

Nofod's General Assembly 2011

29th of January 2011
SDU Odense

1.

The meeting was opened at 17.35.

2.

The agenda was approved.

An additional point of information was added at other items by Gun Roman.

3.

Camilla Damkjaer was selected as secretary.

Karen Vedel was selected chair of the general assembly.

4.

Lena Hammergren and Inger Damsholt were selected to sign the minutes of the general assembly together with the Chair.

5.

The Chair of the board informed of the formal procedure as to calling for the general assembly, and that it has been a custom to announce the general assembly through the call for the conference.

The auditorium accepted that the same custom has been followed in the announcement of this general assembly.

6.

The Chair of the board informed of the activities of Nofod since the last conference.

Report of the Board of NOFOD from 24th of October 2008 – 28th of January 2011:

Since the last General Assembly in Tampere on the 24th of October the board has convened for six meetings.

26th of October 2008, Tampere, Finland – Constituting meeting of the new board

17th-18th January 2009, Copenhagen

25th-26th September 2009, Oslo

23rd-24th January 2010, Copenhagen

21st- 22nd August 2010, Odense,

26th January 2011, Odense

At the moment we have 66 paid members in NOFOD.

The Tampere conference in 2008 was a success and had 70 participants mostly from the Nordic countries, a few from Europe and the United States.

Now the main task of the board has been to plan and prepare for the 10th NOFOD conference in Odense on the 26th – 30th of January 2011 with the theme Spacing Dance(s) – Dancing Space(s). To arrange the 10th NOFOD conference on application by Susanne Ravn the Institute of Sport Science and Clinical Biomechanics received 79.200 Dkr from Det Frie Forskningsråd,

Kultur og Kommunikation and 100.000 Dkr from Nordisk Kulturfond. The Institute of Sports Science and Clinical Biomechanics of the University of Southern Denmark has supported the conference arrangements with 5000 Dkr by the work of one secretary as well as offered the spaces for free. The NOFOD board members Susanne Ravn, who works at the institute has acted as the main conference coordinator and mediator between the institute and NOFOD.

The board has likewise initiated plans for the next conference that will be a joint conference with the Society of Dance History Scholars (SDHS) at University of Technology and Science (NTNU) in Trondheim, Norway. The dates for the conference are the 8th – 11th of June 2013. And the conference theme is Dance Heritage. Here Anne Fiskvik will take responsibility for coordinating the conference together with the board.

As part of its regular tasks NOFOD has placed 3 f newsletters on its website for the members to read. They have been compiled by Sesselja Magnusdottir.

The board members have been involved with a Nordic collaboration and the editing and publishing of the first two issues of new journal in dance: Nordic Journal of Dance - practice, education and research. The journal contains both practical contributions by dance professionals as well as peer reviewed research papers. The impetus is that in the future the editorial board of this journal will continue to include a member from the NOFOD board.

The board members have also been active in the Dance Education Nordic Network (DENN) that so far has been an open network with participants from all the Nordic countries that endeavour to develop and promote dance education across the borders of the involved countries.

The board has also worked on a national level. Denmark has held two national meetings. In Finland the local board has held two national meetings where local members and dance research discussed and presented their work. Iceland there has been lectures in dance twice a year, an annual a local general assembly annually and dance courses as well as a contra dance ball.

The financial situation of the Board is depends on the cooperation with organisations and institutions. That is not only in relation to the conference, where funding is necessary, but also in connection to the working meetings. The Board has started discussions of how to develop the financial situation in the future.

The report from the board was accepted.

7.

Report from the auditors:

The auditing has been postponed two months (see point 9)

8.

Confirmation of the balance sheet

Pia Stilling made a report presenting the state of the accounts, and the notes that have been made to the accounts:

Remarks about the draft 2008-2010 Nofod accounts as per Jan 25th, 2011:

The norwegian accounts have not been finalized yet. Profit and loss have been drafted for each of the three years, but the bank account balance as per 1.1.2008 does not match the amount in the 2007 accounts, and the end of each year/beginning of year assets are not identical

Details of amounts in bank account at the end/beginning of each year have not arrived yet.

While drafting the 2008 accounts I have noticed the following:

Finland:

According to the 2007 accounts the working capital at the end of the year was € 1.427,17. However, the bank account says € 1.211,56. The difference is the working capital primo 2007 € 215,61 that was regarded as an income and not as an asset. The difference must be deducted in the assets to balance the 2008 accounts.

Sweden:

According to the 2007 accounts the working capital at the end of the year was SEK 3.198,30. However, the bank account says SEK 3.198,03. Thus the assets as per 1.1.2008 must be reduced by SEK 0,27.

The 2008 accounts seem to lack SEK 1.800 expenses (or the income is SEK 1.800 less). The cashbook has not been supplied yet. For the moment, the difference has been regarded as an unaccounted for expense. Thus, the swedish accounts for 2008 are in balance. A cashbook has not been supplied.

The 2009 and 2010 accounts for DK, S, FIN and IS supplied are in balance.

The consolidated balance sheets for each year cannot be made, as the norwegian accounts are not ready.

9.

Item of discharging the board

The board asked permission from the members to finalize the accounts within two months, given that the auditors accept the balance sheet.

Given this condition, the members discharged the board.

10.

Election of the board

The national meetings have agreed on the candidates and the following board members were elected:

Sweden: the sitting members were elected: Camilla Damkjaer and Åsa Unander-Scharin.

Norway: the sitting members were elected: Hilde Rustad and Anne Fiskvik.

Finland: the sitting members were elected: Leena Rouhiainen and Elina Seye

Iceland: the sitting member Sesselja Magnusdottir continues, and one new member was elected: Gudbjörg Arnardottir.

11.

Election of two auditors and their substitutes

The following auditors were elected:

Hanna Järvinen

Pettri Hoppu

The following substitutes were elected:

Ingibjörg Björnsdóttir

Karen Vedel

12.

Reorganizing NOFOD and collaboration with DENN

The Chair informed the members of the nature of DENN and the possible collaboration with the Dance Education Nordic Network. The board of Nofod has presented a draft as to how the collaboration could work, suggesting that DENN becomes a subgroup. The suggesting could work as a model for other subgroups.

DENN is an open network that aims to develop and promote dance education in the Nordic countries. It was formed in 2007.

Currently it operates with three initiatives:

- 1) Is developing a Nordic dance education program (joint Master's program)
- 2) Is constructing a Nordic blueprint that promotes sound principles and contents for dance education
- 3) Publishes a Nordic journal on dance together with Dans I Uddannelse (DK) and Dans I Skolen (Norway)

Impetus to collaborate with NOFOD:

- DENN has a need to become more officially organized. Instead of creating its own association, it has suggested that it becomes affiliated with NOFOD.

Some NOFOD board members belong to the DENN network.

NOFOD board members are in the editorial board of the first two issues of Nordic Journal of Dance.

Proposal for subgroups within NOFOD:

NOFOD is reorganized to include subgroups for different interests within the scope of NOFOD.

These subgroups are formed by the initiatives and interests of NOFOD members.

Members can participate in the activities of one or more subgroups.

The aim of the subgroups should be to promote dance practice, education and research in the Nordic contexts through different perspectives or themes.

The subgroups should be lead by a steering group of two or three members. This means that two people should be elected as coordinators of the subgroup who also inform the board of the activities of these groups.

To form a subgroup members need to draw an initiative that includes a description of the purpose and working approaches of the group as well as a suggestion on the steering group.

The subgroup members would need to join NOFOD as full members.

NOFOD could support the work of the subgroups through offering the use of the existing bank accounts, the website and supporting the working groups in the conference program.

The finances of the subgroup are reliant on the initiatives of the group itself. The current membership fee does not allow for any additional costs.

The NOFOD board can act as an adviser and co-participant in subsidy/grant applicant for the subgroups, if necessary and appropriate with the overall agenda of the board.
The organization and regulation of the subgroups will be assessed and developed further in the next few years, as they begin to take form.

The members discussed the issue, and the following comments were brought up:

- It was suggested that this may need to get into the bylaws, but the board has looked into this and does not see the need to change the bylaws.
- The board sees the sub groups as the complementary to the national memberships.
- It was suggested that it was called a “special interest group”, to suggest that the subgroups are open and not closed networks. The board suggested that all members could enter the subgroups. This is also an opportunity for DENN or other subgroups to reach potential members.
- It was mentioned that this would avoid developing separate and isolated groups working in the same areas.
- Another reason for developing this is the possibility of including more members in Nofod.
- It was argued that this may inspire other special interest groups.

The auditorium voted and decided that this line of work can be continued by the board, and general assembly was in favour of calling the groups “special interest groups”.

A possible collaboration with the Nordic Journal of Dance was also presented by the Chair of the board. It was suggested that in the case of a collaboration the journal could be included in the Nofod membership. It was made clear that the participation would mean a financial involvement. Two publishing houses have been contacted in order to find a publisher. In the case of a collaboration Nofod would have board members in the board of the journal. The journal will not only concentration on dance and education but dance practice and research in general

The board asks for the members’ opinion on the collaboration and the permit to continue with the project. The following comments were brought up:

- It was asked what the financial participation would entail, and what that would mean to the membership fee.
- It was remarked that there are different interests in the journal, especially concerning the content and the place of dance education in the journal. This would need to be negotiated with Dans in Skolan.
- Another issue that was brought up was the one of whether one or two issues should be published by year. Dans I skolan wishes two, and Nofod would prefer one.
- It was remarked that there are both peer-reviewed and not peer-reviewed texts.
- It was argued that there are not enough writers in the Nordic countries and that we should join forces.

It was decided to conclude on this point after discussion the effects on the contingencies.

The general assembly voted and decided to give the board permission to work toward participated in the NDJ
For: 16, not voting: 2

13.

Contingents of 2011 and 2012

The board proposed to the general assembly to raise the contingents, and effectuate the change immediately after the general assembly. The board argued that the membership fees have not been raised for a long time, and that there is a need for it to make sure the fees cover the basic activities of Nofod.

The following membership fees were proposed by the board:

Regular membership: 45 euro

Student membership: 25 euro

Institutional membership fee: 100 euros

NB: The board suggests that Iceland gets an exception the reduced fee at 25 euro, until the next conference.

The board recapitulated what the membership fee includes.

The following comments and questions were brought up:

- What happens if there is suddenly no funding for the publication, do we still need to provide a journal?
- If there is no journal, do we then still not raise the fee?
- It was suggested that if the journal does not come through, the extra money could be used for instance to support students or ph.d.'s to come to the conferences.
- Could the cost be lowered through making the journal electronic?

The g.a. voted on the question and decided to execute the proposed membership fees immediately after the g.a.

For: 17, against: 1

Not voting: 0

14.

Other items


Information point:


Gun Roman presented a new research foundation and the Lilian Karina foundation. The purpose and scope of the grant was presented. The application has to be in by the 2nd of May.

15.

Closing of the meeting

The meeting was closed at 18.40


LENA HAMMERGREN


INGER DAMSHOLT