

Minutes of the meeting of the policy council of the International System Dynamics Society.

July 13, 1989
Stuttgart, West Germany

In Attendance:

David Andersen
Vittorio D'Amato (presenting)
Bob Eberlein
Jay Forrester
Nathan Forrester
Alan Graham
Peter Milling
Erling Moxnes
Jack Pugh
Mike Radzicki
George Richardson
Khaleed Saaed (also presenting)
John Sterman
Jack Venix (presenting)
Eric Wostenholme (presiding)
Eric Zahn

1. 1991 Conference

For general information Erich Zahn noted that the organization of the Stuttgart conference required about 10,000 DM up front and about 50,000 DM for the proceedings and conference site.

Vittorio D'Amato gave a short introduction to the Universite Bocconi as a possible site. There are about 6 PhD students and a number of Masters students working in system Dynamics there. The university is centrally located near a number of hotels. There are at least three other professors who would be willing to help in the organization.

Jack Venix introduced the Utrecht University which is very close to Amsterdam and easy to get to. There is also nearby accomodation. The university recently organized a conference. Jack felt he would like to consult with his colleagues before committing himself to hosting the conference.

Khaleed Saaed introduced the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok, Thailand. The institute has full conference facilities and accomodation in house. The accomodations are US\$18.00/night with meals between US\$1.00 and US\$5.00. The conference center has staff to organize the conferences and is willing to act as a travel agent for attendees. Current round trip prices from New York are US\$800.00, California US\$700.00 and Frankfurt US\$800.00.

Following the presentation there was substantial discussion on the merits of each proposal. It was noted that we had a written proposal in hand only for the Asian Institute of Technology.

Nathan Forrester moved that the Asian Institute of Technology be selected as the site of the 1991 conference subject to an updating of the previously submitted proposal. That the 1992 conference be in Europe, the 1993 in North America and the 1994 in Europe.

Mike Radzicki seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

After this discussion it was agreed that we should get written proposals for the 1992 conference in hand by the end of 1989. Further these proposals will be solicited from Vittorio D'Amato and Jack Venix.

2. Treasurers Report (Jack Pugh Presenting)

Income so far for 1989 so far is about \$5,500.00 lower than budgeted. This is mostly due to institutional subscribers, who may still be on an academic billing cycle.

The society continues to hold a positive cash position and income continues to exceed expenses. The expected surplus for 1989 is \$5,000.00.

3. Membership

There are 340 paid up members of the society. This number has been steady for about 2 years with about 60 people leaving and same number of new members coming in each year. It was agreed that we should try to watch attractiveness and decrease attrition.

The membership directory was mailed out this spring and cost about \$1,250 to produce. Next years costs will likely be lower. It was agreed that the directory was a valuable resource.

4. The System Dynamics Review (George Richardson Presenting)

Of the journals printed, about 75 copies are going to libraries and about 350 to members of the society. The remaining 250-300 are being kept at MIT.

Mike Radzicki is promoting the Journal in other Journals through shared advertizing. The peace institute at Notre Dame is also sponsoring a \$1,000.00 prize for articles in the Journal dealing with peace.

The journal is growing in size and there is a large supply of papers in the backlog. The quality of the papers is also increasing. To accomodate the backlog the average journal size needs to be moved toward 120 pages from 100, and this would require an annual budget of about \$24,000.00.

Jack Pugh moved that we raise the budget of the journal to \$24,000.00 per year. Bob Eberlein seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

5. Other expenditures

David Andersen suggested that we might improve things by spending money on other activities such as administrative support. It was felt that some of this need was from poor communication and continuity as officers change positions.

David Andersen moved to amend the budget proposal in 4 to add an additional \$2,000.00 to ensure that the past president, president and president elect can all be present at at least 2 meetings per year.

Jack Pugh seconded the motion which was passed.

6. Electronic Bibliography

John Sterman note that Kip Cooper of Pugh-Roberts desires to develop an electronic database of system dynamics publication at Pugh-Robert's expense.

Nathan Forrester moved that we support this developent. Alan Graham seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

7. Jay W. Forrester Award

The nominating committee for the Jay W. Forrester award is pleased with the flow of suggestions for the 1990 award. The committee was also charged with considering the amount of the award in the future.

8. Slate of Candidates for election in 1990 (to take office in 1991).

The 1990 nominating committee moved that the following slate of officers

President Elect - John Sterman
V.P. Publications - John Morecraft
Secretary - Bob Eberlein
Policy Council - Jack Venix
 Brian Dangerfield
 Maurice Laroche
 Peter Galbraith

Bob Eberlein moved that the slate be approved, George Richardson seconded and the motion was passed.

9. Chapter Participation in the Policy Council

Mike Radzicki moved that chapters will be able to designate a non voting policy council members. The person so designated will be able to sit in on policy council meeting and receive the minutes of those meetings except under extraordinary circumstances.

Bob Eberlein seconded the motion and it was passed.

10. Dues Structure

There was continued discussion on the merits and demerits of the proposed income sensitive dues structure.

David Andersen Moved that the annual membership dues be set to

\$60.00 - regular member

\$30.00 - for Students and others whose self assessed gross family income is below US\$20,000.00/year.

and further that the lowest membership fee always be at least the marginal cost of shipping a member the Journal.

George Richardson Seconded the motion.

Jay Forrester moved to amend the above motion to remove the phrase "and others whose self assessed gross family income is below US\$20,000.00/year".

Eric Wostenholme seconded the motion.

5 in favor, 5 - opposed, the chair was opposed and the motion to amend was defeated.

The original motion was called for a vote

5 in favor, 5 opposed the chair was in favor and the original motion passed.

11. Gordon S. Brown Fund (Jay Forrester Reporting)

A \$200,000.00 fund to stimulate teaching System Dynamics in primary and secondary schools. Help train teachers in the use of system dynamics. The society can beneficially be intimately involved.

Nahan Forrester moved that the Society gratefully take charge of the fund and organize an investment and award committee to manage and safeguard the fund.

Alan Graham seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

12. Adjournment

Nathan Forrester Motioned that the Meeting adjourn, the motion was seconded by Alan Graham and passed.