

Report ENICPA meeting Trieste, Italy

11th of April 2002 at Camera di Commercio

13th of April 2002 at Centro Congressi Stazione Marittima

Attending: Luciano Brogi and Alessandro Marconi (IALS, Italy), Johanna Laakkonen (Finnish Dance Information Centre, Finland), Kira Ravinskaya and Catherine Boothman (The Arts Council, Ireland), Riitta Seppälä (Finnish Theatre Information Centre, Finland), Thomas Engel (iTl, Germany), Cécile Hamon (Centre National du Théâtre, France), Dries Moreels (Vlaams Theater Instituut), Tomaz Toporisic and Jana Pavlic (DELAK, Slovenia), Laurent Sebillotte (Centre National de la Danse, France), Maddalena Rusconi, Cristina Favaro and Laura Corazza (Fondazione Fitzcarraldo, Italy), Susana Neves (IPAE), Kees Vuyk and Bianca de Waal (Theater Instituut Nederland, The Netherlands)

1. Presentation database

Johanna Laakkonen presented the database of the Finnish Dance Information Centre <http://www.danceinfo.fi>. This relational database is in Finnish and English and contains data about dancers, choreographers, productions, companies, articles specially written for the database and photo's.

Like in every country, there are problems with copyrights on the photo's. To try to solve this problem the Finnish Dance Information Centre made contracts for an agreement between the photographers and the companies to arrange that companies pay a bit more for the photo's in the beginning, but that the information centre is allowed to use them afterwards.

The database is already used by the companies to make programs and by the artists to make cv's. The artists pay € 17 a year to feature in the database.

The program of the database is called 'soap' and is available for free. For those who are interested contact Johanna.

2. Financial overview 2001 and budget 2002

The Financial overview 2001 and budget 2002 were presented and will be sent to the members together with the report.

3. Legal Matters

Cécile Hamon and Dries Moreels proposed some changes on the statutes and these were agreed on by the meeting. The changes will be mailed to the members together with the report.

Cécile proposed to pass on her function as treasurer to Dries Moreels. The members agreed and thanked Cécile for her work.

4. Website improvements

Alessandro demonstrated the new tools on the update area of the website.

There's now a chat room, a forum, a members mailing list and a self-update form.

In the near future there will be a storage area for documents on funding systems, cultural policy, copyrights etc. per country. There will also be a storage area for ENICPA documents in the update area.

5. Portal

Bianca suggested to develop a categorised link section for links to databases and portals. A task group was formed to make a proposal.

6. Research on member's needs

A task group will prepare a procedure to research the needs of users and members. Following a proposal from Dries Moreels, this task group will also investigate what kind of expertise each member has, in order to make a first step towards an active network where each member will know to whom to direct specific questions. All the members could be interviewed about their needs and about their expertise (maybe using the reserved chatroom), preferably by someone outside the ENICPA. Catherine Boothman suggested to combine this with a research the Arts Council is going to do.

7. Updating the ENICPA database

ENICPA is generally considered not alive anymore. This is comprehensible as the entries on the public area are very old.

All the work of the board in the last months has been concentrated on the reserved area of the web site and only little improvement is made on the public area. The priority was set to facilitating services for the members, facilitating the internal communications and the updating of the entries.

The network needs the members to update the entries in the database online as soon as possible to demonstrate the network is still alive and to avoid the creation of other similar platforms on internet.

A task group was formed to mail instructions on how to use the new self-update form and make procedures on how to handle data that has not been updated for a while.

It was suggested that all entries are updated before the next meeting in Århus, Denmark, October 2002. Members are requested to press personally other members geographically or personally close to press them to update their entries on the web site. The entries that are not updated will no longer be shown on the website. An email could be sent to members that don't update their entries or/and do not pay their membership fees to clarify their position.

From some countries we don't have any entries at all. If the user is searching for those entries and no result has been found, the e-mail address of the information centre in that country will be shown.

8. Training opportunities

The assembly decided that each member will take the duty to update the entries about training opportunities for her/his country from the Festival Workshop before October 2002. Luciano changed the "Update_by" code on the database from the International Workshop Festival to the members that are in the countries with old entries about training opportunities and he will instruct the members in an email how to handle these entries. All the other members are required to put online the respective entries in that category.

9. Amount of members in one country

In some countries there is more than one member. It should be clear which member updates which information.

10. Task groups

To try to get members more actively involved and to realize projects it was decided that task groups will be formed. The idea is to work with small groups (3 persons) on certain topics, with a clear aim and result, within a fixed time. During this meeting there were three task groups installed : Research on members needs, Portal and Updating procedures. Some members will be asked to join the task groups. The deadline for these task groups is September 2002. The task groups will inform the members periodically about the progress of the projects and the proposals and/or projects will be presented in Århus.

11. Membership fees

A question was raised about the membership fee for regional information centres. It was decided that they pay the € 100 fee.

Next meeting October 2002, Århus, Denmark