



MINUTES FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 23 June, and Friday 26 June, 2015

1. Welcome and Apologies

The President, Barbara Dobbs Mackenzie, welcomed everybody to New York and to the General Assembly. This was the first congress without a Council meeting, since Council was abolished in Antwerp the previous year. The General Assembly would therefore be conducted differently from now on. We would concentrate on discussions rather than on reports, many of which had been published on the website ahead of the congress. The Board had discussed in depth how to shape the General Assembly and views on this matter would be very welcome.

2. Matters arising from the minutes of the 2014 General Assembly in Antwerp

The minutes of the 2014 General Assembly in Antwerp were posted on the IAML website and members were notified on IAML-L. There were no matters arising. The minutes were passed with one abstention.

3. In memoriam

Richard Chesser gave a short address in memory of Oliver (Tim) Neighbour, who succeeded Alec Hyatt King as Music Librarian of the British Library in 1976, and who died in January this year, aged 91. He was one of the most important scholar librarians of the second half of the last century. A full obituary can be found in this issue.

4. President's report

The President, Barbara Dobbs Mackenzie, presented papers at two IAML national branch conferences last fall. The Music Libraries Section of the Polish Librarians Association celebrated its 50th anniversary in September in Warsaw. In 1972, this section officially became the Polish National Branch of IAML. The next day, AIBM Deutschland met in Nuremberg and the President gave a paper. The President also presented a paper at the conference *Musica Conservata: The Heritage of Music Conservatories in Italy* at the Florence Conservatory in May.

The IAML Board met for its mid-year meeting on 13 and 14 February in London, hosted by the British Library. One of the items on the packed agenda was the report of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Organizational Structure (Level 2), chaired by Barbara Wiermann (Germany) and John Robert (USA). Other committee members were Bonna Boettcher (USA), Musse Svare (Denmark), and Balázs Mikusi (Hungary), and ex officio members Richard Chesser (UK) and Barbara Dobbs Mackenzie (USA). The final report and proposals were distributed to the membership on IAML-L, 1 May 2015. Other important items on the agenda were the results of the annual conference survey and the survey about Recent Publications in Music, managed by Johan Eeckeloo.

The President thanked the Web team for all their hard work with the website, which had been recently launched: Gabriele Gamba (Webmaster), Antony Gordon (Publications



Committee), Jennifer Ward (Web Editor) and Eric Mortensen (Assistant Web Editor). She especially thanked Jennifer Ward for her Friday News posts and Eric Mortensen for his work with social media.

This year IAML's Outreach funds for attending the congress was directed towards Asia: three librarians from China, one from South Korea, and one from India received financial support. There was an on-going contact with librarians from China during the year and there were several Chinese colleagues among the congress participants. Our host national IAML branch, the Music Library Association (MLA) also generously supported two members from Cuba (unfortunately, last minute visa problems precluded their attendance).

All national representatives were urged to go back to their respective branches and encourage their members to get involved in IAML. The international association needs engagement and support from members at the national level.

Finally the President cordially thanked IAML's Programme Officer, Stanisław Hrabia, for all his work, together with Malena Kuss from the IMS (International Musicological Society), in preparation of a very rich programme. She also recognized the devoted work of the local organizing committee and especially mentioned Jim Cassaro and Jane Gottlieb, co-chairs with her of the Organizing Committee, who worked extremely hard during the last year.

5. Secretary General's report

The Secretary General, Pia Shekhter, met Inger Enquist's successor as IAML's Archivist, Olle Fernau, at the Music and Theatre Library of Sweden in January. He was enthusiastic about taking on this important function of our Association, but was not able to attend the New York Congress.

The day before the mid-year Board meeting in London, the President and the Secretary General visited Eric Cooper, who may be IAML's oldest member. He shared memories going back as far as the early 1950s, but was just as eager to talk about the future of IAML, stressing the importance of advocacy and outreach, etc.

The Secretary General gave information about a couple of exchanges that took place between the German and Swedish IAML branches.

On behalf of the Swedish national branch, she invited Jürgen Diet, President of the German national branch AIBM, to deliver the course *Music in Digital Libraries and Archives* in Gothenburg 7–8 November 2015.

Another member of the German national branch, Katharina Hofmann, Chair of Arbeitsgruppe Musikhochschulbibliotheken within AIBM, spent a week in September at the Gothenburg University Library, Music and Drama Library, within the Erasmus Programme. In return, Pia Shekhter "job shadowed" her for a week in April at the Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt Weimar. The trip to Germany also included visits to other IAML members: Carolin Unger at the ISMN office in Berlin, Michael Fernau with colleagues at the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek in Leipzig, Kristina Funk-Kunath at the Bach-Archiv Leipzig, Barbara Wiermann and her colleagues at the Sächsische Landesbibliothek – Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Dresden, and Anja Goehler at the Hochschule für Musik Carl Maria von Weber in Dresden. The Secretary General explained that she mentioned all these study visits to illustrate what a fantastic Association IAML is with members in all kinds of exciting libraries, archives, and documentation centres.

6. Treasurer's report

The IAML Treasurer, Thomas Kalk, presented his report which can be found following the General Assembly minutes.



7. Honorary membership

John Roberts proposed to the General Assembly that it should award Catherine Massip an honorary membership. The proposal was enthusiastically approved. There were no votes against, but there were two abstentions. The President noted that Catherine Massip had also been elected an honorary member of the IMS (International Musicological Society). The *laudatio* was presented at the Closing Session. John Roberts' *laudatio* in honour of Dr. Massip is printed later in this issue as is her response.

8. Social media and a presentation of IAML's new website

The Web Editor, Jennifer Ward, demonstrated IAML's new website, which was launched a few weeks before the congress. She also introduced our new Assistant Web Editor, Eric Mortenson from the Juilliard School in New York.

9. Fontes Artis Musicae

The Editor of the membership's journal *Fontes Artis Musicae*, Maureen Buja, presented her report:

I normally start this report saying that everything is on schedule. Unfortunately, as many of you have noticed, issue 4 from last year, which should have been in your hands 6 months ago is only now arriving this week. Issue 1 from 2015 is in the mail hot on its tail. Issue 2 is in first proofs, and issue 3 is well on its way to completion.

Issue 4 is always the most difficult to get out because after all the reports are finally in and the issue has been typeset, it then has to go to the indexer, which takes another month. So, this year, issue 4 of 2014 was late. That means that issue 1 of 2015 was late, and issue 2 was late, and issue 3 will be late. The good thing is that issue 4 for 2015, being created at this conference, isn't late yet. But, please get all your reports in on time. Your deadline, as always, is 1 September. Plan now – give me your report now – some reports were already received before this conference and are already up on the website for your reading pleasure.

I'm pleased to report that all of the National Reports were received before this meeting started. That's a perfect outcome for three years in a row and I would like to congratulate all the National Branches for making this happen.

Issue 3 for 2015, which was announced last year as a Special Topics issue on Advocacy, had to be canceled. Accordingly, another Special Topics was created on a short deadline. With some creative input from the Fontes editorial staff, however, we will now have an issue on Archives – namely, "The Archives as Evidence." This will have papers from librarians, archivists, and scholars looking at everything from how an archive is gathered into a library to how different scholars use an archive. We'll look at how archives can change how we consider the stories we know about composers, interesting stories of now-forgotten virtuosos, the scandalous stories behind some of today's respected music firms, and many other things. My charge to the authors was to show how an archive is not a dusty repository of paper and unregarded trifles but is a place where people have left their mark and where librarians and scholars can look to recreate the past.

So, in the interest of getting things out on time and your editor's sanity, please do not miss your 1 September deadline.

Our Advertising Manager reports that this year, we had more ads than we've had for a number of years. We are now running 10–12 ads per year, some of which are paid, and some of which are exchange ads, where we place an ad in their journal in exchange for an ad in our journal.



Our Book Review Editors report that from 2014:3 through 2015:2, we published 32 reviews from 23 reviewers. She also reports that there are 35 books out with reviewers, so if you owe Mary Black or Colin Coleman a review you can check in with them here at the meeting. If you'd like to do reviews, please give your name and contact information to Mary and tell her what you'd like to review. She'll try to match you up with a good book.

Thanks

Our abstract translators this year have been Thomas Kalk for German and Daniel Paradis for French and I would like to thank them for their work. If you are in a position to help, I'm sure that they would appreciate your assistance.

I would like to thank Dr. Stanley Boorman of New York University for taking on the challenges of our annual Index.

Our Ad Manager is Kathleen Haefliger. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who might be interested in helping Kathleen, particularly with European advertisers, so that we can maximize our advertising potential.

I would also like to thank all of the Contributing Editors who have sent in short pieces about new collections, anniversaries, the death of important local members, exhibitions, and anything else that they thought you should know about. If your country doesn't have a Contributing Editor, please see me about being added to the list!

Our column "Recent Publications in Music," which had its beginnings in a hand-list circulated at the annual conference, has now grown into a 190-page list that migrated 5 years ago from the printed page to the IAML website. The 2014 list carried titles from 32 countries, including a new list from Cuba. David Sommerfield and I have been working on the 2015 list. If your country isn't contributing, please see me or David about becoming part of a unique music bibliography.

This is my last report as Editor. Next year's editor, Jim Cassaro, who starts with the 2016 issue, will speak at the next General Assembly

10. RIdIM (Répertoire International d'Iconographie Musicale)

The President of RIdIM, Antonio Baldassarre, presented his report which can be found later in this issue.

11. RILM (Répertoire International de Littérature Musicale)

The Editor in Chief, Barbara Dobbs Mackenzie, presented her report which can be found later in this issue.

12. RIPM (Répertoire International de la presse musical)

The Director of RIPM, Robert Cohen, presented his report which can be found later in this issue.

13. RISM (Répertoire International des Sources Musicales)

The Director of the RISM Zentralredaktion, Klaus Keil, presented his report which can be found later in this issue.

14. Discussion of the proposed changes to the organizational structure (Level 2)

The President reminded everybody about the remit of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Organizational Structure (Level 2):



“to carry out a critical review of the current system of commissions, professional branches, committees and other permanent groups within IAML and to establish consistent terms of reference for each group. The committee should consult widely with the IAML membership and report regularly on its progress to the Board and the General Assembly. It should complete its work in time for the final terms of reference to be presented for approval by the General Assembly in 2016.”

She then called upon the Co-Chairs of the Committee, John Roberts and Barbara Wiermann, to lead the discussion of the Committee’s Report, which was published on the IAML website and can be found in this issue following the Treasurer’s report. Barbara Wiermann presented the proposals offered in the Report.

John Roberts commented on the thoughts behind the proposals. The idea was to retain IAML’s present structure, but to clarify the nature and purpose of different kinds of groups. He pointed out two significant changes in the text of the resolutions. The first had to do with the proposed naming or renaming of groups. There had been many different opinions expressed by IAML’s members about this and the Ad-Hoc Committee therefore had adopted a working terminology, but the particular terminology would be discussed later in connection with the revision of the Constitution. The second change was that, at the request of the Copyright Committee, it will continue to be a committee and not be changed into a commission, as was suggested in the report. John Roberts pointed out that what was presented so far was a draft document that could be changed before the voting on Friday.

A discussion of each motion followed [SG’s note: motions – see item 17 on the agenda].

Jim Cassaro expressed his opinion that IAML’s goals should have been the starting point of the discussions about the organizational structure – strategy first and structure after. He would have liked to see more significant changes. We should focus on broader issues that affect our way of working and collaboration between different groups.

Richard Chesser, a member of the Ad-Hoc Committee, replied that a complete revision of the organizational structure was considered when we began this process, but that the IAML membership had decided to undertake a revision of the present structure instead.

Barbara Wiermann pointed out that the work of the Forum of Commissions and Professional Branches was an example of the type of collaboration Jim Cassaro was asking for. The same topic could be relevant for more than one group, but looked upon from different angles. The matter of digitization has different implications for a conservatoire and a research library, for example.

Gerry Ostrove questioned whether or not we still need professional branches now when the borders between different types of libraries have become blurred. John Roberts answered that some professional branches are more distinctive than others, for example the Public Libraries Branch, which has a specific set of problems. Another such example was the Broadcasting and Orchestra Libraries Branch. There was a benefit for these members to get together.

Regarding Motion IV, Robert Cohen suggested a more precise formulation about when the Secretary General should solicit nominations [SG’s note: the motion was changed from “several months” to “at least six months” in the final draft].

Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi proposed that the membership of the subcommissions should be fixed to be effective. John Roberts replied that the word “normally” in the sentence “Commissions and professional branches should remain open to all as in the past,





as would normally their subordinate bodies” provided for the possibility for a subcommission to have fixed membership if it was appropriate to its function.

15. Report of the Forum of National Representatives

Johan Eeckeloo, the Vice-President who chaired the Forum of National Representatives, made a report of the meeting. Twenty-one representatives of national branches and seven delegates of countries without a national branch attended the meeting. One of the topics on the agenda was the Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee of Organizational Structure (Level 2). No substantial remarks had been made. Another topic discussed was the result of the survey on Recent Publications in Music. It was a matter for this Forum to discuss since the bibliography is built on the contributions from individual countries. Jon Bagüés reported on the Working Group for Access to Music Archives. The Secretary General had announced that she needed more volunteers for translations into French and German. Finally Musse Svare, the representative of the Danish Branch, led a discussion around a list with ten items compiled by members of the Scandinavian and Baltic countries. The issues mainly dealt with the relationship between the national branches and the international organization. A survey will be sent out to all National Representatives during the year.

16. Report of the Forum of Commissions and Professional Branches

The Programme Officer, Stanisław Hrabia, gave a summary of the work during the year.

The programme had been prepared in close cooperation between IAML and IMS (International Musicological Society). The IAML Forum of Commissions and Professional Branches, chaired by Stanisław Hrabia, and the IMS Programme Committee, chaired by Malena Kuss, Vice-President of IMS, were the two bodies responsible for the result, which was a truly joint congress.

There had been many high quality proposals from both organizations with a strong focus on the theme *Music Research in the Digital Age*. Papers were presented on new methods and tools for documentation, research and representation of music, and on the impact of technology on the development of libraries (IAML). There were also papers on digital musicology and on the impact of technology on musical culture and musicological research (IMS). The final programme consisted of seventy three sessions with more than two hundred papers. There were also twenty six working meetings and study groups and twenty poster sessions.

This was the first year in which the IAML Programme Committee worked officially as the Forum of Commissions and Professional Branches. In addition to the responsibility of creating the programme for IAML’s congresses the Forum now also functioned as an advisory body to the Board. The Co-Chairs of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Organizational Structure (Level 2), John Roberts and Barbara Wiermann, were invited to the Forum on Thursday during the Congress week. Stanisław Hrabia reported that the members of the Forum fully supported the proposal of the Ad-Hoc Committee and looked forward to further cooperation. The Forum also invited the two Co-Chairs of the Organization Committee for IAML’s congress in Rome in 2016, Federica Riva (Florence) and Anna-Lisa Bini (Rome).

Stanisław Hrabia thanked the members of the Forum, the Co-Chairs of the Organizing Committee Jim Cassaro, Barbara Dobbs Mackenzie and Jane Gottlieb, the Secretary General and all speakers, poster presenters and chairs.





The President, Barbara Dobbs Mackenzie, in return thanked Stanisław Hrabia for successfully completing the gigantic task of putting together such a complex programme.

17. Voting on the proposed changes to the organizational structure (Level 2)

The President made a summary of the discussion held on Tuesday and read out the terms of reference (SG's note: see item 14) of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Organizational Structure (Level 2). She recapitulated the process so far and explained who had the right to vote. The report was shared with the Board before the mid-year meeting in February, and with the membership on May 1st and some discussion among members had taken place on IAML-L before the congress.

John Roberts and Barbara Wiermann read the motions, which were discussed and voted on one by one.

Motion 1:

IAML should maintain the three basic types of permanent group it has now. The scope and function of each type of group should be more fully defined in the Constitution. It should make clear that the role of a commission or professional branch may extend beyond participation in the planning of congress sessions and encompass other activities, strategic as well as operational. The Committee will consider further whether it is desirable to change the present terms "commission" and "professional branch", for example to "subject division" and "institutional division".

There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion 2:

The Constitution should be expanded to allow for the establishment of permanent subgroups under the auspices of commissions, professional branches, or committees to address narrowly defined issues of ongoing importance as opposed to carrying out finite projects like a working group. Such subgroups would need to be integrally involved in the work of the parent body, reporting regularly during congress sessions and online. They would be created on recommendation of the parent body to the Board and require approval by the General Assembly. If attached to commissions or professional branches, they would provisionally be called "study groups"; any subordinate body of a committee would be a "subcommittee".

Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi pointed out that some groups officially represent IAML to other organizations and should therefore be given more independence from the parent body and as a consequence more responsibility. He suggested an alternative wording of the motion. John Roberts suggested that the discussion should be postponed until the following spring when the character and function of each group would be discussed. Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi accepted this and there was no further discussion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion 3:

Commissions and professional branches should remain open to all as in the past, as would normally their subordinate bodies. However, each group would be required to create a system for interactive online communication between congresses (e.g. via e-mail, blog) in which anyone would be free to join. Subcommittees, like committees, would have fixed memberships.

The motion was passed with one abstention.





Motion 4:

Officers of commissions and professional branches should continue to be elected at the congress sessions in the year after the Board elections. To make the process more open and transparent, the Secretary General should solicit nominations for these positions at least six months before the elections and maintain a list of current nominees on the IAML website. Chairs of all subordinate bodies should be appointed by the Board in consultation with the chair of the parent group.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion 5:

For the time being, IAML should retain its four existing commissions: Audio-Visual Materials, Bibliography, Cataloguing, and Service and Training. In formulating the terms of reference of each group, consideration should be given to re-naming it or re-defining its purpose, in coordination with other permanent groups. Proposals for such changes should originate with the group in question, but would require Board and General Assembly approval. It would be possible at later congresses to add one or more new commissions or professional branches, but great care should be taken to ensure that their functions do not significantly overlap with those of any existing groups.

The motion was passed with four abstentions.

Motion 6

The Constitution and Rules of Procedure should be revised to include fuller generic descriptions of the types of group and require that each group have terms of reference approved by the General Assembly. Brief terms of reference for the individual groups would be embodied in a separate document, avoiding unnecessary repetition of the generic descriptions in the Constitution and Rules of Procedure and any information that is subject to frequent change. This document could be revised as needed by a simple vote of the General Assembly. Each group should have its own web page, listing current officers and committee members, giving instructions on how to participate in a particular commission or professional branch, and describing the group's current activities and initiatives. This web page would be kept up to date by the chair or other officer of the group.

Gerry Ostrove suggested that this would require certain technical skills from the Chairs. It would be better to assign the task to the webmaster. John Roberts replied that we were dealing with a significant number of groups. It would be onerous for one person to take on the work by him- or herself. Hopefully one of the officers of a group would have the necessary skills. Otherwise somebody else could be appointed. The main point was that the officers of a commission, professional branch or committee would be fully responsible for the content of its web page.

Nienke de Boer asked if the webpage would be attached to the IAML website and if there would be any templates to follow. John Roberts replied that these pages would be a part of the IAML website and that some type of guide would have to be developed.

The motion was passed. There were four abstentions.

The President concluded by saying that IAML had passed yet another milestone. She congratulated everybody and thanked John Roberts, Barbara Wiermann, and the other Committee members for their hard work. The next step would be to draft any necessary changes to the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure. The terms of reference would be formulated in consultation with the chairs of each group.





18. The Publications Committee

The Chair of the Publications Committee, Joseph Hafner, reported on the work since the conference in Antwerp last year. The main activities of the committee had been preparing the new IAML website and planning for the next steps of *Fontes Artis Musicae* and *Recent Publications in Music*. Johan Eeckeloo was thanked for conducting the membership survey on the latter. The result had been published on the IAML website and discussed during the congress week.

Joseph Hafner continued by thanking every member of the web team individually for all their efforts with the new website and social media. He also thanked the members of the Publications Committee for their work during the year.

The Publications Committee had been focusing its work on providing electronic access to *Fontes Artis Musicae*. An application to have the journal included in Project MUSE had been submitted and we would know by the end of the summer whether or not it had been accepted. The advantages of Project MUSE would be that Project MUSE would format the journal for online access and that PM could also generate revenue for IAML. Joseph Hafner reported that MLA earned a substantial amount of money from Project MUSE – more than from JSTOR. The latest issues would be available for IAML members on the website and those who wished to do so would be able to opt out of receiving the printed version (such an option would soon come independently on a contract with MUSE).

Joseph Hafner finished his report by thanking the Editor of *Fontes Artis Musicae*, Maureen Buja, who was completing her tenure this year after ten years in service. She had successfully ensured the regular publication of the membership journal with many interesting articles and special issues. Maureen Buja was given a round of applause. Jim Cassaro will be the next Editor. He had started to plan the issues for 2016 and looking at ideas about the design and style of the journal.

After the report Joseph Hafner invited the attendees to discuss the proposal to sign a contract with Project MUSE. The Board needed the approval of the General Assembly before signing any contract.

The President clarified that individual members would be able to log in to the website for free access to online issues of *Fontes*. Institutional members would either continue to receive the journal in print or through MUSE, EBSCO, JSTOR or any other platform. The aim was to offer the online version through the website for all types of IAML members in the future.

Barbara Wiermann proposed that the journal should be open access. Joseph Hafner responded that this could be something to consider for the future. It was, however, a balancing act since IAML is supported by membership dues. If *Fontes* was to be freely available IAML would run the risk of losing members and income.

Robert Cohen suggested that IAML should consult an attorney in connection to contractual matters. The President replied that this was something for the Board to follow up on.

Federica Riva thought that there ought to have been a written proposal disseminated to the members in advance of the meeting. There must be an ongoing dialogue between the General Assembly and the Board otherwise there was a risk of having only formal discussions at the meeting.

Gerry Ostrove agreed with Federica Riva and thought that the Board was rushing into a decision. She wanted to see a draft of the contract before she felt able to vote.

Jim Cassaro replied that the contracts from Project MUSE were standardized. It would be difficult for IAML to move forward if the General Assembly had to read every contract





before the Board could sign them. If the decision about Project MUSE was postponed until the congress in Rome next year IAML would lose royalties.

Robert Cohen suggested a provisional contract of eighteen months.

Nienke de Boer stated that she supported the suggestion.

The motion was “to approve the Board pursuing a contract with Project MUSE as we have outlined.”

The General Assembly approved the motion with eight votes against and nineteen abstentions.

19. Elections

IAML holds elections for the Board every third year. The coming elections for a President-Elect and four Vice-Presidents would take place during the coming spring. Three Vice-Presidents have finished their two terms and must be replaced. One Vice-President is eligible for reelection, but the President is not.

Every member of the Association has the right to nominate candidates. The Board will encourage nominations reflecting the diversity of the Association’s membership. Nominations with a letter of consent from the candidates + CVs and photos should be sent to the Secretary General and would be published in advance on the IAML website. We would hold electronic elections as in 2013 and the voting would take place in May. More information and instructions on how to use the voting software would be disseminated in early 2016.

20. Highlights from reports

The President thanked all officers of IAML’s professional branches, subject commissions, committees, joint commissions, and working groups for their work throughout the year, and for their reports on the IAML website or given during the congress. She also encouraged other members to get involved. The Advocacy Committee, for example, was seeking new members.

At the conference in Antwerp last year a Conference Committee was established to be chaired by Antony Gordon. It was composed of three representatives from the immediate past conferences and representatives of approved future conferences with the Secretary General ex officio. The remit of the Committee was “the sharing of information to ease the set-up for future conference organizers. It will take ownership of the guidelines for conference organizers. Future plans include investigating the possibility of setting up a framework for conference micro sites within the IAML website and a generic payment system”. During the year it became clear to the Committee itself that the mission would be better handled by the Secretary General and the Programme Officer in collaboration. The proposal was therefore put forward to dissolve the Conference Committee. The proposal passed with two abstentions.

21. Topics for discussion

There were no topics for discussion proposed in advance of the General Assembly. The President urged the members to pay attention in the future to the requests for agenda items made by the Secretary General. This was especially important now when there was no Council meeting during the congress week.



**22. Any matters arising during the week**

There were no matters brought up.

Robert Cohen expressed a gratitude to the Congress Organizers, who were given a round of applause.

23. Any other business

The President announced that Pia Shekhter, in her capacity as Secretary General of IAML, had been appointed by the Board as IAML's official liaison to IMC (International Music Council).

24. Future congresses

The Secretary General reported that IAML had received applications for two future IAML congresses.

The national branch in Latvia would like to welcome us to Riga on 18 to 23 June 2017, finishing the week with a Midsummer celebration. The venue would be the astonishing newly inaugurated National Library.

The second application came from the national branch in Germany inviting IAML to Leipzig in 2018. The organizers have not specified the dates, but it will probably take place the third or fourth week in August.

The Board found both applications solid and happily recommended that the General Assembly should accept the invitations. The invitations were unanimously approved.

25. Next meeting

The Secretary General invited everybody to the next General Assembly, which would take place in Rome on Tuesday 5 July and on Friday 8 July.

Matters arising after the 2015 annual IAML meeting from the minutes of the 2014 Council Meeting in Antwerp, published in *Fontes Artis Musicae* 2014:4

The President of the Italian branch, Federica Riva, thought it important that those who have the responsibility of running some of IAML's activities (e.g., presidents of national branches, chairs of commission and professional branches) are not excluded from the right to vote on the association's business. She also felt that taking away the voting rights of national branch presidents changes the structure of IAML from an international association of nations to an international association of individuals.

Richard Chesser, speaking as head of the Constitution Reform Committee, replied that the change would not damage the individual national branches: If individual members can vote, each branch will have more representation than if just their presidents voted. Federica Riva explained that her concerns were rather that the risk would be that the voice of countries with small branches would not be loud enough. Moreover it would be more difficult for individuals to speak in the General Assembly than to speak in a smaller Council meeting.

