

## **IAMS Executive Committee**

**Thursday 4 June 2009**  
**Skype Conference**

Present: Jonathan Bonk, Gerard Goldman, Paul Kollman, Ken Miyamoto, Lalsankima Pachuau, Cathy Ross, David Singh, Rose Uchem, Mika Vahakangas, Berdine van den Toren  
Absent: Mariel Deluca Voth

### **Financial Report**

See reports as prepared by David Singh.

IAMS is in a difficult financial situation, but after the second fundraising appeal and reminder of membership fee payments, money is coming in (slowly).

Brill has offered to fund a paper mailing to all members. IAMS can only do this if the contents of the letter is written by IAMS.

- **Leaders of the special interest/study groups need to be asked if they can help IAMS to save money**
- **Berdine: Beginning of July, send out a gentle last reminder to membership fee payments, explaining that now their IAMS membership has lapsed, that they will not receive Mission Studies, unless they reactivate their membership through the payment of their membership fees.**
- **Cathy: Contact Brill to negotiate a paper mailing to all members, written by IAMS.**

NIM in Nijmegen has sent a bill for the expenses incurred over the last year. Not all expenses on this bill are understood and clarifications are asked. Before we have these clarifications, IAMS cannot pay NIM.

The proposal to NIM is that IAMS will pay in installments over a period of 4 years.

The director of NIM, Frans Wijssen, has also expressed his surprise about some details of the expenses bill and seems to be open to negotiation.

- **Jon Bonk: contact Frans Wijssen to negotiate the NIM expenses bill**

### **Mission Studies**

At the moment there is no signed contract between IAMS and Brill. The last contract has expired in November 2008.

Before, Brill only made a contract between the Editor and themselves. Lalsankima has refused to sign such a contract, stressing that the contract should be between Brill and the Association.

As a result, Brill has sent a new contract proposal between IAMS and Brill, but the Executive committee has several issues with it.

It seems that Brill seeks to keep too much control, calling themselves as owners of the journal.

Secondly, Brill makes the journal very expensive, while IAMS sees very little of the profit.

At the moment IAMS has enough material for at least 2 copies of Mission Studies and the coming issue is ready to be printed. Note that Brill is going ahead with this process, even though IAMS is struggling to have enough paid members to send the journal to.

Is it possible to consider another publisher?

Clause 11 of the proposed contract indicates that the contract will be in force for 4 years and will be automatically renewed for another period of 4 years, unless written notice is given at least 6 months before the end of the contract.

It is important to notify Brill now as soon as possible of the fact that we are reviewing the contract. IAMS will be counting on Brill's goodwill in accepting this notice as being in time to possibly end the contract at an agreed

time, on the basis of the fact that this executive committee has only recently taken up the work and is inheriting a very complicated and difficult situation.

- **Inform Brill of the reviewing of the contract by IAMS**
- **Propose an interim contract between IAMS and Brill until the end of 2009**

Brill has also made a proposal for an E-journal, which is still expensive.

There are other possibilities, such as the Open Access Initiative of Boston University, which also hosts IBMR for example.

The committee agreed that it would be good to explore the possibilities of an E-journal, but that a paper journal will also be needed still. A combination would be best.

The question was raised if Mission Studies would lose academic credibility, and as a result also contributors, by leaving Brill. This might be the case, especially in continental Europe, but many other respectable journals are now published as E-journals. If Mission Studies continues to be available as a paper journal, this might not be a big problem.

Jonathan and Lalsankima will explore other possibilities for Mission Studies, together with Paul Kollman.

- **Jonathan, Lalsankima, Paul: give new proposals for the publishing of Mission Studies by July, to be discussed in the September Executive Committee meeting**

Lalsankima wants to resign as Mission Studies editor.

### **Fundraising**

The Australian Association of Mission Studies has pledged \$1000 for IAMS. IAMS has not yet approached other institutions, but this might be worthwhile.

- **Jonathan: draw up a fundraising letter for institutions.**
- **All: find addresses of possible institutional supporters and send those to Berdine**
- **Berdine: find addresses of former benefactors**
  
- **Cathy: 4 weeks ahead of coming meeting, send out a call for agenda items to all members of the executive committee.**

**Next meeting:**

**Friday 11 September 2009 at 11GMT**