

Annual Meeting, Genoa 2008

PROTOCOL OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN MIGRATION INSTITUTIONS (AEMI)
CISEI, GENOA, ITALY
02.10.2008 – 04.10.2008

AEMI ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2008
MIGRATION HERITAGE ROUTES
Documentation, Research and Communication

Thursday 02.10 2008

09.00 Registration

Conference delegates assembled for registration at the conference room at Palazzo San Giorgio

09.15 Opening session

Fabio Capocaccia, president of CISEI, Silvia Martini conference chairman, and representatives from Port Authority of Genoa, the City of Genoa, the Province of Genoa, the Liguria Region and the Chamber of Commerce welcomed the Board of AEMI and conference delegates. The AEMI annual conference was opened.

10.00 The studies on archival sources for the construction of the database: the European experience.

The studies on archival sources: The experience in Genoa

Chair and Discussant: Matteo Sanfilippo, Associate Professor (Modern History) Tuscia University, Scientific Committee CISEI

Antonio Gibelli, University of Genoa, Chairman Scientific Committee CISEI: Genoa: the Door to the Americas.

Carlo Stiacini, Department of Modern and Contemporary History, University of Genoa: A Documentary Heritage: the Study of the Nautical Logbooks

Adele Maiello, University of Genoa, Scientific Committee CISEI, A project of a database of the emigrants leaving from the port of Genoa

Francesca Carminati, CISEI, and Giulia Grandi, Department of Economic and Financial Sciences of the University of Genoa: Maritime Public Health Sources, Genoa 1830s-1850

Alfonso Assini, State Archive, Genoa, Scientific Committee, CISEI: Sources for Migration History from the Genoa State Archive

Ferdinando Fasce, University of Genoa, Scientific Committee CISEI: Ansaldo & Co. Business Records as a Source for Migration History

Francesco Surdich, University of Genoa, Scientific Committee CISEI: The Historiography on Ligurean Migration: A Critical Re-Appraisal

13.00 Lunch and visit to the Museum of Sea and Navigation and to the Exhibition "La Merica!"

14.30 Studies on Archival Sources for the Construction of the Database: the European Experience

Chair and Discussant: AEMI

Brian Lambkin, Centre for Migration Studies Ulster, Illustrating Migration: the contributions of museums, libraries and archives

Kristin Mikalsen, Norwegian Emigrant Museum and Mathias Nilsson, Emigrant Register Kinship Centre EmiWeb: Migraport and European Digital Frontiers

Joseba I. Arregi Orue, Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities Abroad, Basque Country, Spain: Collective History to build the Future: the Basque Case

16.30 'Museums and Study Centres: a Fruitful Cooperation'.

Chair and Discussant: Fabio Capocaccia, President CISEI

Emilio Franzina, University of Verona, Scientific Committee CISEI

Maddalena Tirabassi, Altretaliale Centre: Exhibitions, Museums and the Altretaliale Centre on Italian Migrations

Pierangelo Campodonico, Director Muma of Genoa

20.30 Dinner at Palazzo San Giorgio

Friday October 3, 2008

09.30 Continuation of the session 'Studies on Archival Sources for the Construction of the Database: the European Experience'

Chair and Discussant: AEMI

Maria Luisa Caldognetto, Centre of Records on Human Migration: Memoirs of a lost past: the testimony of an Italian emigrant in Luxembourg across anti-fascism, resistance, deportation and ...oblivion".

Antoinette Reuter, Centre of Records on Human Migration: Archives, monuments, migration heritage: Early Modern Tyrolean migrations to the Mosel region (F, D, L)

Chiara Cardogna, San Marino Emigration Museum: Photographic Archives of the San Marino Emigration Museum
Marta Severo, UNESCO: International Network of Migration Institutions. Promoting the Public understanding of Migration

12.00 Debate

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Studies on Archival Sources for the Construction of the Database: Experiences Across the Atlantic Regione Liguria Building

Emigration to the United States through Ellis Island

Chair and Discussant: Adele Maiello, Scientific Committee, CISEI

Participants in videoconference from the US:

Ira Glazier, Director Centre for Immigration Research, Temple University, Balch Institute, Philadelphia
Diane Pardue, Director of the Museum of Ellis Island

15.30 "Emigration to Brazil and to Argentina: the Documentary Heritage of Memorial do Imigrante and the experience of Portal Gringo."

Chair and Discussant: Fulvia Zega, Roma Tre University

Participants:

Adriana Cristina Crolla, Director of the Centro de Estudios Comparados Santa Fè

Participants in videoconference from Sao Paulo:

Federico Croci, Scientific Committee CISEI and Visiting Professor at the University of Sao Paulo

Soraya Moura, Memorial do Imigrante's Project Coordinator

Adele Maiello, University of Genoa, Scientific Committee CISEI.

19.30 Cocktail and dinner on boat, during the port boat tour

Saturday October 4, 2008

General Assembly of the Association of European Migration Institutions (AEMI)

The General Assembly 2008 of the Association of European Migration Institutions was convened at Palazzo San Giorgio, Genoa, Italy and called to order at 09.00 am on Saturday 04 October 2008 by the Chairman, Brian Lambkin.

1. Attendance Register and Apologies

Brian Lambkin made apologies for editor of the AEMI Journal, Hans Storhaug, The Norwegian Emigration Centre, Stavanger, Norway and Secretary/Treasurer Henning Bender, The Danish Emigration Archives for not being able to attend the general assembly.

The Chairman also noted that the following representatives of 15 member institutions were present:

- The Centre for Documentation of Human Migration, Luxembourg, represented by Ms Antoinette Reuter
- CISEI (Centro Internazionale Studi Emigrazione Italiana), Genoa, Italy, represented by Dr Silvia Martini
- The Danish Emigration Archives, Aalborg, Denmark, represented by Mr Jens Topholm
- Institute of Migration, Turku, Finland, represented by Professor Olavi Koivukangas
- The German Emigration Museum, Bremerhaven, Germany, represented by Mr Steffen Wiegmann
- The Centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster-American Folk Park, Northern Ireland, represented by Dr Brian Lambkin

- The Norwegian-American Collection, National Library of Norway, represented by Ms Dina Toflsby
- The Norwegian Emigrant Museum, represented by Mr Steinar Bjerkestrand
- The Institute of Diaspora and Ethnic Studies, Krakow, Poland, represented by Professor Adam Walaszek
- The Åland Islands Emigrant Institute, Mariehamn, Finland, represented by Dr Eva Meyer
- The Kinship Centre, Karlstad, Sweden, represented by Mr Erik Gustavson
- Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities Abroad, Basque Country, Spain, represented by Mr Joseba I. Arregi Orue
- Institute for Migration & Ethnic Studies, Zagreb, represented by Professor Ruzica Cicak-Chand
- Ballinstadt, Das Auswanderermuseum Hamburg, represented by Mr Jorge Birkner
- Museo dell Emigrante Centro Studi sull Emigrazione, San Marino, represented by Dr Chiara Cardogna

Applying for membership:

Torsten Feys, Red Star Line Project, Antwerp, Belgium

The Chairman then moved that Professor Adam Walaszek be elected presiding officer of the business meeting. The motion was agreed and Professor Walaszek took the chair.

2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting, 27 September 2007, Turku, Finland

The Minutes of the General Assembly 2006, held in Turku Finland, 27 September 2007 and accessible at AEMI's website, were approved.

3. Chairman's Report, 2007- 2008

The Chairman gave his report. Brian Lambkin thanked the board for efficient work, and he focused on the headlines in his report, referring to the full text that is accessible at the AEMI website.

The Presiding Officer moved the adoption of the Chairman's Report. The meeting adopted the motion.

4. Treasurer's Report: Financial statement and accounts 2007- 2008

Jens Topholm presented on behalf of Treasurer, Henning Bender, the Financial Statement and Accounts for 2007-2008, as posted previously on the AEMI website.

The Association's Auditor, Dr Eva Meyer, confirmed that she was satisfied with the Accounts for 2007 and had signed them.

The Presiding Officer thanked for presentation and moved the adoption of Treasurers and Accounts report. The meeting adopted the motion.

5. Journal Editor's Report, 2007- 2008

Brian Lambkin reported on behalf of Editor of the Association's Journal, Hans Storhaug, that next volume 6 (2008) would contain reports of the Annual Meeting in Turku and it would be released by Christmas. Volume 7 (2009) was planned to contain the papers given at this conference in Genoa.

The Presiding Officer thanked the Editor for his continuing efforts on behalf of the Association.

6. Election of Officers, 2008- 2011

The Chairman thanked former Secretary and Treasurer Henning Bender for his long time services to the Association from the founding meetings to the situation today with a strong cross European association. He was looking forward to see Henning at next year's annual meeting.

The Chairman then proposed dividing the Secretary and Treasurer post and reported that the Board had received the following nominations for the election of officers 2008:

Treasurer: Eva Meyer (The Aaland Islands Emigrant Institute, Mariehamn, Finland)

Secretary: Jens Topholm (The Danish Emigration Archives, Aalborg, Denmark)

Journal Editor: Hans Storhaug (The Norwegian Emigration Centre, Stavanger, Norway)

And he called for comments from the audience.

Professor Olavi Koivukangas took the floor and talked about the basic thoughts dominating the foundation of the Association and original ideas about the changing of leadership and countries represented in the board. Generally he argued for three terms in a row as the upper limit. Olavi Koivukangas had proposed Eva Meyer as Secretary and Treasurer, but he accepted the proposal with Eva Meyer as Treasurer and Jens Topholm as Secretary.

The Chairman pointed out that Eva Meyer as Auditor knew about the job as Treasurer and that Jens Topholm could continue and develop the website. Brian Lambkin also agreed to be nominated for a last term as Chairman of the association.

The Presiding Officer then asked the audiences if they agreed on the nomination of new board members and the nominated if they would accept the election. Eva Meyer, Jens Topholm, and Brian Lampkin on behalf of Hans Storhaug agreed to that.

As representative of the host institution organizing the General Assembly this year was nominated Silvia Martini (Genoa) and as representatives of the institutions hosting next years General Assembly were nominated Steffen Wiegmann (Bremerhaven) and Jorge Birkner (Hamburg)

The election was unanimously confirmed by the ordinary members preceding.

7. Proposed Budget 2009

Eva Meyer proposed keeping the expenses in 2009 to a minimum and proposed a budget accordingly:

Transport from 2008 6.249 €
Fee..... 5.200 €
Board..... -2.000 €
Admn..... -1.000 €
AEMI-Journal.... -3.000 €
Webpage -1.000 €

Transport to 2010..... 4.449 €

The Presiding Officer moved the adoption of the proposed budget and the meeting accepted the motion.

8. Appointment of Auditor for 2008- 2009

The Presiding Officer asked Erik Gustavson (The Kinship Centre, Karlstad, Sweden), if he would be willing to serve as Auditor for the coming year. He confirmed that. The Presiding Officer then asked the audiences asked if they agreed on that nomination.

The election was unanimously confirmed by the 15 ordinary members preceding.

9. Venue of Annual Meeting 2009

Over the last 7 years the meeting has moved between north and south and east and west (Norway 2002, Portugal 2003, Sweden 2004, France 2005, Croatia 2006, Finland 2007 and Italy 2008).

For the Annual meeting 2009 a joint invitation from German Emigration Centre, Bremerhaven and from Ballinstadt, Das Auswandermuseum Hamburg was presented respectively by Steffen Wiegmann and Jorge Birkner. It was proposed to combine the Annual Meeting and to focus on the impact of two major city ports, genealogy and migration, research and biographies.

The Chairman noted that other expressions of interest in hosting future meetings were made by Erik Gustavson (Sweden), Jens Topholm (Denmark) and Chiara Cardogna (San Marino).

The Presiding Officer then suggested that the Annual Meeting 2009 would take place in Bremerhaven and Hamburg from the September 30. – October 4, and that decision was unanimously confirmed by the 15 ordinary members preceding.

10. Admission of New Members

The Presiding Officer asked the Chairman to speak to the admission of new members.

The Chairman then called upon Torsten Feys. He presented the Red Star Line Project, Antwerp www.visitantwerpen.be/redstarlinememorial/home.html and proposed its admission to membership. This was agreed by acclaim.

11. Members Projects

AEMI European Migration Heritage Route

Antoinette Reuter talked about the project, and noted that had not been possible to get financial support from the EU. Maybe AEMI was not strong enough and should get in contract with other partners. It is necessary to have a strong formal status to gain financial support the EU. Antoinette Reuter also noted the Migration heritage week (October 4-11.) and showed the poster. The main purpose is to highlight at the same moment at various places the importance of migration heritage (archives, collections of artifacts, sites, traditions ...) and to underline the necessity to get means to keep this heritage.

Antoinette Reuter also noted that AEMI's website should make it visible, that the association covers a lot of alternatives, such as Archives, Libraries, Museum and Study Centres focusing on emigration, immigration and migration.

Youth and Migration, Norway

Brian Lambkin gave a short introduction to the YAM project and thoughts on how to connect this project with the EU e-ContentPlus Programme.

Migra Portal, Sweden and Norway

Erik Gustavsson introduced the Migra Portal as a project. The basic idea is to create a search portal to existing private and public European databases on migration. All AEMI members were invited to participate. Erik Gustavsson proposed to create a working group to prepare a two days meeting as soon as possible to elaborate a project description focusing on the eContentPlus Programme, and he assured that Sweden and Norway were ready to organize the project. The basic economic conditions were to be 50 % from the participating institutions and 50 % from EU. Jens Topholm strongly supported the basic idea and talked in favour of creating a search protocol based on international standards.

European Migration Centres Network, Italy

Fabio Capocaccia introduced a project with the objective to create a concrete network between organizations working in the field of migration, that is AEMI members and other institutions/organizations. Ligurian Region could be leading partner with the operative support of CISEI and other Institutions. The project was designed to the INTERREG IVC 2007-2013 Programme financed from 75% to 85% of the budget by European Union. Fabio Capocaccia also mentioned the possibility of integrating the Migra Port project.

Kristin Mikalsen remarked that Migra Port was a different kind of project that could not be a part of a network programme. She also noted that some of the objectives were already part of AEMIs activities.

11. Any Other Business

Being no other business, the Chairman thanked Professor Walaszek for acting as Presiding Officer and the General Assembly concluded at noon, 12.00.

Closing of the Conference, the Chairman Brian Lambkin thanked Fabio Capocaccia and Silvia Martini and their colleagues at CISEI for their excellent running of the 2008 conference at the beautiful meeting room and other historical place. Brian Lambkin also thanked for the generous hospitality of Genoa. Presentations were made to Fabio and Silvia as tokens of the warm appreciation expressed by all present.

Brian Lambkin concluded by looking forward to next years meeting in Bremerhaven and Hamburg and thanking the two institutions for offering to co-operate in this matter..

At 12.30 pm the participants were transferred to the International Fair for lunch and ending the conference by visiting the International Boat Show, the most important boat show in the world.

Participants

Arregui Joseba, Basque Country, Spain

Belkeddar Farouk, France
Birkner Jorge, Germany
Bjerkestrand Steiner, Norway
Capocaccia Fabio, Italy
Cardogna Chiara, San Marino
Carminati Francesca, Italy
Feys Torsten, Belgium
Ružica Čicak-Chand, Croatia
Grandi Giulia, Italy
Gustavson Erik, Sweden
Horner Benjamin, France
Jotti Laura, Italy
Koivukangas Olavi, Finland
Lambkin Brian, Northern Ireland
Martini Silvia, Italy
Mayer Eva, Finland
Mikalsen Kristin, Norway
Moura Soraya, Brasil (in videoconference)
Nilsson Mathias, Sweden
Pardue Diana, USA (in videoconference)
Reuter Antoinette, Luxembourg
Stiaccini Carlo, Italy
Tolfsby Dina, Norway
Topholm Jens, Denmark
Walaszec Adam, Poland
Wiegmann Steffen, Germany

As external guests:

Caldognetto Maria Luisa, Italy
Campodonico Pierangelo, Italy
Crolla Adriana, Argentina
Glazier Ira, USA
Lombardi Luigi, Italy
Severo Marta, Italy
Tirabassi Maddalena, Italy
Zega Fulvia, Italy
Scientific Committee CISEI
Representatives of the Town Institutions