

INTERNATIONAL ERGONOMICS ASSOCIATION

*Council
Minutes?*

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Dear Council Members,

On the occasion of the IEA-Symposium on Ergonomics and Standards, several of us (F. BONJER, A. CHAPANIS, J. DE JONG, B. SHACKEL and myself) could meet in Loughborough. Returning from the meeting, I was also able to talk with R. SELL in London and A. WISNER in Paris.

The most important item in discussion was the election of the Officers and Council of the I.E.A. by the General Assembly during the 5th International Congress in Amsterdam next June.

Since these contacts were not an official Council meeting, and since three of you (M. OSHIMA, W. ROHMERT and J. RUTENFRANZ) were not consulted recently on this matter, I feel it appropriate to summarize the present situation and to ask your advices on the enclosed DRAFT OF NEWSLETTER n° 5, which should be circulated to the federated Societies and corresponding members around May 1st, in order that they know in advance, which will be the council's proposed nominations for item 3 (Elections) on the Agenda of the General Assembly.

As you may remember, I read during our last official Council meeting, at Schipol Airport, 24 June 1972, a personal letter from Dr. van Wely, Chairman of the Nederlandse Vereeniging voor Ergonomie, stated that he could not accept to be nominated himself for the office of President of the I.E.A. He added that, if the Council were willing to follow the precedence set up by previous Congresses, in nominating a member of the host Federated Society for the office of President, his personal suggestion was that F. BONJER should be this nominee.

On March 27th, 1973, the Secretary of the NVS sent me the enclosed letter formalizing this proposal, which has been put forward to and approved by the General Assembly of the NVS.

Taking into consideration this proposal as well as the need for the Executive Council (President, Secretary General and Treasurer) to be able to meet frequently, it was felt that R. SELL, who travels often to the Netherlands for professional duties and J. DE JONG, whose residence is in the Netherlands and travels often in neighbouring countries, would together with F. BONJER, constitute an efficient team. The fact that R. SELL and J. DE JONG have both served during six years already as Council members should not be an obstacle for their election respectively as Secretary

General and Treasurer, since the rules prescribe the ineligibility after two 3-years terms only in the case of ordinary Council members. Furthermore it is felt that this choice should insure that the Executive Council will be made up by Officers already well aware of the policy and problems of the IEA.

Regarding the renewal of the Council, the new nominees are those, whose names were considered during the Council meeting at Schipol, Airport on 24 June 1972. With the exception of J. ROSNER (Poland), all have already been consulted by our Secretary General and have agreed to be nominated.

No formal proposal was made to J. ROSNER, in view of the fact, that it was not known if the number of vacancies would allow his nomination.

It is my feeling, that one Council member should represent the two federated Societies of COMECON countries, especially, if we consider the possibility of holding the 1979 International Congress in one of them, most probably Poland.

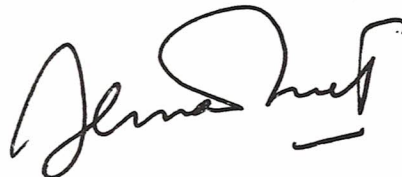
Since seven Council members have to be elected, in addition to the President, Secretary General and Treasurer, while eight names are already considered for nomination, it is my suggestion, after consulting F. BONJER and A. WISNER, that we do not nominate E. ASMUSSEN for the election as Council Member, but that we suggest to the new Council to consider his nomination for the office of Vice-President. As you know, no firm policy has been followed until now for the office of Vice-President.

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In some occasions (Prof. LEHMANN in 1961 and myself in 1967), the Vice-President was chosen as the organizer of the next Congress of the I.E.A. and eventually became its President. In other occasions (1964 and 1970), the host Societies of the next Congresses refrained from making a proposal in this sense and the office of Vice-President remained vacant. This time, I feel that the office of Vice President could be held by a personality of eminent scientific standing, such as E. ASMUSSEN, stating deliberately that it would involve his becoming the President of the IEA in 1976. Following the precedence set up by previous General Assemblies, the President of the IEA for the three years term following the International Congress of 1976 in the USA, should evidently be a member of the HFS, proposed by its Councils.

May I ask you to send me your comments by the latest on April 27th, in order that our Secretary General may circulate Newsletter n° 5 to the Federated Societies around May 5th, 1973.

Yours sincerely,

*Approvals from Sell
and Shackel*



Bernard Metz
President IEA

N.B. : No comments from your side until the above mentioned date will be considered as an approval.