

## FIRST DRAFT

### 2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (EPSA)

FRIDAY the 23d of OCTOBER 2009  
VU University, AMSTERDAM

#### MINUTES

The President of the Steering Committee of EPSA, Stathis Psillos, convenes the meeting.

1. Opening remarks.
2. Quorum is established. The meeting starts.
3. Stathis Psillos proposes Johannes Persson as the secretary of the meeting.

Johannes Persson is elected.

4. The minutes of the General Assembly meeting in Madrid 2007 are approved.

5. Stathis Psillos presents the President's report. Two topics are highlighted in his presentation of the report. The first is the launch of the new journal *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* (EJPS), owned by EPSA. The other is the planned EPSA conferences. The second conference of EPSA is currently taking place at the VU University of Amsterdam. The third EPSA conference (EPSA11) will be hosted by the department of Philosophy and History of Science, University of Athens, in October or November 2011.

The President's report is approved.

6. The Treasurer's report is presented by Friedrich Stadler. A question of membership fees is prompted by Friedrich Stadler. Discussion.

7. The Auditor's report 2007-2009, by Jeremy Butterfield and Martin Carrier, is presented. The report certifies proper financial accounting and compliance of the means employed with the EPSA constitution.

The statement of the Auditor's report is approved.

8. Amendments to the statutes.

Stathis Psillos suggests three amendments to the statutes. (A) concerns voting rights in the General Assembly (Statutes §7.12-7.13); (B) is about the appointment of a Nomination committee whose responsibility is to nominate candidates for the President, vice President, and optional Officers of the Steering Committee (Statutes §11); and (C) concerns the organization of the Editorial Team of EJPS (Statutes §12).

(A) Voting rights in the Assembly are to be restricted to members who have paid in full all respective membership dues, fees, or other assessments which are due at or have been due before the date the Assembly has convened.

Only members of the Association are allowed to act as proxy with no member being allowed to go proxy for more than three other members. In order to exercise the right to stand proxy for a member in any vote the Proxy has to present a written certificate of authority, signed by the represented member, to the chair of the Assembly prior to any vote being conducted.

(B) At least 6 ("six") months before the Ordinary Meeting of the Assembly, the Steering Committee shall appoint the Nomination Committee whose sole responsibility is to nominate candidates as Officer at the Steering Committee. The Nomination Committee consists of three members not then Officers of the Association.

The Nomination Committee shall nominate three Candidates for the President of EPSA, three Candidates for the Vice President of EPSA and up to 12 ("twelve") Candidates for Optional Officers of the Steering Committee. Candidates must be members of and are required to prepare a short position statement including a biography (the "**Position Statements**") to be distributed to EPSA's members.

The Nomination Committee shall announce its nominations at least 2 ("two") months before the Ordinary Meeting of the Assembly and shall, at the same time, make available (e.g., electronically on EPSA's Web Site) the Candidate's Position Statements.

(C) See Constitution §12

(B) is discussed at some length at the meeting.

Two alternatives are detailed. The first option is to keep elections as they are. The second option (B\*) is a revised version of Stathis Psillos's original suggested amendment (revisions in bold.)

The Steering Committee shall appoint the Nomination Committee whose sole responsibility is to **make sure that there are at least three Candidates for the President of EPSA, three Candidates for the Vice President of EPSA, and 12 (“twelve”) Candidates for Optional Officers of the Steering Committee. At least six months before the Ordinary Meeting of the Assembly the Nomination committee opens up procedure for nominations by asking members of EPSA for nominations. Candidates must be members of EPSA. No screening or differentiation of nominations takes place.** The Nomination Committee consists of **five** members not then Officers of the Association.

Vote.

There is one (1) vote in favour of keeping elections as they are. The large majority votes in favour of the second alternative, (B\*).

The suggested amendments (A), (B\*), and (C), are approved by the General Assembly of EPSA09.

## 9. Future Plans.

Kristina Rollin suggests that EPSA should facilitate women's networking. Young researchers especially need more information about philosophy as a career. PSA meetings host a Women's Caucus Breakfast Club. Something similar could be arranged at the next EPSA meeting.

Kathleen Okruhlik supports the suggestion and reports good experiences from the American initiative.

Samir Okasha notes that less than half of the potential members of EPSA are actual members at this point. He recommends more campaigning.

Stathis Psillos agrees.

Hans Radder asks whether the proportion of symposia and contributed papers at EPSA09 is optimal. Should there be a little less symposia papers next time?

Stephan Hartmann reports that the proportion is 60/40 at EPSA09 and that the quality of the papers at the conference is high.

Samir Okasha argues that this is a decision to be made by the local programme chairs.

Stathis Psillos asks whether there is a way to increase the number of papers. This question prompts a short discussion on the possibility to include poster sessions in future EPSA programmes.

#### 10. Elections of officers for 2009-2011

Stathis Psillos presents the nominees. The candidates offer short presentations (However, Jan Faye is not present at the meeting, and Kristina Rollin does not want to take the time – which is running up – since she has already introduced herself in the discussion on the future plans of EPSA). The nominees are:

Friedrich Stadler (president)  
Mauricio Suárez (vice-president)  
Daniel Andler  
Theodore Arabatzis  
Henk W. de Regt  
John Dupré  
Jan Faye  
Steven French  
Maria Carla Galavotti  
Gürol Irzik  
Philippe Huneman  
Theo Kuipers  
Miklos Redei  
Kristina Rollin  
Gerhard Schurz  
Matti Sintonen  
Erik Weber

Phyllis McKay, Holger Lyre, and **Ioannis Votsis** are assigned to supervise the elections.

Ballots are distributed. Stathis Psillos draws the General Assembly meeting to a close. Lunch starts. Voting takes place during lunch.

Minutes taken by Johannes Persson.