

ESEH Notepad

President's Message Board

Dear friends and colleagues,

For the first time since the creation of our society, the full ESEH Board met in the interval between two General Meetings. Of course, we have all got used to working by email, but it seemed that a Board like ours, with many new representatives appointed at our Amsterdam conference, needed a less virtual contact. This is why our treasurer, Ulrich Koppitz, kindly organised a meeting in January in Düsseldorf. With one exception, all the Regional Representatives were able to attend. During two intensive days of work, we animatedly discussed several topics. I would like to keep you informed of some important decisions and orientations we took.

ESEH conferences (the last one and the future ones) were the first topic on the agenda. As for the last one, you can refer to the two reports produced by the local organising committee and the scientific committee, which are now on line. Drawing on these reports, guidelines have been developed to assist those who propose to host future conferences – and as a sign of our vitality there are five such candidates for our next conference – as to what our requirements are and to enable them to draw up a strong application. This will enable the Board to make a well informed decision as to the best possible location for our conference. Both the written report and the guidelines will help us to hold even better conferences and to improve on past performance.

Then the Board discussed one by one the topics included in the project plan prepared by the Executive for its coming term. This plan, which you also can see on our website, was adopted unanimously.

The most difficult tasks we have to grasp with in the coming years have been divided amongst board members, either in the form of committees which will work specificallyon one topic, or they have been assigned to individual members. Both will report at our next Board meeting. So we have now duos or trios working on

- the creation of a book series in environmental history (in collaboration with a scholarly publisher),
- the improvement of the financial basis of the society,
- the writing of a revised constitution,

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and individuals responsible for

- the creation of a partnership to establish a Summer School in environmental history,
- the finding of a partner for the re-launching of our bibliographical project,
- the enhancement of ESEH presence as an expert in European political bodies

Some of these developments are already on track, and I am sure I will be able to give you good news of the progress in our next Notepads.

With greetings from Paris, and best wishes to all.

Geneviève Massard-Guilbaud, ESEH president

New login for free online access to Environment and History

The login for the free online access to Environment and History open to ESEH members has changed. Ask the secretary for further information.

European Society for Environmental History

Executive Board:

President: Geneviève Massard-Guilbaud, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en

Sciences Sociales Paris

Vice-President: **Mauro Agnoletti**, *University of Florence* Vice-President: **Petra van Dam**, *VU University Amsterdam* Secretary: **Martin Knoll**, *Technische Universität Darmstadt* Treasurer: **Ulrich Koppitz**, *University of Düsseldorf*

Ex officio:

Poul Holm, Roskilde University

Regional Representatives:

Benelux, Adrian de Kraker, The Netherlands

British Isles, David Moon, England, UK

Czechia & Slovakia. Leoš Jeleček. Czechia

Francophone Countries, Stephane Frioux, France

Germanophone Countries, Christian Rohr, Austria

Hungary, Lajos Racz, Hungary

Iberian Peninsula, Antonio Ortega Santos, Spain

Italy, Simone Neri Serneri, Italy

Nordic Countries, Timo Myllyntaus, Finland

Russia & additional Eastern European Countries, Julia Lajus, Russia

ESEH aims to promote environmental history in Europe, by encouraging and supporting research, teaching and publications in the field. The ESEH maintains its web site at <www.eseh.org>.

Notepad Editor: Martin Knoll

Items for the next Notepad should be sent by 1 July 2008 to the address shown below.

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Online Access to the current volume of Environment and History is free for ESEH members – ask the Secretary for more details.