

IAML's future strategy?

Report from the Strategy Committee

IAML's structure

- Current structure mostly around 60 years old
- Designed for a more formal era
- Postal communication and conference only
- Massively interconnected world now

Centres of control in IAML

- The Board: 8 members, 6 directly elected
- The Council: Chairs of National Branches, (Chairs of Subject Commissions, Branches: their electoral constituencies are dependent on attendance at just one 3-yearly session)
- The General Assembly (GA): all members present are entitled to vote but composition is dependent on attendance and probably biased toward the conference host country
- The entire membership: not easy in the past but we could now use electronic voting

Current IAML governance

- The Board enacts policies defined by the Council or the GA
- Slow process: Council meets twice only in a year — at Conference, GA just once; the Board meets twice at Conference and again mid-year, communicating regularly between these meetings
- Policy change can take years ...

Proposed new structure — Board

- The Board has more autonomy to decide policy within strictly defined limits with the entire membership being consulted as necessary using electronic voting
- Decisions taken are subject to review and might be overruled by the membership at large
- Provision for a defined proportion of the membership to call the Board to account for its decisions

Proposed new structure — Council

- The Council loses its formal voting power but instead takes on a new proactive advisory role — the IAML ‘think-tank’.
- Council’s role is to discuss and formulate policy proposals for the Board by continuous electronic consultation throughout the year.
- Council should be open to proposals from any member as well as through its own constituents.

Proposed new structure — General Assembly

- Might retain the right to vote on contentious issues raised at Conference but such a vote is advisory and indicates a need to consult with the entire membership through an electronic vote

Non-structural considerations I

- Electronic voting for greater membership involvement
- National Branches need to promote issues to their memberships prior to voting
- Subject Commissions and Branches need structural reform or at least redefined remits
- Could Branches and Commissions become more flexible 'Interest Groups'?

Non-structural considerations II

- Digitization issues for instance belong in almost all areas
- More reporting on activities throughout the year through the IAML website
- IAML website should embed automatic translation tools

Non-structural considerations III

- There needs to be more effective and regular communication between National Branches and international IAML
- Engage younger/newer members who might feel too new or unimportant or lacking confidence to volunteer. We all had to start there!

Non-structural considerations IV

- Language considerations. English effectively has become the default language for IAML's international business.
- All three languages retain equal status for conference presentations and publication.
- National branches continue to communicate exactly as they do now.
- The website should encourage other language groups to publish with and abstract in English / French / German

Non-structural considerations V

- IAML's name. Should it change? No clear consensus.
- Fully spelt out in three languages seems rather too much
- Should we simplify to IAML/AIBM ???

Non-structural considerations VI

- Conference. Should it be a day shorter? This might be possible under the proposed new structure.
- Overall supervision by the Programme Committee considered a good thing.
- More training sessions?
- Perhaps programme specialist sessions against more general interest sessions?
- Maybe use ideas such as *World Café* for particular discussion sessions?

Nothing has been decided !

- To be discussed in National Representatives' session on Thursday
- To be discussed in Council on Thursday
- If approved will require constitutional changes to be brought forward at 2013 Vienna

Thank you !

- Let the questions begin. Please introduce yourself!
- A summary for National Representatives will be available at the front after the session
- Comments after the conference to:
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