



IPWG Board and Members Meeting 6-7-8 March, Poznan

6 March – Board and Members Meeting

Attending:

Agata, Maciej, Christian, Mario, Cezary (IPWG Board)

Natalia, Marcin (IPWG Members)

- **Outline of the presentation**

AEGEE-Poznan has invited the IPWG to have a presentation on Saturday morning. The board decides to hold a presentation touching the following topics:

- IPWG general
 - aims (Christian)
 - past (Maciej)
 - future (Agata)
 - how to get involved (Cezary)
 - journal (Mario)
- promotional video for the Journal
- short description of the European level of AEGEE (Maciej)
- expectations about IPWG or Harvard debate

- **Analysis of the survey**

Summary of the main criticisms, points raised and comments resulting from the survey conducted among IPWG members:

- there are too many other projects not linked to IPWG;
- some topics have not been explored: political situation of European countries, electoral observation missions;
- local IPWGs are not visible in the network;
- IPWG should focus more on long term, traditional programmes should be developed not just repeated;

- it needs a new big project;
- improve cooperation with local to organise events;
- more concrete and small roles for members;
- more update on what IPWG is doing;
- not possibilities to get active;
- lack of knowledge on how the IPWG works
- need to improve mentorship system

Comments on the result of the survey:

Although the email was sent twice, only 11 out of 110 members filled the survey.

Suggestions

Agata:

1. revise the list of IPWG members, send an email asking if people want to remain members. There is a need to change of the statute for this (it has to take place during the IPWG AGORA)

Maciej: there was an attempt to do so in 2005, but unsuccessful.

2. Create an advisory board for IPWG (modelled on the Academy where, when needed, a council of advisors can be called)

Christian:

3. Try to bridge the gap between board and members, review the list, organise msn meetings open to members;

Cezary:

4. use a blog

Mario:

5. join the Journal and the Blog <http://ipwg.blogactiv.eu/>

Marcin:

6. incorporate the website and the newsletter;

Agata:

7. involve new members, integrate them in the management of workshops and new projects,

Mario:

8. launch a new project under IPWG direction

Natalia asks about the connections between IPWG and other projects like Y Vote and Cyprus.

Agata:

EOM - it was born as IPWG, then it became the flagship project of AEGEE.

Y Vote – at the AGORA in Eskisehir IPWG applied for workshop “Your vote your choice”, then idea

was then adopted for the Y Vote project, developed independently of IPWG.

Mario: IPWG good at inspiring new projects, but apparently it then loses oversight over them.

Cezary: the fact that ideas are initiated and then lost is not a bad thing in itself.

Natalia makes the example of the Cultural WG and the Cultural Booklet, developed independently of it.

- **Decision about the blog**

The board decides to approve of the proposal to merge the blog and the journal and to appoint a moderator external to the board, in this regard, Marcin is invited to become moderator. Agata suggests to outsource, motivate and responsabilise members, people interested in having a smaller role than joining the board, a resource to be employed.

Christian asks what to do with the IPWG website.

Marcin points out that it is difficult to surf it, there is a need for renewal.

7 March – Board Meeting

Future plans and evaluation of current work

Attending: Agata, Maciej, Christian, Mario, Cezary

Self-criticism

- IPWG has problems handling YiA applications (Maciej)

Maciej reminds other board members that he was left alone writing the application for the DS (1 December deadline).

YiA applications should be to be dealt in advance (Christian)

- weakness of external PR, need to improve the newsletter (Agata);
 - *Leaflets AGORA*_ Cezary demands clarifications about the leaflets at the agora Aachen. They were not distributed because of spelling and grammar incongruence. The board acknowledges there has been a failure to double check which should not be repeated in the future, it was disrespectful of the effort put into making them.
- absence of new projects (Cezary);
- the IPWG10 Booklet has not been published yet;
Agata's idea: use the articles for the IPWG Journal and to have a data of past activities;
- no IPWG events organised in spring 2009;
- no board meeting in 2008;

Evaluation of board members (private messages)

Future activities

- *Diplomatic Seminar Budapest*
The email of complaint for missing the deadline has not been sent yet. Maciej invited the board members at EBM to talk to A-Budapest about it, but this did not happen. Eren did not write to A-Budapest.
Maciej is in favour of staying in Budapest. There is only one deadline left, 1 April.
- *EC TC in Thessaloniki*
Short description of the content given by Agata: increase Youth participation, focused on members of South Eastern Europe, possibilities available, short project management workshop. Ensure continuity with alike events in Kohl and Kosovo.
- *IPWG goes den Hague*
The board agrees on sending an open call for local hosts.
- *Europe and the World¹*
The board approves of Prisca Merz's proposal of applying for the Flagship Project of AEGEE 2010-2012 and decides to apply for a WS and create a video to promote the project at the Agora in Magusa.

Agata: in Magusa, there will also be the possibility to have an IPWG workshop with the presence of the Chief of the Political Section of the US Embassy in Cyprus.

8 March – Board Meeting

Human Resources and Public Relations Strategies

Attending: Agata, Maciej, Christian, Cezary

Human Resources of IPWG

- **Local IPWGs**
Local IPWGs should have a contact with the board.
Maybe the Blog can be a space for them to share the outcomes of their local activities.

Ankara and Krakow have quite active local IPWG.

Question: Do local IPWG actually want to cooperate with us?

Agata: We should be visible and available for them but it is up to them if they want to

¹ Bearing in mind the commitment to Global Perspectives contained in the AEGEE Strategic Plan 2009-2011, and the fact that IPWG is the group within AEGEE with the greatest potential to engage on a global scale, the project is meant to develop a series of activities in Europe and the world. The project will have a time duration of about one year. Its main activities will be conferences, training courses, case study trips, youth exchanges and final conference presenting all the results. The core of the events will take place in Europe through the AEGEE network, but, interestingly, the idea is to develop one or two events in the World through partner organisations. Preliminary contacts in this regard have already been established in Pakistan, Colombia, Uruguay, South Africa and Lebanon.

cooperate.

Should we really concentrate on local IPWG? Or maybe, when talking about HR of IPWG, we should focus on AEGEE members interested in the topics and trying to get them involved on European level.

Summary:

Local IPWGs are NOT our main priority

More Important: developing the Human Resources of European level IPWG

HR Responsible should contact local IPWG and offer them to contribute to the blog.

- **Mentorship System**

Thanks to Maciek and his efforts in the mentorship system Mario (his mentee) developed the IPWG journal.

Proposal from Agata: ask Board Members how their contact with their mentees is (reminder)

Maybe using statutory meeting to have a coffee and chat with them. So mentors should check the participants list (Personal contact is IMPORTANT)

- **Chat**

Once a month using AEGEE chat for IPWG: connection between board and members. Chat has to be prepared (by speaker and HR Responsible)

First chat should be attended by as many Boardies as possible (Agata will send doodle)

- **Telegramme**

Once a month everybody should write a few lines about himself (what he/she was doing in personal life) -> responsibility of PR and HR

First telegramm should be send about this meeting

- **Newsletter**

Cezary will send a newsletter about this meeting also including social programme.

Public Relations

- **Newsletter**

Cezary did four or five newsletters until now.

There was not enough to promote.

Promotion inside AEGEE was quite good. We had visibility (even though people didn't always know what we are doing). Cezary also did short powerpoint presentations when he was travelling somewhere.

- **Network Meetings**

Using Network Meetings to make present IPWG, even if Board Members are not present there, we can rely on normal IPWG members

HR responsible should therefore check participants lists of Network Meetings.

- **IPWG Journal**

Cezary will adapt the promotion movie (taking out competition charts and adapting the journal website adress)

- **New IPWG Movie**

Flyers are not environment-friendly, therefore Cezary will prepare a new movie for AGORA-Magusa.

- **Website**

Contact the ITWG for the template for new website.

Discussion about the new look of it.

Cezary will take care of the Facebook IPWG group.