



MAIN DECISIONS
taken at the Executive Committee Meeting
San Juan de Puerto Rico
2 - 4 November 1998

The Executive Committee met in San Juan de Puerto Rico on November 2-4 1998.

The following Members of the Executive Committee were present: Michelle Aubert (President), Roger Smither (Secretary-General), Mary Lea Bandy (Treasurer), Vittorio Boarini, Paolo Cherchi Usai, Nelly Cruz Rodríguez, Clyde Jeavons, Peter Konlechner, José María Prado, Steven Ricci (Deputy Treasurer) and Iván Trujillo (Vice-President).

Excused: Gabrielle Claes (proxy to José María Prado) and Hervé Dumont (proxy to Michelle Aubert).

Also present: Christian Dimitriu, Senior Administrator of the Brussels Secretariat.

At the opening of the meeting, Ms. Marisol Matos, Assistant to the Director of the Archivo General de Puerto Rico, welcomed the participants and, in particular, expressed her wish to host a future FIAF Congress in Puerto Rico. Ms Michelle Aubert thanked the Archivo General for the warmth of its welcome, and thanked Ms. Nelly Cruz Rodríguez for her invitation to hold the Executive Committee meeting in San Juan de Puerto Rico, and for the generous invitation made by the Archivo General de Puerto Rico to the EC Members and the Senior Administrator to visit the Island.

AFFILIATES

1. Reconfirmation of Members

The Executive Committee examined and unanimously approved the reconfirmation applications of the following members: Fundación Cinemateca Argentina (Buenos Aires), the Cinemateca Uruguay (Montevideo), the Department of Film and Video of the MoMA (New York), the Audio-Visual Archives Section - Visual and Sound Archives of the National Archives of Canada (Ottawa), the Motion Picture Department of the George Eastman House (Rochester), the National Film Center of The National Museum of Modern Art (Tokyo), and the Museo Nazionale del Cinema - Fondazione Maria Adriana Prolo (Torino). The General Assembly will be officially informed about these decisions in Madrid.

Reconfirmation of following archives will be considered at the Executive Committee meeting to be held in Madrid: the Netherlands Filmmuseum (Amsterdam), the Tainiothiki tis Ellados (Athina), the Academy Film Archive (Beverly Hills), the Archives du film et du dépôt du Centre National de la Cinématographie (Bois d'Arcy), the Cinémathèque Royale de Belgique (Bruxelles), the Arhiva Nationala de Filme (Bucuresti), the Sinema-TV Enstitüsü (Istanbul), the Cinémathèque Municipale de Luxembourg (Luxembourg), the Gosfilmofond of Russia (Moskva), and the Cineteca Nazionale of the Fondazione Scuola Nazionale di Cinema (Roma).

2. New applications for Affiliation with FIAF

Following the recommendations made by the Membership Sub-Committee, the Executive Committee, has examined and unanimously approved the applications of three new candidates for the status of FIAF Associate:

the SLOVENSKA KINOTEKA (LJUBLJANA)

the CENTRE GEORGES POMPIDOU (PARIS)

the ARCHIVIO AUDIOVISIVO DEL MOVIMENTO OPERAIO E DEMOCRATICO (ROMA).

The General Assembly will be officially informed about these decisions in Madrid.

3. New Member

Following the formal visit of inspection visit paid by Mr. Peter Konechner to the institution, the Executive Committee examined the application for full membership of the SLOVENSKI FILMSKI ARHIV (LJUBLJANA) and decided, by unanimous vote, to recommend its admission as a full member to the General Assembly in Madrid.

FUTURE OF FIAF

1. Rule changes

After the membership's rejection of the changes to electoral procedures presented to the GA in Prague, it was decided to present for consideration in Madrid only those changes to the Statutes and Rules needed to implement the proposed change to the definition of maximum length of service on the EC which had been a part of the Prague proposal to which there had been no objection, as well as any further detailed changes that might be needed to adapt the Statute and Rules to the basic functioning needs of the Federation and to the changes that are taking place in the archival world.

2. Code of Ethics

The FIAF Code of Ethics will be published in English, Spanish and French both on paper and via the Internet within the next few weeks.

3. Membership structure and Fees

Following discussions at the Executive Committee meeting, work on new Membership structures continues. Simulations on a two-categories membership structure as well as "variable" fees scales structure are to be further studied.

NEXT CONGRESSES

1. Madrid, 11 - 18 April, 1999

José María Prado circulated the Newsletter #2 of the FIAF Madrid'99 Congress. This Newsletter has in the meantime been circulated to the membership. Mr. Prado furthermore reported on the progress made in preparations for the Congress and the Symposia (A Century of Cinema/A Century in Cinema and History of Raw Stock Manufacture).

2. London, June, 2000

Clyde Jeavons and Roger Smither reported on their plans of the preparation of the Congress, and in particular the Symposia, that will be hosted and organised by the National Film and Television Archive in collaboration with the Film and Video Archive of the Imperial War Museum.

The two main symposia proposed are The Last Nitrate Picture Show (to be accompanied by a book, for which a call for contributions will be circulated in December), and The Archive of the Future (presented in a previous paper by Clyde Jeavons).

3. Rabat, April, 2001

Abdallah Bayahia, our colleague from Rabat, has presented in writing his project for the 2001 FIAF Congress to be hosted in Morocco. The final project will be put to the vote of the General Assembly in Madrid.

4. Further plans (2002 and later)

Several proposals have been considered unofficially for the year 2002 and further. No new formal proposals had been presented to the Executive Committee prior to its meeting in San Juan.

FINANCES

1. Financial Report 1998

The FIAF - P.I.P. 1998 financial report (as per 30.09.1998) has been examined by the Executive Committee. Some changes in the presentation and the periodicity of the financial reports allow for a better financial and budgetary control of both the general accounts and the special funds. The Treasurer presented her compliments to the Senior Administrator for his efficient administration of FIAF funds and for remaining in line with the principle of a balanced budget.

The EC noted with gratitude and approval that, following the model adopted since 1995, thirty-five Members had paid an extraordinary membership fee for 1998.

2. Budgets 1999 and 2000

The FIAF-P.I.P. Budget submitted by the Secretariat has been discussed carefully at the Executive Committee. The 1999 budget will reasonably stay within the same limits than 1998 and will allow for the development of the P.I.P. projects. The Executive Committee decided to establish a 2000 Business Plan following the principle of a "zero" budget (no deficit - no surplus) recommended by the Treasurer. A modest compensation of the Belgian inflation rate has been adopted starting in 1999 and 2000. The 2000 budget will be put to the General Assembly in Madrid.

COMMUNICATION AND PROMOTION OF FIAF

Under the leadership of Mr. Steve Ricci, the Information Task Force, in close co-operation with the FIAF Secretariat, has effectively completed its mandate. Most of the current promotion of FIAF's activities are now on the Internet. All members and external users are invited to join the Discussion Group that has been opened on FIAF's website!

PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS

The following projects have been given special attention in San Juan de Puerto Rico:

- The holding of the next Joint Technical Symposium (JTS) in association with FIAT and IASA, in Paris 2000, coordinated by the Service des archives du film du CNC. See website www.cst.fr/jts.
- The project of a continuous "à la carte" training program within The L. Jeffrey Selznick School of Film Preservation at the George Eastman House - Rochester.
- The Moving Image Archive Studies Program of the UCLA Film and Television Archive
- The possibility of publishing the Journal of Film Preservation in closer co-operation with other film archive associations (for example, AMIA, SEAPAVAA, ACE, CLAIM, etc.), in order to enlarge the field for the supply of articles, and the potential circulation of the Journal.
- The Journal of Film Preservation #57 will hopefully be published at the end of the year. A call for contributions to the Journal of Film Preservation #58 will be initiated soon after the circulation of #57.
- The improvement of the concept and marketing of the FIAF International FilmArchive CD-ROM (development of the content, adoption of a windows version, creation of a new leaflet, mailing campaign, etc.) by the Secretariat, with the assistance of a temporarily appointed external consultant.

COMMISSIONS

After a long and intense discussion on the Commission's work, the EC decided to postpone the nomination of new heads of commissions until a comprehensive review has been completed, in which will be sought the opinions of all FIAF affiliates as well as of current Commissions members. The call for a definition of needs and projects, as well as for candidates for commission work is circulated with the present document. In the meantime, the commissions will be represented by the "interim interlocutors," who have been nominated by the Executive Committee and have been informed of the decision.

1. Documentation and Cataloguing Commission.

Ann Baylis resigned from the position of Head of the Documentation and Cataloguing Commission at the end of October. Nancy Goldman has been nominated as interim interlocutor until Madrid.

2. Programming and Access to Collections Commission.

Gabrielle Claes resigned from the position of Head of the Commission for Programming and Access to Collections at the end of October. Catherine Gautier has been nominated as interim interlocutor until Madrid.

3. Technical Commission.

Dr Henning Schou has not been reconfirmed as Head of the Technical Commission. Michael Friend and Noël Desmet have been nominated interim interlocutors of the Technical commission until Madrid.

NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

In Autumn 1999, the Executive Committee meeting will be held at the Cinémathèque de Toulouse.

In Autumn 2000, the Executive Committee meeting will take place at MOMA in New York

At the end of the meeting, Michelle Aubert, President of FIAF, on behalf of the Executive Committee, closed the working sessions warmly thanking Ms Nelly Cruz Rodríguez for her hospitality and the efficiency with which the entire meeting and visit programme has been organised.

CD - December 1998