

*MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
AEHT EXECUTIVE BOARD
HELD IN LONDON (UK) ON MARCH 11TH, 2016*



Members of the Executive Board together with the chief judges and the organising team of the 29th AEHT Annual Conference gathered on the docks next to the Docklands Academy London (DAL)

COUNTRY / PAYS	REPRES.	
	First name / Prénom	Name / Nom
AEHT HEAD OFFICE SIEGE DE L'AEHT	Nadine	SCHINTGEN
BELGIUM BELGIQUE	Herman	SIEBENS
CROATIA CROATIE	Vesna	BARANASIC
ESTONIA ESTONIE	Neeme	RAND
FINLAND FINLANDE	Marit	NIEMINEN
FRANCE FRANCE	Stefane	DEMARLE
IRELAND IRLANDE	Adrian Breda	GREGAN HICKEY
ITALY ITALIE	Roberta	MONTI
LITHUANIA LITUANIE	Ramune	VADEIKYTE
LUXEMBOURG LUXEMBOURG	Louis	ROBERT
THE NETHERLANDS PAYS-BAS	Remco	KOERTS
NORWAY NORVEGE	Stig	ANDREASSEN
POLAND POLOGNE	Boguslawa	PIENKOWSKA
PORTUGAL PORTUGAL	Ana Paula	PAIS
SLOVAKIA SLOVAQUIE	Jozef Marek	SENKO SOTAK
SLOVENIA SLOVENIE	Helena	CVIKL
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Nuria	MONTMANY
SWEDEN SUEDE	Arne	LARSSON
UNITED KINGDOM ROYAUME-UNI	Aysegul Graham	YESILDAGLAR SPICKETT-JONES
UKRAINE UKRAINE	Hanna Olha	BALUSHCHAK SUKHARYNA

- Guest:

AGENZIA PER LO SVILUPPO DELL'EMPOLESE VALDELSA SPA	Ecatarina	CONSTANTINOVA
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- Excused absences:

AUSTRIA AUTRICHE	Klaus	ENENGL
DENMARK DANEMARK	Soren	KÜHLWEIN KRISTIENSEN
LATVIA LETONIE	Silva Ilze	OZOLINA LOCMANE
MACEDONIA MACEDOINE	Zoran	NIKOLOVSKI
RUSSIA RUSSIE	Elena Olga	VASINA VAKHMANOVA
SWITZERLAND SUISSE	Charles V. Jacopo	BARRAS SOLDINI

MINUTES

1. The meeting started with a **minute of silence in memory of Natalia Komanicka**, the AEHT interpreter for several years, who passed away mid-February. Marek Sotak pays tribute to her work and kindness and stresses the huge loss for the AEHT community. On behalf of his school and her family, he thanks everybody for all the words of support received.
2. Several National Representatives have sent their **apologies for absence**, amongst which our vice-president Klaus Enengl, who had to be present at his school for some important meetings with representatives of the Austrian ministry of education.
3. Follows a presentation by Aysegul Yesildaglar, principal of the **Docklands Academy London (DAL)**: Onder Sahan is the founder of the DAL, bringing together the industry with education. DAL has been founded for young people. Aysegul Yesildaglar presents several members of the board of DAL as well as the coordinators of the Annual Conference and the different competitions to the audience. Coordinators and Head Judges then left the conference room to have their own meeting next door.
4. Remco Koerts, vice-president in charge of the competitions held during the Annual Conference will have to join them and therefore makes his presentation first. The aim of the **meeting with Head Judges** is to get documents regarding the competitions ready as soon as possible for the AEHT web site. The coordinators and Head Judges have already been communicating via email for several months. This year, the AEHT has to face one major difficulty while organizing competitions: the school has no practical areas. Therefore only one culinary art competition will be organized. In total 10 competitions will be held. There are a few options regarding the venues; some will take place at the DAL and some, probably kitchen and service competitions, at the hotel.
5. Follows a **presentation by the newly appointed Ukraine National Representative**, Hanna Balushchak from Lviv Vocational School of Restaurant Service and Tourism. Lviv is located at the boarder with Poland and is a very touristic area. Mrs Balushchak hopes that the Ukraine will soon join the European Union. The school is the largest and best known Hotel and Tourism school in their region and offers training in different areas i.e. Restaurant service, Food production, Tourism, Economics and Commerce, ... By being part of the AEHT, the school representative hopes to get acquainted with training programs in other European countries, that might be adapted to their own school. All National Representatives are welcome to visit Lviv Vocational School of Restaurant Service and Tourism and leaflets with information on their college are available. Ana Paula Pais welcomes them warmly in the AEHT.
6. **Presentation of the RETOUR (Russian for Tourism) project (Ecaterina Constantinova)**

Pilot activities results

From February to August 2015, the team of the Project RETOUR (funded with support from the European Commission) tested the learning materials developed during the first phase of the project, namely: '30 Videos in Russian' - 10 for each sector: Hotel, Restaurant and Retail, featuring everyday professional scenarios in the tourism sector and 'Written Materials' with transcriptions of the video dialogues, exercises, grammar information and vocabulary. The materials were tested with pilot groups of students led by Russian language teachers in the three different learning modalities: Face to face in regular classes; online - supported learning modality; and self-learning modality. The project's associated partners and the AEHT were actively involved in the testing of the RETOUR materials. The following Hotel and Tourism schools have participated in the pilot thanks to AEHT:

- The Higher Education Hotel and Tourism school, Podebrady, Czech Republic
- Hotel and Tourism School, Zagreb, Croatia
- The Hotel Academy, Presov, Slovakia
- Perho Culinary School, Helsinki, Finland
- Alytus Vocational Training Centre, Alytus, Lithuania
- Presov, Slovakia, a group of independent 18 self-learners under the guidance of Natalia Komanicka

By the beginning of September 2015, the piloting phase in all partner countries had been successfully completed. All partners managed to involve a significant numbers of both students and Russian language teachers in the pilot project. A total of 780 students and 34 teachers participated in the testing phase. An ‘Overall Pilot Report’ with the final numbers of participants per country and evidence from the pilot has been produced.

Final training materials

From September 2015 until January 2016, the consortium worked on improving the first version of the materials, following suggestions and recommendations collected from the Russian language teachers and students involved in the pilot phase. The following changes have been made to the materials:

- The guides for teachers and students were revised,
- The written materials were enriched with additional exercises and audios,
- An answer key was created,
- One video for absolute beginners (level 0) with simple expressions and basic sentences was produced. This video was recorded in Russian and subtitled in the partner languages,
- A video tutorial on how to use the different versions of the RETOUR videos on our YouTube channel was created,
- A PDF tutorial on how to use the Personal Space for voice recording was created and uploaded to the homepage of the website to support self-learners,
- The Personal Space and the App for Android were proofread by the partners and then revised by the technicians so as to correct any errors or malfunctions.

All of the teaching materials are available in the following languages: French, Italian, Spanish, Greek, English and Bulgarian, and freely accessible on the project website: **www.russian-for-tourism.eu** .

The AEHT was an active partner in this project, especially with respect to the dissemination and assessment of the material. Ecaterina Constantinova extends her thanks to the AEHT Presidium and especially to Natalia Komanicka and Nadine Schintgen for their fruitful collaboration.

7. **The minutes of the previous meeting** (Cervia, October 7th, 2015) published on the AEHT website www.aeht.eu have been approved by all of the representatives present.

8. Report of the President (Ana Paula Pais)

Ana Paula Pais continues her efforts to reinforce the contact with the neighbouring member countries of Portugal, as this venture is under her responsibility, by attending meetings of various Hotel and Tourism schools and institutions in Spain, France and Italy. She is also trying to bring back former members. As all communication with the Greek National Representative, the Organization of Tourism and Training (OTEK), ceased at its dissolution in 2012 and as its competences were transferred to the Ministry of Tourism, she got in contact with this National authority newly in charge of the Hotel and Tourism schools in Greece with the hope that they will attend our meetings in the future.

Efforts have also been made to maintain the contact with the Ministry of Education in Luxembourg and several members of the Presidium attended a meeting at beginning of December 2015 with the first councillor of the Minister together with the managers of the Hotel school in Diekirch (LTHAH). The ministry will maintain its financial support for the next two years (agreement till 2017 inclusive). The LTHAH confirmed their help regarding the administrative work of the AEHT secretariat. Both the ministry and the LTHAH clearly showed support for the AEHT.

Another meeting has been held beginning December in Luxembourg with a potential sponsor, EUROLAM regarding an eventual Privileged Professional Partnership agreement. Ana Paula Pais urges the National Representatives to send the AEHT Head Office the details of companies that could be interested in supporting the AEHT.

Regarding teachers placements, the AEHT will sign an agreement with the Hotel group Pestana. Over the coming weeks the offers will be listed for each hotel and teachers may apply for placement from 1 week up to 1 month. For 2016, offers will be available for Portugal mainland, Madeira as well as North and South Africa. In the future, the programme might be extended to South America and further European countries.

More activities for students should be scheduled. Master classes, on the model of the one Marcus Hallgren - culinary decathlon Head Judge - proposed last year in Cervia, will be organized during the next Annual Conference. The idea is to involve experts that would offer these master classes the day before the competitions take place.

Regarding the AEHT Facebook page, the AEHT is looking for people in every country who are willing to post interesting information in order to make the page much more dynamic and lively. Teachers, who volunteer to contribute, should contact the AEHT secretariat to be granted access rights.

The preparation of the Erasmus + project on the next edition of the Christmas in Europe event is in full progress. The presentation of the 2016 edition will be done by Nadine Schintgen later.

Regarding competitions at the Annual Conference, there is currently a set age limit for participants at 21 years, except for the Hotel Management competition. There are schools that wish to have 22 years as age limit. A discussion on the matter follows this statement. Even if Ireland, Italy, Portugal have more and more adults registered in their Hotel and Tourism trainings, most representatives share the opinion of Luxembourg's National Representative and former president, Louis Robert, that teenagers are less mature and experienced than older participants. He suggests that, if the age limit should be raised, to split up the competition in two categories (for 2 different age categories). Nuria Montmany, the Spanish National Representative suggests that this should be done only for 3 or 4 competitions, but not for all. The proposal to make teams of 2 youngsters and 1 older student has been rejected, as deemed too difficult to set in place. As an agreement should be found, the Presidium will continue to work on the matter to find a solution that will satisfy all of its members.

Note that competitions will only be run in English. There will be no official AEHT interpreter for the meetings anymore. DAL will find a teacher to provide translations at the opening and the closing ceremonies as well as at the General Assembly. Aysegul Yesildaglar will ask help from her daughters, who are French native speakers.

Louis Robert stresses that there should be an official AEHT translator to assist the General Secretary in the translation of the huge amount of documents to be done yearly and to discharge her a bit. It would not be a good idea to try to save money in that area.

Ana Paula Pais promises to put Nadine Schintgen in direct contact with one of her teachers to get translations done.

9. Report of the Vice-President responsible for occasional events and teacher placements (Bogusława Pienkowska)

Ana Paula Pais already gave information on teacher placements within the Prestana group. All information will be published on the AEHT website around the period of May-June 2016.

From September 2014 to December 2015, 14 AEHT events with some 1757 participants have been held. As so far the AEHT did receive no information on the Chocolate festival held in Azores in December 2015, complete figures may only be provided at the next meeting.

L.P.	City	Title	Dates	Participants
2014				
1.	Maribor (SI)	Seminar for The WSET® (Wine and Spirit Education Trust) Level 1 Awards in Wines and Spirits	September 25 th - 28 th	16 participants from 10 schools from 4 countries
2.	Prešov (SK)	Eurocup 2014 – 22 nd edition of the Junior bartenders competition	October 21 th - 24 th	74 competitors from 37 schools of whom 22 participants were from 9 AEHT member schools from 6 countries
3.	Belgrade (SRB)	Annual Conference 2014	November 17 th - 22 th	574 participants from 94 schools from 28 countries
4.	Prešov (SK)	23 rd Christmas in Europe	December 7 th - 13 th	103 participants from 19 schools (including AEHT Head Office) from 13 countries
5.	Praia da Vitória, Terceira Island, Azores (PT)	Chocolate festival of the Atlantic 2014 (sculpting, display and contest of chocolate sculptures and bonbons)	December 6 th - 8 th	16 participants from 4 schools from 2 countries
2015				
6.	Aveiro (PT)	3 RD Fish & Cooking Aveiro Festival	February 11 th - 14 th	24 participants from 8 member schools only from Portugal No foreign schools
7.	Castel San Pietro Terme (IT)	17 th edition of the Bartolomeo Scappi International Competition (sommelier, bar, pastry, cooking competitions)	April 13 th – 16 th	98 participants from 21 member schools from 9 countries
8.	Bled (SI)	10 th Bartender G&T Competition	April 14 th – 17 th	24 participants from 8 member schools from 6 countries
9.	Riga (LV)	Seminar for teachers and directors (for EQF level 5 and up) on Hospitality and Tourism Management focusing on culture as a factor of attraction for tourism and hospitality and on city tourism in particular	April 16 th – 19 th	25 participants from 13 member schools from 12 countries

L.P.	City	Title	Dates	Participants
2015				
10	Ponta Delgada, Island São Miguel (PT)	10 FEST AZORES 2015 – 10 days, 10 chefs	June 18 th – 27 th	8 participants (+2 that participated one day only) from 5 (+1) member schools from 5 (+1) countries
11	Cervia (IT)	Annual Conference 2015	October 5 th -10 th	600 participants from 123 schools from 29 countries
12	Prešov (SK)	Eurocup 2015 – 23 rd edition of the Junior bartenders competition (special edition), Prešov (SK)	November 11 th - 13 th	73 participants
13	Diekirch (LU)	24 rd Christmas in Europe, Diekirch-Ettelbruck (LU)	December 2 nd – 8 th	120 participants
14	Terceira Island - Azores (PT)	Chocolate festival of the Atlantic 2015 (sculpting, display and contest of chocolate sculptures and bonbons)	December 6 th - 8 th	n.a.

The calendar for 2016 is published on the website www.aeht.eu. AEHT member schools may still hand in proposals to the AEHT Head Office for this year, though AEHT grants have already been fully allocated. Once documents on the event are sent in, the secretarial office will disseminate them to the AEHT network.

Helena Cvikl is looking forward to host the AEHT schools during the “ Coupe Georges Baptiste” competition, which will be held this year at her school. Moreover, there will be again a WSET 1 and 2 seminar in September in Maribor. Please roll up.

DAL is organizing the 4th AEHT Youth Parliament in April on its premises. There is room for 20 participants. The last session will be held at the UK Parliament, which will also be visited by participants. The invitation will be sent out within days.

Aysegul Yesildaglar vintends to organize a seminar for teachers on how to set up projects and make use of European fundings. The aim is to raise awareness of the opportunities offered by EU programmes. Thus i.e. Lithuanian students sent to DAL paid no fees at all, thanks to European funding. Currently, teachers from an Italian school, met by DAL in Cervia, are trying to obtain training at DAL free of charge by submitting a EU project.

Herman Siebens reminds the audience that 6-7 years ago a similar seminar had been organized at a former Annual Conference. Unfortunately, only people that already knew about these programmes attended. Aysegul Yesildaglar suggests to make the procedures less technical and more easily understandable to attract ‘novice people’. They will organize a workshop at the next Annual Conference on this topic and refine the content afterwards for a future seminar. This could be a good opportunity, according to Nuria Montmany, to share one’s own experiences on how to handle such projects. As Aysegul Yesildaglar stresses, the idea is to share good examples and practices of participants who are present and have an expert at hand that can help to set up projects. Herman Siebens suggests that this information should be added on the AEHT website.

Herman Siebens also puts forward the idea of using a pinboard at the Annual Conference - as the one recently used at the Belgium network meeting - where people could post their requests and give their contact details.

10. Report of the Vice-President responsible for work placements as well as for activities within the field of quality management and business ethics (Herman Siebens)

a) Quality management and business ethics

Herman Siebens suggest to hold a session on ‘teacher’s effectiveness’ at the next Annual Conference. Sarah Bubb, a senior lecturer at the Institute of Education in London, consultant for many local educational authorities and manager of many trainings and events across the UK, will join in as a guest speaker.

Expecting more and higher quality and effectiveness of teachers and their lessons, Sara Bubb searches for the main factors helping teachers to respond to these expectations. Questions like ‘How can a teacher develop his teaching and can he/she be helped to develop by the school and his/her principal?’ will be addressed. From practical experience and by the results of academic research, Sara Bubb¹ will shed light to the road ahead to better education, supporting more social equality.

b) Work placements

The AEHT had to give up on teacher placements within the Starwood group, as the people now in charge are no longer interested in collaborating with the AEHT (probably a matter of strategies and finances).

In Flanders, there are projects of placements for students and teachers of private owners of restaurants even 1* Michelin restaurants that accept students and teachers for 1 week to 6 months in their hotels/restaurants, and who are even paid by the owners. Herman Siebens just recently learned about this opportunity and will follow up the contact. The owners did not know about the AEHT network either and showed interest in collaborating.

Herman Siebens asks the National Representatives to look out in their own country for similar opportunities, even if it would be only a single hotel /restaurant that would accept teachers or students from the AEHT and to let the AEHT know how to contact them. Proposals of training should also be submitted even if schools/teachers/students would have to pay to participate. To standardize the proposals, Herman Siebens will set up a fixed ID card (form) to be filled in by schools with all the details on placement/training opportunities for teachers and students in their region/local hotels. Once ready, the form will be posted on the AEHT website.

The DAL will have its 5* hotel finished in 2017 and new training opportunities will then get available for students. Moreover, this summer DAL will start its culinary and catering courses and AEHT members will be granted priority for placements.

According to Roberta Monti, Italy also offers many training opportunities, i.e. by the Association of Chef to Chef in Emilia-Romagna. 50 chefs in the Emilia-Romagna region, already work together with Italian students. Chef to Chef on the European level

¹ Sara Bubb published different books on the support for teachers in their development to effectiveness: ‘Helping Teachers Develop’, ‘Helping Staff Develop in Schools’, ‘Successful Induction for new Teachers’.

would like to open this opportunity to all European schools. Moreover, Roberta Monti is the Italian responsible for collaboration between Italy and Albania as well as other Balkan areas in the field of education. In that area, there are also a lot of travel and work opportunities open to students.

11. Report of the Vice-President in charge of the AEHT Internet site and the technical support for AEHT Annual Conference registrations (Neeme Rand)

In Cervia the decision was taken to make the AEHT website more attractive and add more emotions while keeping the same information. Ahti Paju, the AEHT web master, Klaus Enengl and Neeme Rand had several meetings on that issue and submitted a new proposal for review to the Presidium. After some adjustments, the new website should be online within two weeks.

12. Report of the Vice-President on new projects ensuring the financial sustainability of the AEHT, on membership applications, resignations and exclusions as well as on the financial situation of the AEHT (Klaus Enengl)

The AEHT treasurer, Klaus Enengl will only send out this year's invoices for membership fees during the Easter period. As he was kept in Bad Ischl for some important meetings, he will make a full report on the above-mentioned topics in October.

13. Christmas in Europe event 2016 in San Benedetto del Tronto (Nadine Schintgen)

This year's edition of the Christmas in Europe event will be held from December 4th to 10th, 2016, in San Benedetto del Tronto, Italy, a town on the coast of the Adriatic Sea in the province of Ascoli Piceno, Marche.

So far 19 schools from 13 countries have submitted their applications. The deadline for submitting the "Erasmus+" project on the event is April 26th, 2016. As almost every year the same schools are applying, Nadine Schintgen urges the National Representatives to motivate more schools to enrol, so that a greater diversity in the group of participating schools can be obtained. A mixture of newcomers and regular participating schools is welcomed as the latter ones may coach the newcomers.

The programme, set up on the usual scheme, may be summarized as follows:

SUNDAY 4.12

All day :	arrival of the delegations.
20:00 – 21:00	dinner at IPSSOA Buscemi

MONDAY 5.12

09:00	Setting up the stands
12:00	lunch at the IPSSOA Buscemi
16:00	official opening
17:30	parade along the city center to the old town and songs and celebration of Christmas

TUESDAY 6.12

09:00 – 17:00	all day on the stands (in the morning for schools, in the afternoon for the citizens)
13:00	lunch at IPSSOA Buscemi
19:30	European buffet n° 1

WEDNESDAY 7.12

09:00 – 17:00 all day on the stands
13:00 lunch at IPSSOA Buscemi
19:30 European buffet n°2

THURSDAY 8.12

10:00 disassembly of the stands
13:00 lunch at IPSSOA Buscemi
15:00 free time in the city or football match: Italy vs Europe
19:30 dinner at IPSSOA Buscemi
21:30 cultural performances

FRIDAY 9.12

09:00- 11:00 visit of the city market
12:00 lunch at IPSSOA Buscemi
13:30 – 18:30 visit of Ascoli Piceno
20:30 gala dinner at IPSSOA Buscemi

SATURDAY 10.12 departure of the delegations

The European buffet will again be organized on two days to avoid food wastage. It will be worthwhile to register, as the group will visit the outstanding city of Ascoli Piceno, with impressive Roman, Medieval and Renaissance monuments.

14. 2016 Annual Conference in London (UK) (Aysegul Yesildaglar)

Aysegul Yesildaglar outlines the programme of the conference; arrivals will be on Sunday October 23rd and departures on Friday October 28th. Generally speaking, competitions will be held from Tuesday to Thursday and the gala dinner will be on Thursday evening. The organizers will post all necessary information on the website especially set up for this event.

Finding the adequate venues has been the most challenging aspect. The organizers aimed at having all venues quite close. Accommodation will be at The Tower Hotel - Guoman Hotels, a 4* hotel with a max. capacity of 600 participants. Registrations will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The hotel is located a seven minutes' walk from the Tower of London and from the Tower Hill tube station. All other hotels with the same or a higher capacity were all located outside central London and transportation logistics would have become very difficult.

The opening ceremony will be organized at Church House - Westminster, whose construction dates back to 1888 with renovations in the 1930's. This Head quarter of the Church of England, facing the Westminster Abbey, has rooms which are still nowadays permanently kept at the disposal of the Royal Family. Some artists known by DAL will animate the ceremony with artistic performances.

The closing ceremony will be held at the large conference room of The Tower Hotel. A stage will be set up in the middle of the room thereby enabling attendees to follow the ceremony, 2 screens will be mounted on each side of the room with an additional huge screen on the outside room, which has a great view of the London Bridge.

Initially, DAL planned to have the culinary art and pastry competitions at its Limehouse, but its refurbishment will only be ready in 2017. The only other

professional kitchens at the disposal of DAL are those of their partner restaurants, but it would be too difficult to host participants and competitions there, while the restaurants are operating. It is therefore planned that kitchen and pastry competitions will be held at the hotel under the condition that the kitchen facilities can be extended. The Managing director suggests renting kitchens, but this would be quite expensive. If the Head Judges do not accept the Hotel kitchen, they will have to find some new location.

The renovation works of the building next door to DAL will be finished next month and the building will be used for the other competitions during the 3 days of the Annual Conference. The exact venues for each competition will yet have to be finalized.

Meals will be provided in DAL's partner restaurants: Hazev, EV and TAS - London Bridge.

Regarding London sightseeing, the best way to explore London is by tube. The organizers could provide one sightseeing tour for everybody at the same time or provide flexible tickets for sightseeing tours at one's own convenience. They shall provide information about places to visit. UK has a very traditional background and plenty of London's cultural attractions and top museums can be explored free of charge.

As regard to transfers and transportation, organizers shall provide assistance at airports with weekly Oyster cards and travel information on arrival.

Regarding sponsoring of the conference, AEHT sponsors have not replied so far. asked The Mayor of London and some potential sponsors have also been asked for contributions, but it is becoming more and more difficult to get financial support in cash.

As there will be a referendum on June 23rd, 2016 on the BREXIT, Aysegul Yesildaglar hopes that the UK will stay in the EU, so that it would stay easy for EU residents to enter the country for the conference. The organizers have already invited the Queen. If she refuses, they will ask Prince Harry to attend. That way, they intend to create some public interest for the AEHT and the conference.

Budget and registration fees:

Sami Murtezaoglu, financial manager at DAL admits that prices are still very high due to the choice of hotel in central London, which would however make every venue, if necessary, also accessible by foot.

An advance payment of 20.000 EUR for the hotel and 5.000 EUR for Church House had to be made and thus it would be most difficult to make any changes. Regarding the registration, members could get refunded up to 100% till April 23rd in case of cancellation, however the platform for registration is not open yet, as the Presidium requires that rates should become more affordable.

Current fees are around 650-800 £ (800-1000 EUR), all inclusive. However, with this scenario, the organizers risk to host fewer participants as usually and, consequently, experience a major financial loss.

DAL action plan is as follows:

- finalize the fee structure and the online transfer system for payments
- activate the conference website and inform participants www.aeht2016.london
- Intensify efforts to find sponsors

For any further information, contact: aeht@docklandsacademy.co.uk

Louis Robert, who has organized the AEHT Annual Conference in Luxembourg in 1999, acknowledges that it is very difficult to get cash from sponsors. Therefore, he suggests asking from the suppliers of their partner restaurants vouchers to get supplies for free for the conference. This strategy enabled him to get all the wine for free in 1999.

Aysegul Yesildaglar fears that the prices may not be lowered considering the extensive discussions the Presidium already had with the organizers.

Nuria Montmany appreciates the efforts for setting up the 2016 Annual Conference, but under the current conditions her school will not be able to participate. Aysegul Yesildaglar counts on the National Representatives to persuade headmasters to participate even if prices are higher as usual as the conference is held in one of the most expensive cities in the world.

DAL has an Erasmus charter (for teachers exchanges), which would enable AEHT teachers from schools with an Erasmus charter to benefit from a grant to participate in the conference, if a workshop on the “Erasmus+” programme was to be scheduled.

According to Louis Robert, any schools that have an Erasmus charter and have applied in February (February 1st) for staff/teacher exchanges under action KA103, can get refunded for their teachers’ participation in the AEHT Annual Conference in London. Due to their project and their charter, the Brussels Business Institute (BBI) may now send teachers for 18 months to any eligible country and participating teachers will receive an Erasmus grant for their travel expenses and a daily financial allowance for their subsistence costs. Louis Robert specifies that (as far as he can remember) teachers have to go abroad for at least 2-3 days and staff teaching activities have to last at least 1 week. DAL should designate a person as contact person for all schools interested in this action. However, the organizers would have to issue a specific certificate stipulating the venue, the period, the activities accomplished, for all teachers/staff members and make sure it is signed and stamped by DAL.

15. 2017 Annual Conference in Belgium

Herman Siebens presents the **2017 Annual Conference** organized by the Belgium network of AEHT Hotel and Tourism schools in Ostend. The organizers hired a building by the sea, which may host up to 2000 people and where all the meetings, competitions and ceremonies will be held. As there are currently not enough kitchens available, additional kitchens will be hired as for the Annual Conference in Killarney. Additionally, to make sure that everything runs smoothly; a technician will be present all the time. The organizers will try to include new offers into the programme. There will be at least one new competition on vegetarian cooking. Three to four excursions will be organized per day; such as tours to Gent and Bruges, to Antwerp, to Brussels, and so on. On Friday (the last day), everybody will have to leave the venue to enable the schools of the Belgium network to make all the catering arrangements for the gala dinner. These schools are also in charge of providing the meals during the conference, with 2 different schools cooking every day. The day tour for everybody will be to the trenches around Ypres, where the heaviest battles of World War I were fought as well as to the cemetery, where 150.000 UK soldiers are commemorated. A lot of seminars, workshops, visits to breweries, meetings with chefs of Michelin star restaurants regarding their restaurant management will also be on the programme.

16. Any other business

Arne Larsson will resign on August 1st and thanks everybody for the good time shared together.

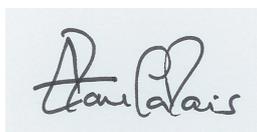
Adrian Gregan will also retire in August and does not know his successor yet. Therefore, Breda Hickey will replace him in the meantime. He is also very grateful for the fruitful time he was able to spend in the AEHT, from a cultural as well as from professional point of view.

Hanna Balushchak from the Ukraine is grateful to be part of the AEHT community and is looking forward to a good cooperation and to participating in as many AEHT events as possible.

17. Date of next Executive Board Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday October 25th, 2016 in London during the 29th AEHT Annual Conference.

Diekirch, April 3rd, 2016



Ana Paula PAIS
AEHT President



Nadine SCHINTGEN
AEHT General Secretary
and Rapporteur/translator

(proofreading: Mia Aouadi, Hotel school of Diekirch; L01)