

Elections and New Executive Committee 2009-2010

At the meeting of the Executive Committee in Vienna, 6 February 2009, the results of elections were confirmed and approved. The Executive Committee agreed that the electronic election procedures were a success.

Total turnout: 26% (243/933)

144 Michal Buchowski, University of Poznan
132 Manuela da Cunha, University of Minho
131 Gísli Pálsson, University of Iceland
121 Maria Couroucli, Université Paris Ouest–Nanterre La Défense
91 Paolo Favero, University College London
79 Brian Moeran, Copenhagen Business School
78 Ronald Ståde, University of Malmö

Also, Helena Wulff, co-opted member of the Executive Committee (co-editor of the Journal), left the Executive. The five elected members of the Executive Committee nominated David Shankland into the Executive Committee and co-opted Dorle Dracklé, as well as Thomas Fillitz. Unfortunately, Maria Couroucli and Paolo Favero could not attend the constituting session of the new Executive Committee. Both had commitments in other parts of the world. The new President, Michal Buchowski, and the Vice-President, Manuela da Cunha, were elected by the members who were present.

The New Executive Committee

Michal Buchowski, University of Poznan, President
Manuela da Cunha, University of Minho, Vice-President
Maria Couroucli, Université Paris Ouest–Nanterre La Défense
Paolo Favero, University College London
Gísli Pálsson, University of Iceland
Dorle Dracklé, University of Bremen, Journal Co-Editor
David P. Shankland, University of Bristol, Treasurer
Thomas Fillitz, University of Vienna, Secretary

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Gísli Pálsson: gpals(AT)hi.is
Dorle Dracklé: drackle(AT)uni-bremen.de
David P. Shankland: d.p.shankland(AT)Bris.ac.uk
Thomas Fillitz: thomas.fillitz(AT)univie.ac.at

Letter from the President

Dear EASA Members!

This year we celebrate the twentieth anniversary of our organization. We are as old as politically reshaped Europe, which witnessed in 1989 the collapse of totalitarian regimes. Nobody knows whether it was a coincidence, as dry rationalists would insist, or whether there was some magic in the air, as the Azande might propose. In this festive year I have been elected a president of EASA and you can be sure that I feel like a dwarf on the shoulders of giants who established and later steadily have been strengthening this association, starting with Adam Kuper until Shalini Randeira. But maybe there is a touch of history in this nomination, since I happened to be the first person to come from the part of the continent which embarked on a new historical path two decades ago. For many of us anthropologists, EASA is an important part of this new story. Above all, however, I take this nomination as an expression of trust displayed to the whole generation of my fellow scholars in the region who have actively participated in the life of our Association, organizers of three out of ten biannual conferences in Prague, Cracow and Ljubljana as well persons responsible for running the secretariat for so many years, hosted in Miskolc.

Of course, I am just a leader of the Executive Committee, a wonderful and committed group of people coming both from European "edges", such as Portugal, Iceland and Britain, and the continent's "heartlands", such as Austria, France, Germany and Poland. Ethnologists would say that all major linguistic groups populating Europe are represented in this body - the EU principle of regional and national balance in its perfect form! But we are all also cosmopolitans devoted to work hard for the good of EASA and do our best to include anthropologists from all places in Europe: expanding membership in already well-represented anthropological communities and reaching out to regions and countries where we would like to see even more scholars and student present, e.g. Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, the Caucasus and Turkey.

EASA is a precious jewel, one to be cared for scrupulously. Let me remind you of some plain facts. We are approximately twelve hundreds members, one fifth students - our hope for the future; we organize conferences that attract up to a thousand participants; our Association runs a bilingual journal *Social Anthropology / Anthropologie Sociale* that is now published by Blackwell-Wiley and, thanks to enormous effort of previous and current editors, is doing very well (soon it will have four instead of three issues a year); and, we manage a Book Series and Translation Series published by Berghahn.

This size and range of activities should not prevent us from keeping alive qualities that we all share. The EC is determined to maintain the familial spirit of friendship that will prevent anybody in our community from feeling marginalized; we will continue to be as inclusive as possible and we will welcome scholars and students dedicated to the cause of anthropology independently of the label the institutions that they are affiliated with may have. We will stay on the course of, as Kirsten Hastrup put it during Vienna meeting, pluralistic ambition with a unifying code. This heterogeneity means that we have to acknowledge different institutional training, differential agendas, various intellectual traditions and multilingualism. But above all, we all should be aware that association is made and re-made by its members. Please use this well established platform. Therefore, we count on your activities both in the association and networks within it. This activity is a sine qua non that will enable us to navigate, as an active agent, a steady course in the years of economic crisis. We will listen attentively to your opinions and desires and can assure you that, unlike the central committees of the communist parties, we will not "Lose touch with the masses"!

Michal Buchowski, EASA President

