

# Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2003 for WG 3.3

**Final draft as at January 5, 2004, for corrections by WG.**

The 2003 Annual General Meeting of FIP Working Group 3.3 for Research took place Monday July 7, 2003 at the eTrai Conference in Pori, Finland.

## 1. Welcome from the chair, Niki Davis.

(who wrote the minutes using notes taken by Margaret Cox and Carolyn Dowling. Thanks for assistance)

Those present introduced themselves and noted membership of other IFIP WGs or other related organizations shown in the table below:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Country(s)</b>	<b>IFIP membership(s)</b>
Niki Davis	US & UK	3.3 (chair), 3.6
Carolyn Dowling	AU	3.3, 3.6
Valentina Dagiene	LI	3.3, 3.1, TC3
Ann McDougall	AU	3.3, 3.1, TC3
Pientti Hietala	FI	3.3
Jari Multisilta	FI	3.3
Pencho Mihnev (rep Roumen Nikolov)	BG	3.3
Paul Nicholson	AU	3.3, 3.1
Sergei Christochersky	RU	IIE UNESCO Institute 3.3
Margaret Cox	UK	3.3

### **Observers:**

Tom van Weert	NL	3.1, 3.2, TC3
Jan Wibe	NO	3.1, 3.6, TC3 (chair)
Heike Koppe	DE	
Dienwke de Man	DE	

### **Corresponding:**

Panagiotis Zaharias	GR	3.3
<b>Apoogies:</b>		
Rosie Bottino	IT	3.3
Toni Downes	AU	3.3, 3.5
Elsebeth Sorensen	DK	3.3
Bridget Somekh	UK	3.3
Paul Kirchner	NL	3.3
<b>Retirement :</b>		
Bob Lewis	UK, CH	3.3

It was noted that an IFIP grant requested through TC3 was supporting two members to attend eTrain and the AGM: Valintina Daginene and Sergei Christochersky. Niki, Jari and Mikko had collaborated with this proposal in January while at the Melbourne conference with support from Jan Wibe (TC3 chair) and the WG chair thanked all those who had worked to make this possible and these delegates for their participation and noted that they would make reports after the conference. This could be requested for a future conference again in the same way. Action: Chair to request similar support for 2004 conference (PS done)

It was also suggested that this information should be made available on the conference web site. It was also suggested that companies, including Microsoft, be approached for sponsorship of people from lower income countries.

**Action:** Volunteers to seek sponsorship for WG activities are requested to email the chair with their plan and this is strongly encouraged.

## 2. News from IFIP Technical Committee 3 for Education

(the committee of which WG 3.3 is a working group) was provided by Jan Wibe (chair) and Tom van Weert (advisor to working groups).

- The WG chair had reported to TC 3 the WG activities including the WG change in scope (see below) at the meeting immediately preceding the eTrain conference. TC 3 had accepted the WG report.
- Tom van Weert reported on the TC3 Strategy Working Group noting that interaction with TC3 and other working groups is essential and an activities grid is being created to facilitate this. National

representatives are under utilized and interaction with other bodies is encourages such as UNESCO. The core group of officers of TC3 is: Jan Wibe (chair), Anne McDougal (liaison with national representatives), Tom van Weert (support for WGs), Bernard Cornu (liaison with UNESCO), Raymond Morel (web communications).

- Sergei Christochersky, IIE UNESCO Institute, Moscow, Russia, welcomed the encouragement for closer links with UNESCO and noted the role of the UNESCO Institute in Moscow and field office in Bangkok, Thailand. He provided the chair with copies of strategic reports including one guiding the development of distance education in universities. These centers need experts on specific themes as they emerge and advice on new ideas and directions to take. Tom van Weert noted the activities grid for working groups and the newly emerged theme of Lifelong Learning in particular. Margaret Cox asked how the WG could link with UNESCO better and Jan suggested that Margaret become contact facilitator.

**Action:** Margaret Cox to become WG3.3 contact facilitator with UNESCO in collaboration with Sergei and Niki.

- Jan raised the issue of the World Conference in Toulouse, even though TC3 is not a major participant, and suggested that WG 3.3 consider leading a specialist workshop. This was discussed and the WG decided against participation in WCC,04 although individual participation was encouraged.
- Jan and Tom were thanked for their support and attendance at the AGM and beyond.

### **3. Membership of WG 3.3 was discussed.**

- No new members were proposed because no corresponding member had attended enough conferences. It was noted that different roles could be acceptable to increase participation, especially from low-income countries. The role of corresponding members was also noted.
- One retiring member, Bob Lewis, was noted and thanked for his work in IFIP and in WG 3.3 throughout many years.
- All three members proposed in Melbourne AGM had been accepted by their country and TC3 and will be taken to the IFIP council (now confirmed). Anne, Valintina and Toni were congratulated.
- The WG 3.3 web site at <http://education.deakin.edu.au/ifipwg3.3/> has a section for member to input and update their personal information and it was noted that some members had yet to do so. The AGM was reminded that we had already agreed that web site entries were necessary to maintain membership in WG 3.3. Where this is impossible due to local challenges with technology, then an

email to Paul Nicholson with the full relevant details may be acceptable.

## 4. WG Conferences and Meetings

### a. eTRAIN in Pouri in July 2003

The AGM gave a vote of thanks to Jari for his leadership of eTrain. Paul Nicholson (a proceedings editor) gave a report on the progress of the proceedings and noted that draft report from the focus groups must be submitted by the end of July. Paul was thanked for his work and leadership. Margaret was thanked for her work on the program committee.

### b. Working Conference joint with WG 3.6 on distance education $\text{CE}$ Local and global, Genoa, Italy, 2004

- Niki noted that the planning was not as well as advanced as had been hoped and it is likely to take place in the autumn. (The time is now confirmed for early October)
- An alternative collaboration with WG 3.5/3.1 conference in Hungary in July was discussed associated with the annual TC3 meeting and rejected. A virtual conference was discussed and supported by the WG.

**Action:** The 2004 meeting to take place in Genoa if possible, but if not then plan a virtual activity and meet at WCCE,05 in July in South Africa.

### c. WCCE 2005 July 4-7, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

- See notes below and it looks likely to go ahead (yet to be confirmed in January 2004). The conference was discussed along with suggestions for looking for additional financial support.

**Action:** Margaret Cox to discuss World Bank or other sponsorship with Jan Wibe.

**Action:** WG 3.3 members to be asked for suggestions when the plan become clearer plus a volunteer for liaison with South African committee

### d. 2006:

The AGM discussed a meeting with Asian connections, possibly a link with ICCE in that region. Paul suggested seeking a member from China and undertook to find a name

to contact (PS done). Sergei suggested this and/or a meeting in Moscow at the same time as an event there. The group supported further work to advance their proposals for 2006/2007.

**Action:** Members to bring proposals for a meeting in 2006 to AGM in 2004.

**Action:** Chair to invite new member(s) from Asia.

## 5. Communications

### a. Web site and email list

Paul Nicholson reported on the mailing list and web site. The web site has been up for 12 months with him at Deakin University in Australia, but only about 50% of members had added their details. There had been a few problems with the mailing list but this was now resolved.

New items to be added to the web site can include publications and Kluwer (IFIP's publisher) has agreed this for PDF versions. The chair welcomed this development and noted that this would support the working group activities to become more coherent.

The lag in adding AGM minutes to the web site was commented on, and the chair gave her apologies!

**Action:** Paul to send an email to WG on the list to tell us how to add out publications and a recommendation for how to start.

**Action:** All members to complete their detailed entry on the web site as previously requested, or to be retired from the WG!

**Action:** AGM minutes to be added to the web site in a more timely fashion. Chair to send Paul AGM Melbourne minutes to load on web site.

The chair warmly thanked Paul for his energetic work on behalf of the WG.

Document development and exchange with comment feature was discussed and it was noted that the TC3 web site under development is setting up a discussion board with a plan to

include discussions on outcomes from Focus Groups at working conferences.· Action: Details of TC3 web site discussion board to be posted on email list and WG web site when they become available from TC3.

### **b. Widening our network within IFIP (All)**

The chair encouraged the members to link with other working groups and agencies as discussed above under TC 3 business. Those present noted their links and these are provided in the table above and the value was noted by members especially Sergei. Special challenges for regions and nations such as Ethiopia and India were noted and the WG expressed a wish to respond to their needs.

**Action:** Members to email Paul with additional information on their relevant memberships/links and/or put it in their personal entry on the WG web site.

## **6. Publications**

**a. Rosa Maria Bottino has volunteered to lead a special issue of Education & Information Technology** (E & IT is the TC 3 journal). Rosa will circulate a theme to the WG and members to suggest leading authors on this theme, including themselves. The process for refereeing was not known at the AGM and it was noted that it would be good to have a formal process for refereeing.

**Action:** Rosa to develop the theme and email as noted above.

It was also noted that a formal process for membership of the Editorial Board of the journal.

**Action:** Margaret Cox will communicate by email with Carolyn who will raise this with the editor of E &IT (Deryn Watson)

### **b. Teacher of the future Melbourne conference**

(PS The book edited by Carolyn Dowling (3.3) and Kwok Wing Lai (3.1) is now published and with delegates. Thanks to Caroline for her work for 3.3)

### **c. ETrain Pouri conference proceedings**

Progress noted earlier. The proceedings are being edited into a book to be published by Kluwer by four editors (Paul and Jari for 3.3). (PS the contract was signed in December and book editing was nearing completion)

Jari was congratulated on the public relations activities associate with eTrain.

## **7. Activities**

a. Support for WCC statement on youth and technology use was discussed, but it was not clear what role WG 3.3 could play.

b. Melbourne conference Focus Group recommendation on raising the status of teachers was discussed. Margaret noted that the Focus Group on this topic at Melbourne plans to generate a paper for a journal and will circulate the outline already generated to member of that Focus Group. They will circulate the final draft version to the WG.

**Action:** Margaret Cox to post the final draft version of the paper on the status of the teacher on the WG email list.

## **8. Date and location of next AGM**

If the 2004 working conference takes Place in Genoa Italy, then the AGM will be there. If not it will take place over the web in October 2004.

## **AOB**

- Congratulations to Jari on his recent wedding!
- Appendix of notes circulated for the AGM
- WG 3.3 mission and scope approved in January 2003:

## **AIMS**

To provide a forum to identify issues and priorities for research and to map research policies arising from the differing cultures in IFIP Member countries.

Scope (amended Jan 2003)

Identification of research needs and topics

- Research approaches and methods
- Making synthesis of the research on major topics in the field.
- Dissemination of research, which probably includes scholarly partnerships and links with the educational research communities
- *Notes on involving third world countries*
- Suggestions from South African conference leader:
  - London, Amsterdam, Frankfurt are key hubs in Europe for the third world and conferences there would help to keep travel costs down;
- Please send recognition to employer for recognition of any/major contribution;
- Please push information via email because that can be collected despite unreliable internet connections.

### **TC 3 Strategy**

The following themes were identified by the strategy working group prior to this conference and TC3 meeting: Life long learning; open and distance learning, cost effectiveness, disciplines (art, science etc), learning styles, learning environment, learning visions, professionalism (profiles and skills), change management, local and global, social and ethical, knowledge based vs. competence based, curriculum issues, real life learning, educational policies, teacher education.

Also note involvement and potential contribution of TC 3. Technical Committee 3 for Education (chaired by Jan Wibe) works through three or four facilitators:
 

- Working Groups consultant (Tom van Weert),

- National Representatives (Ann McDougal)
- Other IFIP Technical Committees (Jan Wibe)
- Other agencies UNESCO in Paris, UNESCO centers in Moscow and Bangkok etc. (Bernard Cornu)

### **WCCE 2005**

Following commitment of South African Computer Society in mid July, the conference web site will be put up (PS Now up and was sent to WG) along with fliers and poster for printing in early August. July 2004, TC3 meeting with Call for Papers opens a week or two later (PS now delayed to January

2004 and other dates may be delayed too). Papers will be divided into academic of international standard, topics relevant locally, posters and workshops. Early March IPC meeting in Europe to make a selection of proposals with immediate notification, hopefully followed by almost immediate registration by mid April, May 1 papers to printers. June proceedings ready with final program. Registration will take place on site in SA in July.

A visit to a township school is planned and it is recognized that this will upset participants as they recognize unmet needs. The visit aims to provoke participants, ongoing support. Delegates and WGs are asked to note that Microsoft has given software for use free of charge and that workshops for teachers in the effective use of this software will be very welcome, including prolonged on site teacher training over 1-2 months possibly by doctoral students.

Fees estimate to be set at around \$400, without additional expenses. Sponsorship for local participants will be strongly supported and promoted.

Marketing support is requested from all Working Group and sectors of TC3.