

EGRIE General Assembly

Bergen, Norway

24 September 2009

Minutes of the Assembly

Participants

Participants of the 36th EGRIE seminar

1. Welcome and introduction

EGRIE President Richard Watt welcomed the participants and opened the Assembly. He thanked the local organisers and the members of the scientific committee of this year's seminar.

He reminded the assembly about the ceremony taking place during the gala dinner where two prizes financed by SCOR would be awarded. One for the best junior paper presented at the EGRIE seminar valued at 2'000 Euros, another for the best paper published in the Geneva Risk and Insurance Review valued at 1'000 Euros.

2. Election of the President Elect

Richard Watt recalled to the assembly the composition of the Board. He announced that the Board of EGRIE proposed Arthur Snow as nominee for the election. Richard Watt invited the assembly to nominate other candidates for the position. There were no other nominations. Arthur Snow was unanimously elected as President-elect and the assembly congratulated him on his election.

3. WRIEC 2010

Richard Watt reminded that WRIEC 2010 would take place in Singapore from 25-29 July 2010 and that 1 February 2010 was the deadline to submit the papers. The assembly was asked whether they intended to submit papers for the WRIEC 2010. Half of them replied positively. Richard Watt reminded the assembly that the EGRIE scientific committee for the WRIEC 2010 was composed of Louis Eeckhoudt (chairman), Peter Zweifel, David Crainich, Nadine Gatzert and Mercedes Ayuso. He also announced that Christian Gollier would act as the Geneva Risk Economics Lecturer.

4. Location and local organizer for the 2011 seminar

Richard Watt announced that the board of EGRIE has proposed Vienna as the location for the 2011 seminar, with Alexander Muermann as local organizer. The assembly approved this proposal.

Richard Watt announced that the board of EGRIE had decided that the scientific committee for the 2009 seminar should be composed of Ray Rees (chair), Johana Etner and Joerg Schiller. Richard Watt also informed the assembly that the board of EGRIE had decided to invite Louis Eeckhoudt to give the Geneva Risk Economics Lecture for the 2011 seminar.

Richard Watt asked the assembly if a modification of the date of the EGRIE seminar, which usually takes place during the third week of September, should be considered. This is due to the fact that it could coincide with the start of the academic year which has now been modified by the introduction of the new bologna system. A discussion took place about whether the seminar should be moved to an alternative date. It was finally decided to maintain the original date.

5. Ernst-Meyer Prize

Richard Watt announced the Ernst-Meyer Prize scientific Committee has chosen James Thomson as winner of the 2008 Ernst-Meyer Prize.

6. Geneva Risk and Insurance Review

The two editors of the review expressed their view about increasing the number of submissions. Keith Crocker stressed that the EGRIE members should consider the Review as a first outlet for their work, as they are also the main readers of the journal. The Geneva Review should be considered as the journal of the group. Achim Wambach informed the assembly of the number of subscriptions and also of their provenance. Keith Crocker recommended granting electronic access of the journal to EGRIE members as part of their membership. There was a suggestion to organise occasionally special issues of the Geneva Risk and Insurance Review.

7. Future structure of EGRIE

Richard Watt reminded the assembly about the current system of membership, as decided during the previous general assembly.

Membership fees are of 90 Euros, with a special price of 50 Euros for students. Becoming a member provides free access to the yearly seminar and an automatic subscription to two paper issues of the Geneva Risk and Insurance Review. Palgrave Macmillan supplies the Geneva Risk and Insurance Review as part of EGRIE membership at a cost of 36 Euro per member. VAT for the journal will be charged as default, where applicable (i.e. on top of the membership fee). Palgrave then gives the difference in price to EGRIE.

Richard Watt then asked Andreas Richter to resume his possible project to move the secretariat to Munich. Andreas Richter informed the assembly about the possibility of obtaining a mid-term sponsorship renewable (2 years) from Munich Re and the GDV to

sponsor a part-time position through the University of Munich. This part-time position would complete the funding of a PhD student. This person would be responsible for managing the EGRIE secretariat.

Some members expressed their concern that few people from outside the domain of the economics of insurance were attending the seminar. It was therefore suggested that it would be productive to attract to the seminar economists from other fields, thus optimizing the number of papers presented. It was suggested that one individual dedicate time to attracting outsiders and that a newsletter specific to EGRIE members could be created.

Young participants could be helped to attend the seminar, and in particular their transportation costs could be supported by EGRIE through the membership fees collected.

It was finally decided that the seminar participation fees would be of 50 Euros for non-members, and that no fee would be paid by first-time attendees

There were no further discussions. Richard Watt thanked all the participants and closed the assembly.