The 2012 AIB-WER General Business Meeting was held during EIBA 2012 at the University of Sussex in Brighton, chaired by José Pla Barber (AIB-WER Chapter Chair), with the assistance of Filip De Beule (AIB-WER Secretary/Treasurer), and Ene Kannel (EIBA Executive Secretary) who took notes for recording the official Minutes of the meeting. There were 17 participants in attendance (14 AIB-WER members and 3 non-members), including the outgoing EIBA Chair Peter Buckley (Annex 1). The meeting was called to order at 13:35 by José Pla Barber (Chair).

**Agenda**

1. Opening Remarks & Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of the AIB-WER General Business Meeting 2011 (Bucharest)
3. Report on the AIB Chapter Chair Meeting in Washington, DC, USA – July 2012
4. Membership Activities
5. Future AIB Conferences
6. Any Other Business

**1. Opening Remarks & Approval of the Agenda**

José Pla Barber reviewed the Agenda and asked the members if they wanted to discuss items other than those listed. As no other items were raised, the Agenda was approved.

**2. Approval of the Minutes of the AIB-WER General Business Meeting 2011 (Bucharest)**

A small error in a date was noted at the bottom of Page 1 (i.e., July should be June). No further comments or remarks were tabled. With the inclusion of the above correction, the Minutes of the AIB-WER General Business Meeting 2011 in Bucharest were unanimously approved.
3. Report on the AIB Chapter Chair Meeting in Washington, DC, USA – July 2012

The Chair reviewed the highlights of the AIB Chapter Chair Meeting held in Washington, DC, last July, including the announcement of Robert Grosse as the new President of AIB. A question arose about whether the current relationship between AIB and EIBA was good – despite some friction in the past which is now gone. Comparisons were made about similarities between the Australia, UKI, and AIB-WER chapters – all hold their annual chapter meetings during local conferences.

Klaus Meyer stated that the current situation was fine as is – except that it would be nice if the AIB Conference was promoted at EIBA, and not just JIBS. Peter Liesch asked whether AIB is active in recruiting members from Eastern Europe and Russia – and referred to a conference in Russia being held 19-21 September 2013 – which may prove to be a fertile seeding ground for AIB’s outreach efforts, or as a potential new AIB “chapter” being formed.

4. Membership Activities

The Chair has proposed adding an AIB-sponsored event or session to the EIBA Conference – for example, a tutorial or workshop on the development of articles for JIBS. John Cantwell and Peter Buckley agreed that this proposal could be well-received. Ulf Andersson exclaimed that this type of synergy is great! There is currently no paper development workshop offered, so this would be a most welcome addition to the EIBA Annual Conference – as well as a good signal of partnership from AIB. José Pla Barber added that the AIB-WER would again promote the Valencia Summer School in 2013 – another sign of continued goodwill and collaboration. Filip De Beule and José Pla-Barber also proposed organising an AIB-WER panel session at the next EIBA conference in Bremen, Germany (December 2013).

Peter Liesch stressed that a clear mandate of what AIB is and does is now needed – and then referred to several active task forces (e.g., Domain Task Force) and committees that are due to issue reports soon which may be timely for the current questions – as a “domain statement” for AIB would be welcome and most helpful for structural purposes.

The Chair thanked the group for sharing their ideas and comments; these will be discussed further at upcoming meetings.

5. Future Conferences

The Chapter Chair announced the locations and dates of the forthcoming AIB conferences:

- 2013  İstanbul, Turkey – June / July 2013
- 2014  Vancouver, BC, Canada – June / July 2014

The location for 2015 has not yet been determined, but will likely be somewhere in Australasia. It was noted that the AIB-India Chapter is currently being reformed due to serious financial and other core problems. Melbourne could potentially host the conference – but it might be rather expensive for participants from other countries to attend a conference in Australia.

6. Any Other Business

The next AIB-WER General Business Meeting is scheduled to be held during the EIBA 2013 conference taking place at the University of Bremen, Germany, 12-14 December 2013.

No further comments or questions were raised. The meeting was adjourned at 13:55.

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