. She has worked and will work with people with special needs and can see her way clearly. She is very enthusiastic, she has no problem with that what older (wiser) people think. It is nourishing.

-Michael Luxford I have come to that point – I don't know the answer to all these questions, probably my younger colleagues can find answers.

-Michael Mullan an open mind and open way of life will bring confidence for the future.

-Paulamaria how do we create an environment where people can come together and live in the encounter. I have never looked back, always forward. Now I have a history! It is the same with our places. What happens within our places, what are the social and political relationships, how can we stand together to create a clarity about what faces us? Social care became care industry, so now we need to stand together to safeguard and protect what matters and help each other to let go of what does not. How can we help each other? It needs recognition of the needs of each other. All the different ways of working and the presence of families are necessary; but we need to be able to do research to answer questions and be open with those on the ground, the people we work with; we have to listen to them.

-Béatrice all 3 voices have to be heard - from the professionals, parents and handicapped people

-Paulamaria – ECCE brings these 3 groups together.

Richard Steel (Karl König Archive) – Human Experience and Freedom

The history of **Kaspar Hauser:** people are touched by his destiny.

Has the destiny of anthroposophy been prevented? Can you take destiny away? No, you can't! Is that not important in connection with our today's questions?

Children and young people are open for empathy

we don't talk about integration - we talk about inclusion

inclusion is not a continuation of integration, it is a new dogma!

in our today's world the biggest problems are

fear
complacency
the inertia of the heart
hatred towards the other person

We do not depend on the strength of other people or on our own strength, we depend rather on the **weakness of the other**. We connect to each other with our weaknesses, not with our strength. The society of tomorrow depends on our weaknesses that connect us to each other.

In the evening we saw a performance of:

“The Love of 7 dolls” by Paul Gallico, presented by Leo Gwynne-Evans with companions of Milton Keynes Camphill Community.

7. Sunday May 11th,

• Organisational points:

The **draft Minutes** of the GM 2013 in Szimbiózis, Hungary, were approved

• Financial report 2013

was sent by mail in advance by Bernard Heldt. He asked members to pay the contributions as soon as possible. **The Annual Report 2013 and the Draft Budget for 2014 were approved.**

• Committee issues:

- Committee of ECCE: Secret vote for the coming 3 years for committee members is held:
Béatrice Cussac as president from 31.12.2014 51 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention
Ann Naeyaert 52 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention
Fidel Ortega 51 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention

Ann Naeyaert and **Fidel Ortega** are chosen as committee members. **Béatrice Cussac** is chosen as president of ECCE from 31 December 2014. They thank the members for their confidence.

The Committee made a **description of tasks**. There are committee members who do not have specific tasks. Only the president is elected in function.

Michael Mullan withdraws from the Committee after 6 years, he will only withdraw as a Committee member, not as representative from Austria (Plato). **Adrienne** thanks him for all the lessons of life he gave us. Always a moment of humour!

Michael thanks everyone and always wants to take care of the others! He is very happy to have the experience of these people (with special needs). We should think about the inside life of our residents. ECCE should keep that in mind.

- Annual Report of 2013 was explained by **Bernard**, it will be put on the website in the future starting with the annual report 2012. The annual report 2013 has been accepted unanimously.

Members suggest cutting down structural costs and getting extra funding for projects. **Bernard** explains the draft budget – ICT is not yet specified.

Members requested:

Piet Blok and John Benjamin suggested that cost for the website can be split over some years (3 years) (The accountant will be asked about it).

For IT an estimated figure has to put in the budget.. All other parts of the budget 2014 are accepted. The 2 mentioned points (IT and website) will be worked out anew.

The headquarters will be spread over Europe. According to NL law, the legal address is still NL; if Edit Maryon College will move, address has to be changed, but stays in NL.

- **Contribution key** has been renewed and will start from 2015, this is only the basis; richer countries can help with certain projects.
Special contributions may be discussed with the treasurer.
 - **John Benjamin - What is a client/ definition (number of clients) day/centre, 24 h client? Explainable definition will be discussed (in the next CM).**
 - **proposal – special contribution for supporting membership for handicapped people € 2,- per month - it was agreed by all members.**
- **Shadow-report Michael Mullan and Pim Blomaard and Bernard Heldt** together with EASPD will continue to work on it.

Adrienne will attend the General Assembly of Inclusion Europe in Belfast next week.
Bernard attends the Annual General Assembly of EDF next week in Zagreb; he also attends the meeting of EASPD (last March and next October). It is very appreciated by the members because both Adrienne and Bernard are known widely and everything is now depending on relationships and network. A plan to involve more committee members or members will be drawn up.

Paulamaria spoke of an example of research for Leiden University. She spoke about the work of the RMET (Ruskin Mill Educational Trust) and Michael Chase's work on gesture and the crafts and his Masters on a therapeutic Anthroposophical craft curriculum.

- **Fidel - there are countries in Europe where training is recognised – can we do something on EU-level? Standardise it, that certificates are recognised – a theme to work on!**
- **Rules and regulations**
have been decided by the members already – **it was agreed on by all present members**
- **Reflection on the last link**
to have it on the website, or shall it be sent by mail to the members?
It can be sent as a link www..... will be discussed in the near future

Fidel talks about communication and information, it should be published to other anthroposophical publications and organisations as well. He thanked for the successful organisation and for the lovely artistic parts.

It was good experience for **Ulrike** to have an idea about the European work. She appreciated the work done very much.

Helle - the past present future – the inclusive round table was a very good idea. New things came out of the speeches and the round table.

John – people with special needs influence us, how can we come into discussion with policy makers, so it is part of European policy so we can see what will happen in our country in a few years. An important lobby forum to see how the European Union will react.
I missed in the conversion what does it mean for us, are we aware of ECCE, not only given money – it is an important initiative: influence on your reality. I am looking to a kind of Time Spirit for the future. This helps in daily work.

Thomas – this meeting moved onto a higher level – how we strengthen our communication, cooperation and collaboration. For so many nations to unite for 4 days brings such a force – In the panel they said we have something like a paradise – what do you wish – they explained it for us very well.

Renate - through the artistic work I experienced how much the past influences our present and the future.

Helle high level work is done in ECCE, but how can we bring the information to our countries. How can we approach them, they have to pay their membership but also to take an interest.

Bernard, we are working behind the scenes.

Ann - a process has been started, people have to be inspired by the process. Results are not visible on a daily level, it is not enough to have stories – the ECCE Logo should be known everywhere.

Paulamaria – people need experience, there are too many words, too much IT and too little communication. We need to learn through experience. We have love and enthusiasm for ECCE.

Piet Blok - very nice to be here for my own experience, it is important how we can make members aware that we work on EU-level.

Adrienne - we have to make our work visible

Bernard realized that content is necessary, the organisational part is not so important for members. Hope we can keep this quality of content.

Richard Steel is thinking about becoming a supporting member of ECCE, even though he will go to USA for a year.

Bernard This meeting was very successful with the art and the contributions. It was more than expected.

Adrienne - In Hungary we joined the official inauguration of new buildings. We met a Hungarian politician, local people get ECCE known. The same happened in Tenerife.

Béatrice - For her it is a rich moment; every meeting enriches her, even the board. “We can make a choir in 15 minutes, because we listen to each other. I realize with Sarah Kane, we all have our past – but need to let it go and let our affections become present. For the future you have to move forwards. The Panel - we have to be open and let people know what we do. We have to open the door. We have to communicate. People with special needs give us hope. We have to recognise our own weakness. To build new encounters and dialogue that allows ECCE to grow.

I am happy that new people are accepted into the board to help us. And thank the people who prepared all this, not only the meeting, but also the meals and the beds. It enriched us – let the seeds become flowers”.

- **Office issues**

Renate Chwatal has taken over the office to Vienna some months ago, but the moving of the archive is not finished yet.

Server: We tried to find a server in Austria, but it was very expensive. Bernard asked the Council if we can participate on their server, but there was a misunderstanding and we got an offer for a website. For the moment we still use the server in ECM, but for the future we probably could open a cloud. It is a question of money.

Béatrice Cussac closed the GM at noon and thanks Paulamaria and all co-workers of Emerson College to have hosted the GM with so much warmth and attention.
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Renate Chwatal

Appendix

Overview of members present and apologies General Meeting ECCE, May 8nd – 11th 2014, Emerson College

Present

Austria

- Renate Chwatal ,Sprachrohr' für Menschen in anthroposophisch orientierten Lebens-Lernstätten (PO)
- Michael Mullan PlatO (IC)

Belgium

- Ann Naeyaert Michaëlis vzw (IC)
- Adrienne Thier GOVAG vzw (CM / S)

Denmark

- Helle Hansen Dansk Forbund for Helsepædagogik og Socialterapi (IC)

France

- Béatrice Cussac 'Les Ravis'; Association française de parents d'hand.ment. (PO/CM)

Germany

- Thomas Kraus (CM / S)
- Ulrike Benkart Anthropoi (IC)

Hungary

- László Jakubinyi Szimbíózis a Hamonikus Együtt-létért Alapítvány (IC)

Italy

- Elena Nardini Antroposofica

Netherlands

- John Benjamin Edith Maryon College (TC)
- Bernard Heldt (CM / S)

Norway

- Rigmor Skålholt Sosialterapeutisk Forbund (IC)

Spain / Portugal

- Fidel Ortega Dueñas Federação de pedagogia curativa e sócio-terapia em Espanha e Portugal (IC)

Switzerland

- Christian Gaegauf Parentela CH (PO)
- Susanne Frey Parentela CH (PO / S)

United Kingdom

- Paulamaria Blaxland de Lange: ACESTA (IC)

AM = Associate member ; CM = Committee member ; EC = Executive committee ; IC = Intentional community ; PO = Parent organisation ; S = Supporting member ; TC = Training centre ; O = Observer

Guests from UK

- Piet Blok Acesta, treasurer
- Richard Steel Karl König Institute; Berlin
- Michael Luxford Camphill Delrow

Georg Schad Camphill Ringwood
Simon Blaxland de Lange Pericles and Acesta
Anne Hunter Garvald (replacing Jack Reed)

Apologies

Belgium

- Geert Freyhoff Inclusion Europe (AM)

Czech Republic

- Anežka Janátová Spolek pro Léčebnou pedagogiku a sociální terapii v České republice (IC)

Finland

- Hannu Outakivi Camphill Comm. Sylvia-koti Suomen hoito-ja sosiaalipedagoginen yhdistys ry (IC)

France

- Bernadette Bernier (notified) Mouvement de Pédagogie Curative et de Sociothérapie (IC)

Germany

- Sabine von der Recke BundesElternVereinigung für Anthroposophische Heilpädagogik und Sozialtherapie e.V. (PO)

Italy

- Margaretha Fulgosi (notified) (S)
- Leonardo Fulgosi (notified) (S)
- Elisabetta Zorn (notified) Antropsofica (PO / IC)

Netherlands

- Pim Blomaard Ned. Ver. Antroposofische Zorgaanbieders, sector IZ (IC)
- Jan Vogelij (notified) Landelijk Ouder Verbond – LOV (PO)
- Ineke Vogelij (notified) (S)
- Walter Bosch (notified) (S)

Romania

- Adrian Pinteá (notified) Federatia de Pedagogia Curativa din Romania (IC)
- Gabriela Dragomir (notified) Federatia 'Impreuna' Pentru Promovarea Socioterapiei in Romania (IC)
- Paun Ionut

Romania/Ireland

- John Byrde (notified) Camphill
- Roxana Byrde (notified) (S)

Sweden

- Katharina Karlsson (S)
- Deborah Ingves (notified) Individuellt Liv I Gemenskap (PO)
- Marianne Lindström (notified) Värna (IC)

Spain / Portugal

- S. Katarina Grönberg (notified) Federação de pedagogia curativa e sócio-terapia em Espanha e Portugal (IC):

Switzerland

- Rüdiger Grimm International Council for Curative Education and Social Therapy
 (notified)
- Jorgos Kalyvas (notified) Verband für anthroposophische Heilpädagogik und Sozialtherapie (IC)

United Kingdom

- Elaine Bradley The Association of Camphill Communities for Great Britain and Ireland (IC)
- Martin Sturm The Association of Camphill Communities for Great Britain and Ireland (IC)

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