

**ASIBA**  
**(Association des Sections Internationales**  
**Britanniques et Anglophones)**

Association régie par la Loi du 1<sup>er</sup> juillet 1901  
Siège social : 36 rue du Président Wilson, 78230 Le Pecq sur Seine

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**ECOLE ACTIVE BILINGUE PARIS**

**Monday JUNE 3<sup>rd</sup> 2002**

Active Members (voting)

Peter Woodburn (Ferney-Voltaire)  
Association ALA-ELP

Glenys Kennedy (Fontainebleau)  
Association des Parents d'Elèves de la Section  
Anglophone du Collège International (Fontainebleau)

Ivan Karaivanov (EAB Etoile)

Philip Shaw-Latimer (Saint-Germain)  
Association des Parents d'Elèves de la Section Britannique  
du Lycée d'Etat International à Saint-Germain-en-Laye

Patrick Salmon (Sèvres)  
Sections Internationales de Sèvres

Participating and Honorary Members (non-voting):

Association des Parents d'Elèves de la Section  
Anglophone du Lycée Honoré de Balzac

David Gage

In attendance (non member):

Neil Joyce (Parents' association Reims)

Absent excused:

Donna Galiana-Philip (Lyon)  
Association des Parents d'Elèves de la Section Anglophone de la Cité Scolaire Internationale  
de Lyon

Represented by:

Peter Woodburn

Glenys Kennedy

Magdalena Martin

Judy Cellier  
Judy Cellier

Perri Piens

The President opened the meeting at 10.30.

## **1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was unanimously approved.

## **2. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF ASSEMBLY**

This point was removed as being unnecessary, Peter WOODBURN (President of the Association) being empowered to chair the meeting in accordance with Article 19.1 of the Articles of the Association (*Statuts*).

## **3. PRESIDENT and VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The meeting addressed the issues raised in this report.

### Section One :

Perri PIENS (Honoré de Balzac) reminded the meeting of the importance of creating direct contacts between members of the Parents' Associations of ASIBA member schools. It was agreed that a complete list of Parent representatives be drawn up and circulated among members, together with an updated list of web sites and e-mail addresses of schools and sections.

Neil JOYCE (Reims) asked for clarification of the legality of ASIBA.

M. GUILLE (Proviseur Grenoble) had raised this question with both the DRIC and the relevant legal services and was still awaiting an official reply.

Philip Shaw-Latimer (St Germain) commented that it would always be difficult for Provisseurs of State Schools, who are French State Civil Servants, to be members of an Association such as ASIBA. At best they could be present only as « guests ».

The meeting was reminded that the Proviseur of Aix-Luynes had expressed some interest in the Association (« cordially cautious »). The idea was raised of possibly inviting Provisseurs of State Schools to be present at a future meeting of ASIBA.

### Section Two:           The OIB 'crisis'

Various questions were raised and discussed :

- Could ASIBA work towards collaboration with other international examination partners ?
- Should there be closer collaboration with other national groups within the OIB 'family' ?
- Do pressure groups similar to ASIBA exist in other national sections ? (No).
- What are the main lines of French Ministry plans for the future of the OIB ?

On this last, crucial point, Philip Shaw-Latimer felt that the Ministry was, no doubt, essentially interested in lessening the many administrative problems posed by the OIB. Discussions would be continued « after the elections ».

The meeting was reminded that the DRIC has stressed that there will be consultation on the future of the examination.

The question was raised whether this consultation would be essentially with the Ministry's British partners. It was felt that other national groups did not demonstrate the same level of concern for the future of the exam (different status, role of teaching staff etc).

Section Three: Mid-term future of the OIB

The President stressed his view that, as far as the mid-term future of the exam is concerned, ASIBA has an important role to play.

Section Four: Importance of the OIB for the French

It was pointed out that DESCO is a central administrative unit and plays an important role in decision making.

Neil Joyce (Reims) talked of links with French further education and informed the meeting of the situation of the Reims Management School.

Section Five: Communicating the achievement of the OIB

Philip Shaw-Latimer (St Germain) stressed the importance of this issue.

It was suggested that OIB students entering the programme in Première should be encouraged to consult the relevant web sites and share information about the examination and its success.

The meeting felt that ASIBA should continue to pursue closer contacts with British Schools of Education, encouraging in-depth studies with the aim of strengthening interest in bilingual, bicultural education.

Interest was expressed in the idea of encouraging a European study of how education systems such as those in France and Great Britain ascertain the skills which they are training their students to acquire.

Section Six: Fund-raising: the problems

Neil Joyce was given confirmation that there is no UK government funding available for the OIB and the International Sections.

The meeting was reminded that the texts governing the International Sections stipulate that, in the absence of government funding, Parents' Associations are empowered to provide funds necessary for the operations of the Sections.

Section Seven: Fund-raising : ASIBA's current view

St Germain informed the meeting that they had been unsuccessful in obtaining funding for the OIB from the Rectorat de Versailles (despite the fact that other Rectorats have consistently given such help to other examination centres).

Philip Shaw-Latimer pointed out the absolute need for an audit of costs incurred in all 4 examination centres in France.

The DRIC has been given a breakdown of the total costs for the St Germain centre. There is a need to show for each centre exactly where all monies come from.

St Germain feels it is vital to continue to put pressure on the Rectorat de Versailles, pointing out that the British Section in St Germain is virtually paying twice for the OIB – by contributing to ASIBA and by paying for the administration of the examination in the St Germain centre.

The question of private fund-raising was discussed. It was pointed out that this was one of the original ideas behind the creation of ASIBA, when it was feared that after Cambridge withdrew its initial level of support from the OIB, costs for the examination would remain at their initial high level.

The future structure of OIB administration should result in some reduction in costs.

The meeting was reminded that the issue of fund-raising is an extremely sensitive one in France but also that the notion that ASIBA might be obliged to step in to help with moderator hotel costs had been useful in encouraging the French authorities to help with OIB funding.

It was, once again, clearly stated that private funding should never be used to pay for direct examination costs.

Various ideas were explored considering the use of privately-raised funds for other aspects of the OIB operation :

- paying costs for a representative from British Schools of Education to come to discuss the idea of an academic study of bilingual, bicultural education
- paying costs for teachers to attend meetings and workshops aimed at encouraging initiatives directly linked with development of the OIB

**The meeting agreed that the new Bureau would be given the specific task of examining the issue of fund-raising with regard to aspects other than that of direct funding for the examination.**

It is vital clearly to define the guidelines setting out the use to which such privately-raised funds would be put, stressing aspects such as research and development and excluding direct examination funding.

Point eight: Membership of ASIBA

The Association must continue to encourage membership by other Sections.

The idea was raised of exploring a European-wide network of contacts with other Sections. The meeting agreed that this would be a stimulating, but extremely demanding, task to undertake.

The ASIBA web-site must be closely examined by the new Bureau.

#### **4. TREASURER's REPORT**

The Treasurer circulated documents showing the current bank balance of 983 € It was pointed out that there had been very little expenditure to date.

The accounts for the period (statement of income and expenditure) included in the Treasurer's Report were unanimously approved by the meeting.

The meeting was asked, on behalf of the Board, to consider raising full membership dues to €100 per year.

The meeting felt that such an increase might be considered excessive and unanimously agreed to raise the annual membership fee to €85 for active and associated members.

These dues will be paid in December 2002.

#### **5. ELECTION OF NEW DIRECTORS**

The meeting noted that the mandate of each Director expires with this Annual General Meeting and the following (being active members) were, in accordance with Article 10.1 in the *Statuts*, unanimously re-elected / elected as Directors for a one-year term expiring on the Annual General Meeting to be held in 2003:

Peter WOODBURN	Ferney-Voltaire
Magdalena MARTIN	St Germain
Donna GALIANA-PHILIPS	Lyon
Glenys KENNEDY	Fontainebleau
Ivan KARAIVANOV	Ecole Active Bilingue Paris
Philip SHAW-LATIMER	St Germain
Paddy SALMON	Sèvres

It was noted that the election or re-election of members other than active members was within the powers reserved to the Board; in this context David Gage expressed his willingness to stand for re-election.

There being no other business, the President closed the meeting at 12.45.

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Peter Woodburn  
President

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Glenys Kennedy  
Secretary