

Association for Cultural Economics International

General Meeting

June 15, 2002

Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Bruce Seaman, President.
2. President's Report (Seaman)
 - a. Thanked Arjo Klamer and the local arrangements people at Erasmus, particularly Ticia Herold, for the fine conference with special thanks for the banquet on the ship around Rotterdam harbor.
 - b. Thanked Neil Alper for his service as Executive Secretary-Treasurer.
 - c. Thanked Victor Ginsburgh for the fine job he did organizing the program for the conference and turned over the gavel to him as the new President.
3. Victor Ginsburgh's Report/Announcements
 - a. Introduced Bruno Frey who announced the first winners of the Werner Pommerehne Prize. Frey first gave a short biography of Professor Pommerehne. The winners were Herbert Glejser and Bruno Heyndels for "Efficiency and Inefficiency in the Ranking in Competitions: the Case of the Queen Elisabeth Music Contest," *Journal of Cultural Economics*, Vol. 25, no. 2, May 2001. He indicated that there were 27 papers that were considered and six made the short list as identified by the selection committee (Throsby, chair, Frey, Ginsburgh, Klamer, and ... **[I need help here]**).
 - b. Professor Heyndels said a few words of thanks and about Professor Pommerehne.
 - c. The Presidents' Prize for the best paper at the conference was awarded to Veronique Chossat (University of Reims, Champagne-Ardenne) for "De Re Coquinaria: The Recipe for Success in French Gastronomy, Does Creativity Matter?-The GaultMillau Case," which she wrote with Olivier Gergaud (University of Reims, Champagne-Ardenne, and University of Paris I, Pantheon-Sorbonne. It was selected from the seven papers received by Ginsburgh.
 - d. Ginsburgh commented on the reasons for the two choices and indicated that both papers cover the same idea that experts' choices are not necessarily linked to quality.
 - e. Announced that Ruth Towse is stepping down as co-editor of the *Journal of Cultural Economics* and thanked her for her service to the *Journal* and to the Association.
 - f. Announced that Guenther Schulze has been appointed to replace Towse as co-editor.

- g. Made two announcements regarding the *JCE's* editorial board. The first was the death of Sherwin Rosen. The second was the appointment of William Landes and Orley Ashenfelter to the board.
 - h. Thanked Bruce Seaman for the work he did over the past two years for the Association as President.
 - i. Thanked Neil Alper for his work as Executive Secretary-Treasurer and announced the Executive Board's decision to reappoint Alper for another six years.
 - j. Announced that the search committee had started its work to develop nominees for the three vacancies on the Executive Board and for the position of President-Elect.
 - k. Thanked the local organizers, especially Ticia Herold, for the fine job they did with the conference and presented her with a gift of appreciation.
 - l. Announced that the next conference (2004) would be held in Chicago hosted by the University of Illinois Chicago Circle with Tom Smith as primary contact. Seaman spoke, since Smith was not in attendance, indicating that UIC may be assisted by the University of Chicago's Cultural Policy Center. It is expected that the conference will be held in late June.
 - m. Announced that the 2006 conference would be held in Vienna hosted by FOKUS with Monika Mokre being the primary contact. Mokre said a few words of thanks and accepting the opportunity to host the conference.
4. Comments/Discussion from the Floor
- a. There was discussion about the use of discussants at future conferences. Some people liked not having discussants others felt there should be discussants. It was also suggested that the discussants present the papers but it was pointed out that this would only work if the papers were distributed in advance to everyone and read by everyone attending the session as well.
 - b. A suggestion was made that the conferences should be a bit longer. The reason was the feeling that six concurrent sessions per time slot was too many. Also, that it would allow for longer sessions and more unstructured discussion among the attendees if there was more "free" time. A conference of four days, with some time off was thought to be worth exploring.
 - c. It was suggested that some sessions be established as structured debates/discussions on controversial topics as Hutter did in Witten.
 - d. There was discussion on providing authors and chairs with guidelines on the quality and length of the presentations as part of an attempt to improve their quality. It was suggested that centralizing the use of overheads and Power Point presentation material made help. Others said that centralization would be too unmanageable.
 - e. The idea of holding annual conferences was also discussed.
5. Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Alper
Executive Secretary
August 27, 2002