

Minutes of the business meeting of the SIEF Working Group Ethnology of Religion in the State Ethnographical Museum in Warsaw on June 3, 2010

President: Ulrika Wolf-Knuts; 18 members present; minutes: Peter Jan Margry

1. The president opens the formal meeting of the working group at 10.00 hrs.

2. The upcoming issues for 2010 and 2011.

- The publication of the papers of the Warsaw conference.

There is a certain tradition of publishing proceedings of the conferences of the WG. However, these volumes, published independently or as thematical issues of journals, proved to be usually not full proceedings, as papers presented were often not worked out into publishable articles or not worked out at all.

A discussion takes place on this issue as the proposal is made to dedicate also a special issue of the A-rated journal *Ethnologia Europaea* to the theme personal religiosity and to make consequently a choice of max. 6 papers (more is not possible) for such an issue. Some members are in favor of keeping the tradition of full proceedings, something that could be made possible by the generous offer of the State Ethnographical Museum in Warsaw to dedicate an issue of their new journal 'New Ethnography' to the conference. This journal has space for even 15 illustrated papers, although that would also not suffice to publish all 22 presented papers.

The following compromise is found in order to try to have all 22 papers published. Six papers will be selected for a special issue of EE, while all others will be published in the museum journal, including the abstracts of the papers published in EE and also of those who do not manage to convert their paper in an article.

Peter Jan Margry will contact Ewa Chomicka and Ulrika Wolf-Knuts about the selection of the papers. He will also contact Regina Bendix, the editor of EE, about the procedure, as the articles have to pass a review procedure. It is therefore not yet secure of such a special issue will indeed appear.

The suggestion was done to publish anyhow as soon as possible the abstracts on the website of the working group (the specific page of siefhome.org). This will be done by the SIEF secretariat.

- The SIEF congress of 2011 in Lisbon.

All WG members are urged to participate, moreover because the working group has a special panel on Sacred Places, a very topical subject which relates well to the main of the congress. The call for papers will be published on the SIEF website around June 15.

- Other issues.

The question was raised if the dedicated panels during the big 3-years International SIEF congresses are to be counted as a conference of the working group as well. After some discussion, it was decided to do so, although it can be argued also negatively. But the working group panels at the Derry Congress were for example published independently as if it were that these had formed a conference within the congress. Given this the president counts then in total nine past conferences of the WG:

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| 1. Stockholm | 1993 |
| 2. Chaves (P) | 1996 |
| 3. Szeged (H) | 1999 |
| 4. Budapest | 2001 |
| 5. Edinburgh | 2002 |
| 6. Marseille | 2004 |
| 7. Celje (SI) | 2006 |
| 8. Derry (UK) | 2008 |
| 9. Warsaw | 2010 |

3. Election of a three members board for the Working Group.

The newly adopted bylaws of SIEF in 2008 in Derry (see www.siefhome.org) asks also for the working groups to create small boards in order to realise a more open and democratic way of steering a WG. As Ulrika Wolf-Knuts indicates she wants to withdraw as chair from the WG, a new board should be chosen.

She asks to bring up possible names.

Four persons were suggested: Marion Bowman, Anna Niedzwiedz, Clara Saraiva and Peter Jan Margry. They all proved to be willing to fulfil this responsible duty. In order to avoid voting the president brings the elegant solution by suggesting to create a four person board for the coming period. The membership endorses this proposal.

These four can meet virtually via email and will then first have to decide among themselves who will be president and secretary. Later they will have to draw up some regulations on terms etc.

4. Marion Bowman takes the opportunity to express thanks to the president, as this will be her last meeting in function, for all the efforts she put in the WG, since she took over the presidency in 2006.

5. As nothing else remains to discuss, the president closes the meeting at 11.15.

All were then invited to watch the Corpus Christi procession and participate in the excursion through Warsaw in the afternoon.