

# General Assembly of EFITA



**Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland**

16.30, Tuesday, 3 July 2007

## Agenda

1. Presidential address
2. Approval of Accounts and Auditors' report
3. Proposals from the Board
4. Election of Officers
5. Proposals from the members
6. EFITA Conference 2007
7. Any Other Business
8. Transfer of Presidency

### 1. Presidential address 2005 - 2007

Karel Charvat welcomed the delegates to the GA Meeting and reported on the activities of EFITA during the period of his Presidency. He thanked Guy Waksman for his continued work on the EFITA Newsletter. He announced that EFITA was participating in an EU project called Collaboration@Rural and that EFITA was one of over 20 partners in the project. The project is of three years duration and EFITA's role was mainly in the areas of policy and dissemination. He also mentioned some of the other activities to which EFITA had contributed including the @rural workshop in Brussels (November 2005), the Prague declaration (May 2006), the ABARD project (Brussels, November 2006) and a conference on the broadband gap in Brussels (May 2007). A workshop on rural living labs had also been held in Prague in May 2007. EFITA members also attended the ITAFE meeting in Adana, Turkey (October 2005), the HAICTA meeting in Volos, Greece (September 2006) and the ISITA annual event in Ireland (November 2006).

Karel said that he hoped that EFITA would develop some special interest groups, for example, on spatial data and e-learning. He also wished EFITA to increase its member countries and specifically mentioned Estonia, Finland and Spain. He

also mentioned the need to increase contact and dialogue with other organisations such as the FAO and INFITA.

### 2. Approval of Accounts and Auditors' report

Andy Offer and Nicolai Fog Hansen were appointed honorary auditors and they confirmed their acceptance of the EFITA accounts to the GA. The accounts were approved unanimously.

### 3. Proposals from the Board

Following a suggestion from GIL, the Board proposed to the GA to amend the arrangements for payment of membership fees by NMOs as follows: Up to 100 members € 2.50 per member; 101 to 200 members € 1.75; and, 201 members and above € 1.00 per member. This proposal was accepted unanimously and was to come into effect for NMO fees due in 2007. In future, attendance at the EFITA Conference will cost the full amount for non-EFITA members and those members belonging to NMOs that were in arrears at the time of each forthcoming conference. This was also accepted unanimously. The Board also proposed that the use of the EFITA name for conferences or workshops will in future need to be approved by the President and Secretary General. Also any organisation wishing to involve EFITA in any project proposal and/or project implementation activity should also seek approval from the president and secretary General who would consult with NMOs as necessary. The proposal was also accepted unanimously. The Board also made a recommendation to increase the size of the Board by one by inviting the immediate past President to continue to serve on the Board for a period of two years. This was also accepted unanimously and Karel Charvat will now be on the EFITA Board for a period of 2 more years. The EFITA Statutes will be amended to reflect these changes.

### 4. Election of Officers

Outgoing officers: Miklos Herdon, Rolf Mueller  
Remaining officers: Caroline Parker, Jose Boaventura, Nicolai Fog Hansen, Rene Rognant  
Executive Members: Jerzy Weres and Peter Wagner were elected unopposed  
President Elect: No President Elect was proposed

### Summary of elections

Board Members	Nominated by	Seconded by
Jerzy Weres	Guy Waksman	Andy Offer
Peter Wagner	G Schiefer	Nicolai Fog Hansen
Karel Charvat	Board	Unanimously agreed





## 5. Proposals from the members

There were none.

## 6. EFITA Conference 2009

There was a presentation on the 2009 conference to be held in Wageningen, Netherlands in July (dates to be agreed). This will be a joint conference with the ECPA and the ECPLF. The emphasis of the conference will be on science, industry and policy and would be based on a living labs approach.

## 7. Any Other Business

1. The EFITA Junior Prizes were presented to two students from Reading University based on their poster presentations.
2. INFITA: G Schiefer reported on INFITA and he stated that the next conference would be jointly organised by AFITA, WCCA and IAALD and would be held in Japan on 24 to 28 August 2008. The joint international e-journal JITAG ([www.jitag.org](http://www.jitag.org)) accepts papers for publication.
3. EFITA Newsletter: Guy Waksman reminded attendees to let him have items of interest for the newsletter.
4. Spatial data Working Group: Karel Charvat asked delegates to contact him if they were interested in joining such a group.



## 8. Transfer of Presidency

Karel Charvat handed over to Sjaak Wolfert, who made a short speech outlining his intentions for EFITA during his presidency. The text of his speech has been circulated to Board members, advisers and NMO representatives.

