ICARUS-Meeting #17
Executive Board Meeting

Minutes

Venue: Krukmakarens hus (The Potter´s house), Meangatan 21, 621 56 Visby
Date: 23 May 2016
Time: 09:00 – 10:30 o´clock

Participants: Przemysław Wiszewski, Jitka Křečková, Radoslav Ragac, Sonja Burger, Francesco Roberg, Kerstin Muff, Zarko Vujošević, Herbert Wurster, Annamária Szakács, Antonella Ambrosio, Thomas Aigner, Karl Heinz

1. **New members – decision on admission**:
   a. Department of Theatre Studies from the University of the Peloponnese (GR) representing the project „ARCH-Archival Research and Cultural Heritage: The Theatre Archive of Socìetas Raffaello Sanzio"
   b. State Archives of Odessa Region (UA)
   c. Centre Numérique des Manuscrits Orientaux en Irak

New members have been accepted unanimously.

2. **Public Private Partnership – Quidenus Technologies cooperation:**

F. Roberg reported on two on-going projects between the Hessian State Archives in Marburg (DE) and Quidenus on digitizing archival material, data indexing and processing and sharing of profit derived from licensing the digitized documents. Currently, Quidenus is digitizing and indexing civil registers in Marbug (DE), next year the processing of cadastral documents will follow.

Scanning results by Quidenus are excellent as well as the indexing results. The latter are regulated through a careful quality management workflow.

H. Wurster reported that many archives in Germany had given their data to „Ancestry" as it is strong on the German market but are now discontent as „Ancestry" owns the rights on the digital documents. Quidenus is more cooperative as it asks only for the licensing rights and opens up new markets.

Upon the question if ICARUS should be opened towards further companies in order to generate income, it has been decided that currently there is no need to set up an official

agreement with Quidenus as demands for this kind of digitization model is low at the moment.

Debating the question on how to generate finanical support for ICARUS in order to establish a sustainable financial basis for the network's activities, the idea of a „companies' market" was born. Parallel to the ICARUS-Meetings, digitization companies could be allowed to present their services in terms of a fare, connected to but independent from the meeting.
First „companies' market" will be organized at the next ICARUS-Meeting in Budapest (HU) in fall 2016.

Instead of looking for sponsors, cooperation should be titled as „partnerships" in order to avoid taxes. Sponsorship can be realized through ICARUS4all.

Vote on whether cooperation with Quidenus and further companies should be pursued: 9 yes, 1 neutral.

Topics discussed:
2a) Qidenus as a digitizing partner
→ Quidenus is not a digitization partner.
2b) Qidenus as a dissemination partner
→ More important: ICARUS is not a dissemination partner for any company.
2c) Qidenus as an end-user product retailer (that is to make money from the added value on digitized material and metadata available for free either on the ICARUS websites or on the members' websites)
→ Rights on the digitized material stay within the respective archives, thus ICARUS is not concerned.
2d) the role of ICARUS as a network and provider for expertise + services
→ Definition on the role of ICARUS as a network and provider for expertise and services will be defined in case of cooperation.
2e) the role of ICARUS as a network and provider of potential customers
→ ICARUS does not advertise for companies and acquire customers.
2f) the ability of ICARUS as a non-profit organization to earn money on services ultimately provided by its members
→ As long as the money generated through the cooperation between ICARUS and companies stays within the network, no problem.
2g) the flow of information and money between ICARUS and its members within digitization programs in which ICARUS is not officially involved at the first place
→ Flow of information and possible income will be made transparent and defined in case of cooperation.

3. **Membership categories: current state of affairs**

Since April 2015 the ICARUS members chose as follows:

Category A: 98
Category B: 26
Category C: 5 (already approved by the Executive Board)
Special Members: 9
Sleeping/undecided Members: 19

Category B members will be contacted to inquire why they chose to be a B member and A members will be approached and asked to consider becoming B members in order to generate a financial founation for ICARUS.

Category A members will be furthermore asked to consider to join ICARUS4all to support at least a bit.

Sleeping/undecided members will be contacted and asked to make a final descision.

Companies should become ICARUS4all supporting members.

Various ideas on amending the membership category model have been discussed. Model won´t be changed in order to avoid confusion and unnecessary complications. Instead, the idea of the „companies' market" will be launched and staged for a frist trial at the ICARUS-Meeting in Budapest (HU).

Homework: Every Board member should research digitization companies in their respective home countries which could potentially be approached to participate in the first „companies' market".

4. **ICARUS4all: dissemination**

Currently ICARUS4all has ca. 500 members, number is slowly rising. Most new members come through Matricula. The more content on Matricula, the more users and thus the more ICARUS4all members.

In order to reach further potential members, the German Association for Computer Genealogy will distribute a special issue of „insights" to their ca. 4000 members this June.

5. **Miscellaneous**

P. Wiszewski reported on the Worldwide Medieval Network „CARMEN" (http://www.carmen-medieval.net/) that is interested in ICARUS. Their next meeting will take place in Essen (DE) this year. A. Ambrosio and F. Roberg will get in touch with the network.

Minutes taken by: Kerstin Muff