eCAADe AGM

Meeting held on

30 August 2001: 6 p.m.

Helsinki University of Technology
Espoo, Finland

MINUTES

Present

Administrative Council: Bob Martens (President and Chair), Andre Brown (VP and Secretary), Jean Dick (Secretariat), Henri Achten, Alexander Asanowicz, Jonas af Klerker, Johan Verbeke (Treasurer), Tom Maver and Jelena Petric (Secretary).

Financial Controllers: Andrew Roberts, Wolfgang Dokonal

Members: Approximately 45 eCAADe members attended.

Apologies
Tom Kvan

1. Welcome and Statement by the President

BM welcomed eCAADe members to the eCAADe 2001 Conference at the very impressive setting of HUT in Helsinki. He thanked the host, Hannu Penttilä for his considerable efforts in producing a very well organised and well-supported conference. His support team were also warmly thanked, and this was endorsed wholeheartedly by the meeting.

2. Elections

2.1 TM reported that there had been no counter-nominations for the Presidency of eCAADe and that, therefore, Andre Brown was elected for a period of two years from the end of the eCAADe 2001 conference to the end of the 2003 conference.

2.2 TM reported that the Vice-Presidency is selected by the Council, and that Henri Achten was the person nominated unanimously by the Council.

2.3 The Administrative Council have adopted a principle of inviting the current conference host to serve on the Council to serve for at least one year after the end of their Conference. Hannu Pentilla has agreed to become a member of the Council with a special remit to advise on refining the system for running the collection of abstracts and conference papers.

2.4 TM noted, also, that the Council has adopted a system of retaining the past president on the Council if they agree. BM has agreed to serve in this role with particular responsibility for liaison with site co-ordinators for eCAADe conferences. BM was sincerely thanked for his service as President: he has worked tirelessly and enthusiastically for the organisation over the past fours years.

3. Report from the Secretariat

JD tabled a financial statement and a statement of current members. The accounts for 2000 have been checked by the financial controllers (AR and WD). The accounts showed a loss of £558, largely due to the cost of the digitisation of the past paper based proceedings. JD noted that a survey of hardware and software use has been undertaken as part of the registration procedures for eCAADe and the data from this is being collated and analysed after the conference. The results will be made known to members once this has been done.

JV will report the names of the members of the Administrative Council formally to the official Belgian Journal, as required under Belgian Law.

4. Relationship with other organisations

4.1 ACADIA
Branko Koralevic spoke as ACADIA representative and reported that the 2001 ACADIA Conference will be in Buffalo, 11-14 October. The Conference marks the 20th anniversary of ACADIA. Bill Mitchell will be a keynote speaker and all of the past Presidents of ACADIA will be present.

4.2 CAADRIA
The CAADRIA representative described the locations of the past eCAADe conferences and announced that the CAADRIA conference will be in Malaysia.

4.3 SIGRADI
Jose Ripper-Kos announced that the next SIGRADI Conference will be at the University of BioBio in Santiago, Chile, and that members of eCAADe were invited to join the conference.

 Reported that:

AB has been in discussion with our sister organisations about a common journal. For the first time that all the organisations have jointly agreed on producing such a journal, whether paper-based or electronic. He will progress this and look at the opportunities offered by a conventional publisher (Blackwell) and an e-journal (to sit alongside ITCon and to be developed as part of a funded project called SCIX).

5. Relationships within eCAADe

5.1 AB reported that the paper Bulletin was no longer produced.

5.2 It was noted that the list server for ecaade members resides at the University of Strathclyde and this can be used to circulate information freely within ecaade by its members.

5.3 The eCAADe web site (www.ecaade.org) is held at the University of Liverpool updated on demand when significant changes are needed. It has links to past, current and future conferences. It has been suggested that rather than being a link to past conference sites details of these conferences should reside at the Liverpool site.
JV has suggested that we could include Computing book reviews on the web site: Angeli's book, Szalapaj's book and the {ACCOLADE} book could be initial candidates for review.

5.4 AB has contacted all of the other international sister organisations (eCAADe, ACADIA, SiGRaDi and CAADFutures) and they have agreed to collaborate on a new Journal (provisionally titled Digital Architectural Design, or Digital Architecture {DA}) dedicated to our area of interest. A provisional proposal has been submitted to Blackwell for a paper-based journal. However, all of the organisations have an interest in making papers available quickly and appropriately as an e-Journal. BM, TM and AB have had discussions with Bo-Christer Bjork and Ziga Turk, who have received a grant to develop a system for producing e-Journals. They already produce the ITCON e-Journal and were supportive of the idea to begin a parallel DA Journal under the umbrella of their project (called SCIX). We agreed to go ahead with both proposals for now, with a view to having a journal in place for the end of the year. This matter is to be progressed by AB over the weeks immediately following the conference.

5.5 We noted that as VP Henri Achten will endeavour to increase membership of eCAADe and awareness of eCAADe within Europe.

6. Future Conference
6.1 BM reported that the arrangements for the conference at Warsaw were well underway and three members of the organising team were at the Helsinki conference. Stefan Wrona, who is Dean at Warsaw is principal organiser. A leaflet has been produced and the web site is live.

6.2 eCAADe 2003 Conference
Wolfgang Dokonal is organising the 2003 Conference at Graz University in Austria. This will be at a time when Graz is the European city of Culture.

6.3 2004 Conference
The University of Napoli is being asked to formalise its bid for this conference in time for the Mid year meeting of eCAADe. Members were asked to consider if they would like to submit a reserve bid in case the arrangements for Napoli could not be agreed in time for the Mid year meeting.

6.4 2005 Conference
Noted: Bojan Baletic has submitted a proposal to hold the conference in Dubrovnic. Raed Qaqish had submitted a provisional proposal to hold the conference in Petra,

Jordan. However, he has now had to withdraw the offer due to a change in management at his University.

7. Activities in the Regions

HA reported that a number of CAAD events had taken place in Europe over the year including the CAADFutures Conference at Eindhoven and the {ACCOLADE} project in Brussels-Ghent University.

8. Other Business

There was no other business and the meeting was closed.