

## **Minutes General Assembly BNVKI-AIABN**

Nijmegen, November 7th 2014

Present: 7 board members of BNVKI – 15 members

### **Opening**

Opening the General assembly meeting by the chair of the BNVKI, Prof. dr. Ann Nowé.

### **Minutes of general assembly 2013**

The minutes of the general assembly Delft, November 8th 2013 are approved.

### **Announcements**

ECAI-2016 will take place in The Hague, The Netherlands, hosted by organization chairs Frank Dignum (UU, Utrecht) and Virginia Dignum (TUD, Delft) on 29 August, 2016 - 2 September, 2016. (<http://www.ecai2016.org/>). Frank van Haemelen has been assigned as general chair. One of the program committee chairs is Gal Kaminka

### **Financial report by Virginia Dignum (BNVKI Treasurer)**

As can be seen from the figures included , a profit of 3659 euro was realized.

## **Estimated budget over 2013**

	<b>approved at ALV'11</b>	<b>Realised 2013</b>
<b>BENEFITS</b>		
Membership fees	4500	3225
BNAIC profit	2000	4000
support	0	
interest	300	378
<i>From reserve capital</i>	0	
	<b>6800</b>	<b>7603</b>
	<b>Profit</b>	<b>3659</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Website	2000	84
ECCAI fee	500	291
Secretarial costs	2500	732
various	800	837
Sponsoring AI events	1000	2000
	<b>6800</b>	<b>3944</b>

This was mainly due to lower membership fees, high profits from BNAIC, overall lower expenses and more sponsorships due to higher profit than budgeted. The assets available at the end of 2013 is € 39.209.

#### *Auditing committee 2014*

The financial records have been checked and approved by the members of the BNVKI auditing committee 2014. Virginia thanks the auditing committee : Joost Broekens (TU Delft) en Ulle Endriss (UVA).

#### *Proposed budget 2015*

## **Proposed budget for 2015**

### **BENEFITS**

Membership fees	2000
BNAIC profit	1000
support	0
interest	500
<i>From reserve capital</i>	<i>500</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4000</b>

### **EXPENSES**

Website	150
ECCA fee	350
Secretarial costs	800
various	700
Sponsoring AI events	2000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4000</b>

As can be seen from the proposed budget, the expenses are increasingly lower. BNVKI fees have been lowered to €20 for regular members, €10 for PhD/MSc students.

A message for future BNAIC organizers will be to be less conservative in their budget. A leaner BNAIC budgeting will result in lower profits and therefore lower income fees. AI conferences are usually too expensive, authors should know beforehand income fees will be kept low for the BNAIC. In their simulation organizers should assume 100 participants as a minimum.

The role and costs of secretarial support will be rethought.

If sponsoring can make a difference, BNVKI can sponsor more than 250 euro for AI

related events. The organizer simply has to include arguments for why a higher budget is needed

A careful attendee noticed that one event in the budget of this year was paid twice, a correction will be made in the figures of next year

*Finally, The proposal budget for 2015 was approved by the general assembly.*

#### *Auditing committee 2015*

The board proposes Arlette van Wissen, VU University Amsterdam and Joachim de Greeff ( TU Delft) as members of the auditing committee 2015. The general assembly approved this proposal.

#### ***BNVKI board***

The members of the BNVKI board in 2014 are : Ann Nowé (chair), Virginia Dignum (treasurer and vice-chair), Katja Verbeeck (secretary), Tibor Bosse (student liaison), Marc van Zee(website & newsletters), Kurt Driessens (AI in education), Koen Hindriks , Jos Uiterwijk ,

From 2015 on, Jos will be leaving the board after a membership of 8 years. He is warmly thanked for his efforts in the board, where he was responsible for maintaining and updating the newsletters.

The board will be expanded with an extra Phd candidate member, Wouter Beek (VU) which is still a candidate after his candidacy last year. He is warmly welcomed by the board and the members present.

This year will be the final year for both the chair as treasurer of the BNVKI, an official call will be made for new board candidates.

#### ***Update BNAIC 2014***

Some facts & figures:

- ✓ 130 people attended BNAIC, however this includes organizers and about 48 students which were supported by the Nijmegen AI / CS dept and TextKernel. The number of regular subscriptions (senior researchers) was very low.
- ✓ In total 67 submissions were accepted of which 24 A papers, 28 extended B papers , 6 demo 's and 9 D papers were accepted. Acceptation rate was about 87 %
- ✓ A pay on-demand paper proceeding was available for the prize of 15 euro.
- ✓ Thanks to the many sponsors the event will reach a break-even
- ✓ New this year was that attendees were asked to fill in their field of interest

during registration.

- ✓ A new paper type (D) for bachelor and master students was added to the Call for papers
- ✓ Friday morning session was open for the public
- ✓ A KION meeting was organized during the BNAIC as well as a NWO info session on the NAI program

Some points for discussion:

- ✓ Shall we keep the D-type paper? Should it become a 6 page paper instead of 2?
- ✓ The conference was mainly attended by students, how can BNAIC become again the meeting place for Benelux AI researchers as it used to be?
- ✓ Should proceedings be online available? Or only presentations and no publications? Or a journal of best papers afterwards?

Suggestions:

- ✓ More advertisements should be made towards the community. Paper communication is left behind, but now people are not informed anymore. More information should be added to the electronic newsletters via attractive anchor points.
- ✓ Combine forces with ECCAI16
- ✓ In Delft last year, AI groups were invited to present themselves.
- ✓ Make a list of previous BNAIC organizations, make demo prize winners and best paper award winners visible

### ***BNAIC 2015***

BNAIC 2015 will be held in Hasselt, Belgium. Local organization will be done by prof dr Koen Vanhoof from the Business Informatics group, UHasselt .

### ***Closing***