

Minutes of the Members Meeting of the Baltic Sea Academy on 16th November 2011

Venue: Polish Craft Association
14, Miodowa Street
00-246 Warsaw

Date: 16th November 2011, 14:30 – 17:30

1. Ewa Ciuk, Hanseatic Academy of Management
2. Władysław Pędziwiatr, Hanseatic Academy of Management
3. Uwe Schaumann, Hamburg University of Corporate Education
4. Joachim von Kiedrowski, Hamburg University of Corporate Education
5. Ekaterina Skurikhina, St. Petersburg State University
6. Romualdas Ginevicius, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University
7. Irena Navickiene, Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences
8. Chetyrbock Natallia, Brest State Technical University
9. Andrei Prarouski, Brest State Technical University
10. Elena Viktorova, Saint-Petersburg State University of Service and Economies
11. Renata Przygodzka, University of Bialystok
12. Adam Wyszkowski, University of Bialystok
13. Marzena Grzesiak, Gdansk University of Technology
14. Marzena Starnawska, Gdansk University of Technology
15. Per Odenrick, Lund University
16. Piotr Szybek, Lund University
17. Trond Age Langvik, University College of Østfold
18. Sirpa Sandelin, Satakunta University of Applied Sciences
19. Kenneth Dawn, Lund University
20. Vytas Navickas, Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences
21. Elina Priedulena, Hanseatic Parliament



The annual Members Meeting was held on the 16th of November with 9 out of 14 members of the Baltic Sea Academy. Participating were also two interested universities that applied for membership as well as university college from Norway as a guest. Overall, 21 participants took part in this meeting.

At the beginning the chairman of the Baltic Sea Academy Max Hogeforster cordially welcomes all participants and presents the agenda. He points out, that after the formal invitation, no additional agenda items were asked for by the members.

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Formality, Quorum
3. Fiscal year, approval of board
4. Activities
5. New Members
6. AOB
7. Presentations/future work

1. Introduction

Following the round of introduction by the participants, Max Hogeforster presents the recently published , 4th book of the BSA book series titled “Energy Efficiency and climate protection around the “Mare Balticum”” and distributes it to the Members of the organization.

2. Formality, Quorum

Max Hogeforster gives an overview about the statutes of BSA, the Preamble, and Charter, conditions of general meeting and list of members.

It is noted that the members' meeting was convened properly and on time. A duly called general meeting is quorate if at least a third of the members entitled to vote are represented. The presence of 9 out of 14 members is noted. The existence of a quorum has been verified and the members meeting of the BSA is able to make formal decisions.

3. Fiscal year 2010, approval of board

Max Hogeforster summarizes the financial activities of the year 2010 of the BSA. Since the BSA did not make any expenditure nor had any income in 2010, the balance is zero euros. The work of the BSA so far was financed within the BSR QUICK project that is part-financed by the EU (European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). The fiscal year 2010 is approved unanimously.

Next the member’s meeting approves the board unanimously.

Max Hogeforster expresses his thanks to the Board, Vice-Chairwoman Sirpa Sandelin and Vice-Chairman Prof. Dr. Ginvevicius (Paljon kiitoksia!/Labai achiu!) the representatives of Finland and Lithuania.

4. Activities

Max Hogeforster presents the different activities of BSA:

1. Work within BSR QUICK
 - a. Creation of Business and Investment Plans
 - b. Cluster Studies
 - c. Survey Innovation needs
 - d. Work book for “Creative Development of Personnel and Organization for Innovation in SME in the Baltic Sea Region (a QUICK-product by Lund University and Gdansk University of Technology)
 - e. other

Until now the publications are printed in either two languages (English and German) or four languages (English, German, Polish and Russian). Max Hogeforster proposes to publish them just in English in the long term. All participants agree to this proposal.

Moreover, the next question was where the books can be ordered from. BSA publications are available in the internet, but members of the BSA can directly order their copies without any charges at the BSA itself. It was discussed, if some articles can be published on the internet as well and decided that this is possible, if the authors agree to that. Regarding downloading several articles as PDF files in internet Max Hogeforster mentions that it is mostly complicated because the publication or not publication in internet of such articles depends from author.

2. PR and Dissemination were presented and discussed
 - a. flyer
 - b. web presence
 - c. conferences
 - d. Book series

3. New Projects

Career and Study Advice by Means of Vocational Navigator

Besides the project by the national German Research Ministry to start the BSA, a second application was submitted successfully: The project application of the Vocational Navigator has been approved and rated very high, but it was decided to not carry out this project due to financial reasons: it has been required to deposit a bank guarantee that would cost up to

30.000 EUR since the BSA is a rather young organization with no income yet. These financial costs are not eligible and the Chairman Max Hogeforster was reluctant to put the BSA in a debt of 30.000 EUR. . However, the Lithuanian members have a strong interest in this project and their application could be submitted in Lithuania in February 2012. The BSA will help with the application and setting up the partnership.

FP7 (Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development) of the European Union

BSA is generally interested in FP7 projects. Regarding research for SMEs the FP7 has a strong focus on technical solutions. Since the BSA is more interest in organizational processes and less on technical research, it is difficult to find the right call. Per Odenrick informed, that the new research framework “Horizon 2020”, starting in 2013, will most likely focus less on technical solutions only.



5. New Members

Two universities from Poland request to join the BSA as members

- Gdansk University of Technology (Polytechnica Gedanensis)
- University of Bialystok (Universitas Bialostocensis)

Marzena Starnawska from Gdansk University and Renata Przygodzka from University of Bialystok represent briefly their institutions:

- Gdansk University was historical founded in the time of German Empire. Today, about 30 000 students are studying in 9 faculties. It is one of the top universities in Poland. It allocates on the top of the university rankings in Poland as well. They are working internationally and innovatively.
- The University of Bialystok is a relatively young and very dynamic university at the same time. Although it was founded just 15 years ago, it has already 10 faculties and increasing numbers of students every year. Today, about 14 000 young people are studying there.

After their presentation all 9 Members voted unanimously to accept the new members, so that from now on, there is a total of 16 members.

Subsequently, the participants discuss about the cooperation with universities outside of the Baltic Sea Region and the possibility of becoming a member of the BSA. The question arose along the interest of collaboration from the Universities of Newcastle in the UK and Ghent in Belgium.

Conclusion of discussion was that the BSA members are open to cooperate with other universities outside the Baltic Sea region. They expect a transfer of ideas and an exchange of experience through such cooperation. However the focus should stay on the Baltic Sea Region, other universities could be cooperation partner.

6. AOB

There were no further requests.

7. Presentations/future work

The participants were asked to answer the following questions as soon as possible and send their results per e-mail to the secretariat, in order to put the information in the Intranet of the BSA.

1. What are you currently working on in your faculty in relation to SMEs?
2. What should be the future focus of this cooperation, FP7, Innovation solutions, education programmes and exchange of experience?
3. What would you be most interested in?
4. What kind of research do you want to do?

As there were no further requests the meeting was closed.

For the minutes: Elina Priedulena

Hamburg, 28 November 2011