

★ EURA The EuRApean

ACTIVITIES UPDATE April/May 2010

The build up to the conference is always the busiest time for the EuRA team, but no one could have known quite how much work is involved in having to cancel it.

But life goes on and although we did not get to meet this year, we will be reunited in Palma next year, volcano's notwithstanding.

A lot of EuRA business that should have been sorted out at the Palma AGM will now be dealt with in Frankfurt on Wednesday June 9th, in the Intercontinental Hotel, where we held our 2008 Members' Day. We're trying to arrange for a preferential room rate for any members who would like to stay in the city. The IC is a short 10 minute walk from the main railway station, where trains link every 10 minutes to the airport, where the WERC conference will be taking place in the Sheraton Frankfurt Hotel and Towers on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th June. We thank WERC for their support.

One of the changes that we were to bring to your attention, is a decision by the council to re-appoint Helmut Berg and Kathryn Andrews as President and Vice President for one further year respectively. This is so that we can work on restructuring the council to be both more representative and stable over the coming years. When the council was reduced in number from 12, to 8 in 2005, one consequence which was not foreseen was how much of an impact this would have on the destabilisation of the voting process. As council members serve three year terms, the number of council members must be a factor of three, for the elections to be consistent. For example, we want to ensure that in each year, only three council members will be up for either re-election or for a new member to join the council from a particular region. This is vital for the effective functioning of the council as new members need time to adapt to their new role and to be mentored by existing council members.

In order to get back to a system where this will work, we are planning to add a representative from a newly created region, East. This will increase the representation within EuRA from a growing region, and will also bring the council to nine members; the vital figure which brings us back to a factor of three. This will be discussed in detail at the AGM.

After the AGM we will be holding a drinks reception for any members who would like to join us. There is no charge but we do ask that you fill in and fax back a booking form so that we can know our numbers in advance. This is on the website under the training and events tab.

Now we are trying to make up some of the things that didn't get delivered in Palma, such as the EuRA Quality Seal training and Day Two of the Fundamentals Training. The EQS training will be a series of three 2 hour webinars, on the 25th, 26th and 27th May 2010, each taking place from 10:00-12:00 CET. The Fundamentals Part Two will take place in June as four one hour webinars. First priority will be given to anyone who was booked for these sessions in Palma. There will be no charge for Palma delegates. These sessions will also be run again next year, but the content, especially for the EQS training changes each year as a result of the annual review. Full details of dates and times will be on the website shortly.

We will be holding a reception alongside WERC Seattle on Thursday October 28th. The venue will be confirmed shortly, but bookmark the date.

We look forward to seeing you at either of these events, or if not, then in Palma next year!