

**Minutes of the ISISA General Meeting**  
**25 May 2016,**  
**Mytilini, Lesvos Island, Greece**

The General Meeting (GM) opened at 5.50 p.m. in the amphitheatre of the University of the Aegean in Mytilini on Lesvos Island, Greece. The meeting was attended by 35 members of ISISA, including 4 Executive Committee members and various co-opted members.

Meeting Chair: Godfrey Baldacchino, ISISA President

Christian Bonnici (University of Malta) volunteered to keep an accurate record of the meeting.

The agenda as circulated was presented for adoption with the addition of one item proposed by Marina Karides to be included under Item 7 – other matters. Marina suggested that the GM discusses the diversity in the selection of keynote speakers for the forthcoming ISISA conferences.

A motion to approve the agenda as amended was moved by Gerard Persoon, seconded by Laurie Brinklow and was approved unanimously.

In his introductory remarks, the Chair welcomed all members and referred them to the website link in which the agenda of this meeting, the minutes of the last GM, as well as the other documents that are relevant for this meeting were being made available.

**Item 1: Apologies for Absence**

- Dana Lewis Ambrose, Graeme Robertson, Stephen Royle, Clyde Sakamoto, Elaine Stratford.

**Item 2: Acceptance of Minutes of last General Meeting**

- The Chair referred the members to the Minutes of ISISA 2014 GM, with particular reference to two important highlights, namely the award of Honorary Life Membership in ISISA to Dr Grant McCall and the Penghu Declaration. No further comments were raised by the members.
- Beate Ratter proposed a motion for the approval of the Minutes of the last GM as distributed.
- Marina Karides seconded the motion.
- The motion to accept the Minutes of the General Meeting held on 27 September 2014 in Magong City, Penghu Archipelago, Taiwan was unanimously approved.

**Item 3: President's Report (vide Appendix 1)**

- The Chair reminded the members that the Report is also available on the website.
- The Report highlights include that:
  - the Chair was appointed ISISA **President** in September 2014, although it wasn't easy to step into the big boots left by Dr McCall, former ISISA President;
  - that ISISA executive has since then had four **new faces**, namely Laurie, Elaine, Dana and Marina;
  - **Communication** is central to what ISISA does and one of the projects that was put into place was the expanded suite of communication techniques, to include a bi-annual newsletter (edited by Anna Baldacchino); an ISISA yahoogroups list-serve (moderated by Bruce Potter); a Twitter handle (moderated by Arlene Holmes-Henderson); a Facebook group page; and a premier, open access, scholarly journal (Island Studies Journal) with its own Facebook page; and an ISISA website together with its own blog. Laurie Brinklow is moderating the blog.

These are all ways in which the members can communicate with the Executive and with each other.

- the **website** – [www.isisa.org](http://www.isisa.org) – is our new link and face to the outside world and also allows a user-friendly payment system for those who would like to buy their membership (USD 20) or submit donations.
  - the President thanked the University of Tasmania, Australia, and Maui College, University of Hawaii, USA, who have supported the hosting of the website and who placed their **webhosting** technical staff at ISISA's disposal over the past years.
  - much of the agenda of today's general meeting, including the amendments to the statute, is driven by the outcome of the **strategic review exercise** that was commissioned amongst all ISISA members late in 2014 (and made available on the ISISA website). A message was basically sent out to all members informing them about the changes that needed to be discussed and asking them for their opinion. There were 25 responses and on the basis of those responses a strategic plan was drawn.
  - the plan includes a number of **amendments to the statute**. These amendments shall be discussed in detail during this meeting.
  - the main issues are: (1) the desire to stick, as much as possible, to a **biennial series** of ISISA conferences, to enable members enough time to generate the necessary finances to attend the conference – there will be a gap in 2019 after 2018, but ISISA will still be offering its support to any regional event in 2019 and during any ISISA non-conference years; (2) limiting **membership to individuals** (entities to be excluded); (3) moving to **annual membership fees**, starting on January 1, 2017 – with the new website the membership is just a click away; (4) offer **more scholarships** to deserving students for attending ISISA supported events – six were offered this year and hopefully more will be offered in the future; and (5) the **disbanding of the Advisory Council**, set up in 2010, since the communications gap that had been felt at that time has now been addressed with the new means of communication.
  - upon encouragement by the members, ISISA is seeking '**win-win**' arrangements with like-minded organisations, foremost amongst these is RETI.
- Grant McCall moved the approval of the President's report as tabled.
  - James E. Randall seconded the motion.
  - The motion to accept the President's report was unanimously approved.

#### **Item 4: Treasurer's Report (vide Appendix 2)**

- In the absence of Stephen Royle, the Chair tabled the report to the members and Adam Grydehøj read the Treasurer's summary.
- After the tabling of the report a member of the GM asked how many members ISISA has. The President replied that as of March, which is the latest update he had from the treasurer, the number of members were one hundred and twenty three (125). But of course, what usually happens is that at a conference like this, ISISA gets a surge of members, hopefully everyone remains a member.
- Grant McCall moved the approval of the Treasurer's report.
- Christian Bonnici seconded the motion.
- The motion to accept the Treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

#### **Item 5: Amendments to the Charter (vide Appendix 3)**

- The Chair tabled thirteen amendments to the ISISA Charter. The text that needs to be superseded is presented in black and bold whereas the replacement text is presented in red.
- The Chair proposed each amendment in turn as presented in Appendix 3. With respect to Amendment 7, the Chair pointed out that the increase in annual membership fee to USD20 is purely

to enable ISISA to offer more scholarships to students to attend ISISA and/or ISISA-supported conferences.

- The Chair reminded members that there is still the possibility of life membership, which costs USD 200, which also beats inflation, since the fee is fixed in advance
- With respect to donations, the Chair underlined that should a donation exceeds USD200, the approval of the Executive Committee would be required in order to make sure that no one comes with a huge sum of money and sabotages the organisation
- After explaining all the amendments, the Chair proposed that the thirteen amendments be approved *en bloc*.
- Adam Grydehøj moved the motion to approve the amendments to the Charter.
- Laurie Brinklow seconded the motion
- The motion to approve the thirteen amendments to the Charter was unanimously approved.

### **Item 6: Future ISISA Conferences**

- The Chair underlined that an ISISA conference in 2019 shall not be held in order to enter into the cycle of organising bi-annual conferences instead of annual ones. However, he reiterated that if anyone comes across a conference that matches the interests and objectives of ISISA that is taking place in a different part of the world from the planned 'Island of the World; conference, then ISISA will consider supporting it. It will not be an ISISA conference but it would be our way of keeping contact and supporting like-minded organisations.
- Meanwhile for 2020 a proposal has been submitted by Dr Rob Greenwood to host the ISISA 2020 in St.John's Newfoundland, Canada.
- Rob Greenwood explained to the members that a proposal was submitted to the executive the day before this GM. Memorial University would be happy and honoured to host the ISISA Conference in 2020. The University is very active in the North Atlantic Programme, pioneered by the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI), and which evolved into the North Atlantic Forum and which Memorial University continues to be very active in. The 2020 ISISA Conference would be an extension to all that.
- The proposed title shall be along the lines of: *Turning Challenges Into Strengths – Island Resilience and Innovation*. The idea behind this title is to highlight Memorial University's capability to adapt to the challenges presented by cold water and the changing planet among others. Reference was also made to the emphasis that the federal government in Canada is placing on innovation, thus increasing the possibility to get funding for the organisation of the ISISA 2020 Conference.
- A range of sub-themes are being considered: climate change, global economic restructuring, energy, globalisation and culture, innovative public services, including sustainable island infrastructures and services. These sub themes involve elements of inter-disciplinarity at Memorial University, with people from Engineering, Earth Sciences and the Marine Institute, to mention a few. Other suggested themes are demography, population dynamics, migration, labour market issues, trade connections and aboriginal people.
- Rob explained that the University will have a new conference venue in downtown St. John's having seating for 150 people and roundtables. Renovations have been launched and the site includes panoramic views of the harbour and the City.
- Emphasis was also made by Rob on public engagement as a key mission of Memorial University, including how teachers, researchers and students connect with the communities.
- A day trip to Bell Island is also being proposed. A project is currently being devolved around this island with a Croatian colleague, looking at Syrian refugees who would be setting up an agricultural community on Bell Island. Maybe that could be a very innovative way to cross along many of these themes.

- Finally the organisers are looking at the pre- and post- conference excursion to Fogo Island, which is an amazing historical location, where significant work is also being carried out in philanthropy and community development.
- While the Chair was bringing up the map of Newfoundland on google maps, Rob explained that it was the first colony of the British Empire and the last province to join Canada.
- The proposed dates of the Conference are: June 29 to July 3, 2020. This would offer a good compromise between milder weather and better accommodation and travel prices before the prime time for tourism period.
- A question was asked about the temperature in that period of the year. In a jolly way, Rob explained that it all depends on the direction in which the wind is blowing. It could be 6 degrees Celsius or 25 degrees Celsius. The average in June would be 15 degrees Celsius.
- Rob also spoke about the vividness of the City's nightlife during that period of the year, with particular reference to the tourist custom in Newfoundland called *Screeching*, which is very popular in George Street, where one can *screech* (Jamaican Rum) and you get a certificate.
- Another a member asked about whether sustainability will be considered at the Conference. Rob expressed his openness to consider this valid point and explained to the members that the federal government has some prime objectives in innovation, sustainability, green technology and aboriginal people. Hence the issue of sustainability would fit with the priorities of the nation pretty well.
- Chair Godfrey Baldacchino moved formally the motion for the adoption of St. John's Newfoundland, Canada, as the venue for the 17<sup>th</sup> 'Islands of the World' ISISA Conference in 2020.
- Laurie Brinklow seconded the motion
- The motion to accept St. John's Newfoundland as the venue for the 17<sup>th</sup> ISISA Conference in 2020 was unanimously approved.
- The Chair thanked Rob and expressed the executive's desire to working with him on the organisation of the ISISA 2020 Conference.

#### **Item 7: Other Matters – Diversity of keynote speakers in ISISA Conferences.**

- Without specific reference to this current conference at all, Marina Karides commented that diversity can be given greater consideration in the selection of keynote speakers, particularly by ISISA, which is already a very diverse organisation. Her emphasis is more on the consciousness to diversity rather than as a criticism to the current or past keynote speakers. Diversity can include presenters from the North and South, regional diversity, sexuality and gender diversity.
- A discussion on Marina's suggestion followed, including suggestion to include keynote speakers and to possibly organise ISISA conferences in developing countries. This would be a very useful way to support these countries. Ultimately, the decision on the organisation of ISISA conferences depends on offerings by a particular country or island to host the conference.
- There was agreement that the diversity that Marina mentioned also extends to the diversity of venues. This is something which will be kept in mind. It is a clarion call that the world is not made up of middle-aged bearded men wearing tuxedos. It's much more than that.
- Grant McCall argued that it's true that you have to have an offer from a place to host an ISISA conference, but it could also be that some people may never think it is possible to organise such a conference. So he proposed that if some members know of a place that might be interesting, it would be good to encourage them to come together and maybe host a conference through co-ordinated efforts. Previous organisers and members can share their experience of how funding was obtained and how the logistics were managed. This organisation is only as strong as its members. So if members know of places that could host an ISISA conference in the future, they should encourage our colleagues to hold an ISISA conference in those places.
- A short discussion pursued, with particular reference to the large number of represented countries in the current ISISA Conference, including countries which are being represented for the first time.

Emphasis was also made on continuing to shift conference locations. So: if one conference was held in Europe, the next one will be held in another continent to reach out more to members and interested individuals. There were also comments from the members that a solid base for organising a good quality conference is also important to maintain the high level of the ISISA Conference which has so far been the case. It is not enough that the Executive Committee suggests a conference venue, but there must be local support for an ISISA Conference to be successful. We can see the evidence of this here in Lesvos, whereby ISISA members are beneficiaries of such a fantastic local organising committee who has also recruited a number of students to help out.

- Beate Ratter on behalf of the members proposed to thank Ioannis Spilanis and the other local organisers of the Conference for the beautiful and well-managed conference, in spite of the current peculiar circumstances of Lesvos Island and Greece in general.
- The members openly expressed their gratitude towards the organising committee with a warm applause.

There being no other business, the General Meeting was adjourned *sine die* by the Chair and President Godfrey Baldacchino at 6.38 p.m.

## APPENDIX 1: President's Report

It is my great pleasure to stand before you today and present this, my first report as President of ISISA. I was elected to the post in September 2014, following the long presidency of Dr Grant McCall, now honorary life member of ISISA. Those were very big boots to fill, and I am I sure that I speak on your behalf when I say how grateful I am to Grant for his unstinting dedication to ISISA over two decades.

One key test of an organisation – and especially one run by volunteers – is its ability to survive leadership transitions and indeed exploit new opportunities that the clutch of fresh faces and voices in leadership positions provides. Here, I was blessed to have elected with me 4 new faces to the ISISA Executive: Laurie Brinklow, Elaine Stratford, Dana Lewis Ambrose and Marina Karides. These scholars have brought a fresh dynamism to the organization. I also salute office bearers Beate Ratter, Graeme Robertson, Stephen Royle and Clyde Sakamoto for continuing to offer their services and assuring a vital continuity to the work of ISISA. Apart from these colleagues and friends, I also add my thanks to Anna Baldacchino (Newsletter Editor), Bruce Potter (ISISA listserv moderator) and Arlene Holmes-Henderson (Twitter Liaison) for their ongoing support.

**Communication** is a service that is front and centre of what ISISA does. We have now expanded our range of communication tools to encompass: a bi-annual newsletter; an ISISA yahoogroups list-serve; a Twitter handle (<https://twitter.com/IntSISA>); a Facebook group page; and a premier, open access, scholarly journal (Island Studies Journal) with its own Facebook page. Moreover, since January 1st 2016, we have our own website which is, of course, at: [www.isisa.org](http://www.isisa.org)

The ISISA website is now our flagship site on the world wide web. It showcases material from our own members (including many photographs), historic references to and posters about its major 'Islands of the World' conferences, its previous newsletters, and is also the repository of the documentation that ISISA has notched up over its 20 odd years. It offers a user-friendly payment system for donations or membership fees: indeed, for the first time, we have recruited so many new members without the contact afforded by our 'Islands of the World' conferences. The website also has a moderated blog that is always interested in what you have to say.

The website follows many years during which ISISA benefitted from the kind hosting services of, first, the University of Tasmania, Australia, and then Maui Community College, part of the University of Hawai'i system, USA. We thank these two institutions for their unwavering support over many years during which they also placed their webhosting technical staff at ISISA's disposal. We would not have got here without you.

Much of the agenda of today's general meeting, including the amendments to the statute, is driven by the outcome of the strategic review exercise that was commissioned amongst all ISISA members late in 2014. This exercise highlighted many issues, which include: (1) the desire to stick, as much as possible, to a biennial series of ISISA conferences; while offering ISISA support to a regional event during ISISA non-conference years; (2) limiting membership to individuals; (3) moving to annual membership fees, starting on January 1, 2017; (4) offer more scholarships to deserving students for attending ISISA supported events; and (5) the disbanding of the Advisory Council, set up in 2010.

In our strategic review we were also encouraged by our members to seek 'win-win' arrangements with like-minded organisations. Foremost amongst these is RETI, the network of island universities pioneered by the University of Corsica, France, in 2010 (hence its French acronym: 3 reseau d'excellence des territoires insulaires). We are therefore quite proud that this 14th ISISA 'Islands of the World' Conference is also the first that we are running in partnership with RETI.

With your help, ISISA will continue to offer its services in order to maintain a global preeminence in the promotion of island studies, whether as a scholarly field of academic endeavour, as well as a legitimate focus of public policy.

We will also continue to approach local partners in the very many islands scattered around the world with a view to hosting an ISISA 'Islands of the World' Conference. Having hundreds of island studies scholars from all imaginable disciplines converge on the same island is a terrific experience, whether for the locals as much as for the incoming delegates. We strive to maintain a broad territorial distribution for our conferences, while always striving for a top quality experience in hospitality, local culture and island studies scholarship.

I will conclude with the statement of an anonymous ISISA member, submitted during our strategic review exercise of 2014:

To me ISISA is the banding together in unity of islands and island scholars for the betterment of islands as a whole. One island's voice is small, their troubles seem insignificant, of unimportance to the global world. But when similarities of many islands are placed before the world, the problem of one becomes the problem of many. ISISA links likeminded scholars to support each other's efforts to explore and discover similarities but also to appreciate island differences. ISISA links islands, for no island should be alone against the world. And it is my hope that our association will be perceived as a resource by islands for reliable island-focused studies; something they can find resourceful.

Thank you

Prof. Godfrey Baldacchino - ISISA President

25 May 2016

## APPENDIX 2: Treasurer's Report

### ISISA Treasurer's Report, 2014-16 Islands of the World XIV, Lesvos, Greece

(Last report: Islands of the World XIII, Penghu, Taiwan September 2014; in GBP)

	Current Account	Business Reserve Account	Paypal	Total
<b>Brought Forward</b>	<b>5440.17</b>	<b>11,986.40</b>	<b>560.14</b>	<b>17,986.73</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Membership Fees	44.29	1084.00	536.47	
Refund by Treasurer!	146.97			
Interest		12.26		
Test			1.00	
Fee Reversal			0.78	
Scholarships			850.00	
Paypal transfer		500.00		
Paypal credit		0.01		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>191.26</b>	<b>1596.27</b>	<b>1388.25</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Transaction Fees			68.47	
Refund, double payment			20.00	
Transfer to Business Reserve			500.00	
Scholarships, RETI, Orkney	1090.00			
ISISA pens	624.73			
Website development costs	2000.00			
Treasurer's mistake	146.97			
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3861.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>588.47</b>	
<b>Excess of Expenditure</b>	<b>3479.18</b>			<b>1153.13</b>
<b>Excess of Income</b>		<b>1526.27</b>	<b>799.78</b>	
<b>Carried Forward</b>	<b>1769.73</b>	<b>13,582.67</b>	<b>1359.92</b>	<b>16,712.32</b>

Note: This report does not take into account the ISISA scholarships for Lesvos, nor the membership fees to come from delegates.

*Professor Stephen A. Royle, ISISA Treasurer, Belfast 12 May 2016*

I apologise for not being present in person to give this report. The situation is that I have recently retired and promised my wife that upon reaching that happy position, I would become more aware of her interests. My wife is blind and plays (lawn) bowls to an international standard within the blind bowling world. She was invited to a big tournament in Israel, which overlapped precisely the ISISA conference in Lesvos and, true to my promise, I am going, too, to help her on the bowling green. So, we will be dressed in the green shirts of Northern Ireland international sports players as this report is read out.

ISISA has three accounts. A Current Account and a Business Reserve Account are held in the NatWest Bank in Portsmouth, England, where the organisation's first treasurer, Mark Hampton used to live. I have never been in the bank; all business is carried out by post, including regular statements delivered to my address. I did enquire into setting up e-banking but the procedures to do so were so complicated because of money laundering regulations that I did not bother. There are actually only a few transactions per year. The third account is with PayPal and those who join via the website pay their fees into it. It was also very useful in receiving money from Island Resources Foundation given attempts to transfer funds into a NatWest account failed, thanks again to their over-complicated protocols.

ISISA's financial position as revealed by the table is a little unreal in that the scholarships for the Lesvos conference have yet to be taken from the funds, but on the positive side the membership fees from Lesvos are also yet to be collected. Thanks to Bruce and Kinsey Potter's Island Resources Foundation for supporting the scholarships, also to Godfrey and Anna Baldacchino similarly, although their support is not yet credited to the accounts.

ISISA has spent more than has been brought in since the last Treasurer's Report at Penghu. However, ISISA exists not to accumulate money, but to disburse it to the benefit of its mission and membership. The additions to the normal round of business have been to buy in a stock of ISISA branded pens and to pay to have our own website professionally designed and managed.

I have run down the Current Account to some extent and a greater proportion of our funds are in the interest-bearing Business Reserve Account, although this really makes little difference, the interest accruing is very limited. Once any flurry of business from Lesvos is over, further money held in the PayPal account can be transferred into the Business Reserve Account, as with the £500 already transferred across.

You will note the usual treasurer's mistake. This is the same as before for I inadvertently had entered the ISISA account details and not my personal account number to sign up for a direct debit with the Royal Automobile Club, the British motoring organisation. I obviously had not cancelled the direct debit after the last time! Maybe I have done so now. Apologies.

The bottom line is that ISISA is in a healthy state financially with, as of today, assets of 16,712.32 GBP, which is over 21,000 Euro

## APPENDIX 3: Draft Changes to ISISA Charter following Strategic Review

### ISISA Charter

Original text in black

Original text to be amended or removed in black and bold and within [[ ]]

Replacements highlighted in red.

Justifications for the amendments in blue.

#### Preamble

A group of scholars, researchers and other interested persons from around the world concerned with small islands first organised an international conference in Victoria BC, Canada, in 1986 to discuss their common interests. The first “Islands of the World” conference was followed by further meetings in Tasmania (1988) and the Bahamas (1992). At the “Islands of the World III” Bahamas meeting, it was decided to form a continuing organisation and that this body would hold its first meeting at the “Islands of the World IV” Conference in Okinawa, in June 1994.

**[[Subsequent conferences have been held in Mauritius (1998), Isle of Skye (2000), Prince Edward Island (2002), Kinmen, Taiwan (2004), Maui, Hawai’i (2006), and Jeju, South Korea (2008). At the 11th ‘Islands of the World’ Conference held in 2010 in Bornholm, Denmark, it was agreed to limit the size of the Executive Committee, and introduce an Advisory Council.]]** Subsequent conferences have been held in Mauritius (1998), Isle of Skye, Scotland, UK (2000), Prince Edward Island, Canada (2002), Kinmen, Taiwan (2004), Maui, Hawai’i, USA (2006), Jeju, South Korea (2008), Bornholm, Denmark (2010), Tortola, British Virgin Islands (2012), Penghu, Taiwan (2014) and Lesvos, Greece (2016).

This 1st amendment updates the list of ISISA IoW conferences to 2016, plus removes the reference to the decisions taken in Bornholm.

#### Article I. Name

A) The name shall be the International Small Islands Studies Association (hereinafter known simply by its acronym in English, ISISA).

#### Article II. Objectives of ISISA

A) To advance the study of islands.

B) To encourage free and critical discussion on island affairs, including (but not limited to) matters dealing with survival, sustainability, islandness, smallness, insularity, resource management, the environment, and the culture and nature of island life.

C) To generate an interest in the study of islands, especially amongst those who hail from, work in, are associated with, or whose decisions have an impact on small islands and small island life.

This 2nd amendment updates the objectives of ISISA by providing more details on its areas of core interest, as well as on its core constituencies.

### Article III. Activities

**[[ A) ISISA shall aim to link people interested in small island matters through international communications, such as newsletters, journals and periodic conferences.]]**

A) ISISA shall aim to connect members of the general public, students, scholars, policy makers, community representatives and others interested in small island matters through international and electronic communication, such as newsletters, journals, website, social media, conferences and other periodic events.

This 3rd amendment adds website and electronic means and social media to the means for communicating with the members and the public at large; while remaining all inclusive, the amendment also specifies particular groups interested in the work of ISISA.

B) ISISA shall be independent, non-profit and educational

C) ISISA will abide by the fiduciary regulations of the country in which its funds are held.

This 4th amendment affirms ISISA's commitment to proper ethical and legal conduct with regards to its finances.

### Article IV. Membership

A) The ISISA Membership shall be the Governing Body of the Association. It is composed of all members in good standing.

**[[A member in "good standing" is one who has paid his/her current dues at the scheduled IOW Conference when voting will occur on ISISA issues.]]**

A member in "good standing" is one who has paid his/her current dues.

This 5th amendment clarifies that membership is no longer payable at scheduled IOW Conferences only.

**[[ B) Membership is open to individuals, entities, organisations and institutions having an interest in small island studies who accept the Charter and its underlying principles. Each member has one vote.]]**

B) Membership is open to individuals having an interest in island studies, including small island studies, and who accept the Charter and its underlying principles. Each member has one vote.

This 6th amendment clarifies that members can ONLY be individuals (avoids possible take-over and/or infiltration by unwelcome institutional interests). It also adds interest in 'island studies' over and above interest in 'small island studies'.

**[[ C) Dues shall be set by the Executive Committee and are US\$20 payable at every ISISA Conference, typically in about two years' time.]]**

C) Membership fees shall be set by the Executive Committee and will be reviewed on a regular basis. Effective from January 1, 2017, membership dues are US\$20 or equivalent, payable on an annual basis.

D) Individuals not in a position to pay the fee but who wish to become members of ISISA should approach the ISISA Treasurer with a written request, citing their reasons, and which will be considered by the ISISA Executive Committee. The Committee's decision will be final.

This 7th amendment clarifies that membership is payable every year. It proposes a membership fee of \$20/year (or equivalent) to make up for the added running expenses of the Association, plus improve the ability to offer still more student scholarships. (As far as I know, the membership fee has never been changed. \$20 remains affordable for most; and the option for a fee waiver is now introduced.)

E) Life Membership in ISISA is available to current or prospective members for a once-only fee of US\$200 payable at any time, and following the approval of the application by the ISISA Executive Committee.

**[[ F) Members and other interested individuals and entities may make donations to support the work of ISISA, and shall be appropriately recognised in the Association's publications and meetings.]]**

F) Individuals, entities, organisations and institutions may make donations, or offer sponsorship, to support the work of ISISA, and shall be appropriately recognised in the Association's publications and meetings. Any donation or sponsorship of \$200 or higher requires the approval of the ISISA Executive Committee.

This 8th amendment is meant to protect ISISA from corporate or other interests that may not conform to the objects of the Association. Any sum higher than a life membership is thus subject to the approval of the Executive Committee – just as the life membership application itself is already covered.

G) The Rights of members in good standing shall be to attend the meetings of the Association, to vote, to hold office, to receive such publications and enjoy such privileges as shall be determined.

H) A General Meeting of ISISA should be held during its periodic conferences for the election of officers, to present and discuss the budget and the conduct of the Association's business.

**[[ I) Termination of membership takes place when a member has not paid a subscription for more than two ISISA conferences, or by resignation in writing by that member, duly sent to the ISISA Secretary.]]**

I) Termination of membership takes place when: (a) a member's subscription has lapsed by six (6) months, and once that member has been duly notified of this lapse by the ISISA Secretary; or (b) by resignation in writing by that member, duly sent to the ISISA Secretary.

This 9th amendment follows the shift to an annual membership fee.

## Article V. Executive Committee

A) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the daily operation of ISISA, may co-opt other members, and is subordinate to the Membership at the General Meeting.

B) The President and Executive Committee members shall be elected at the ISISA General Meeting and shall serve for four years.

C) The President (or, in his **or her** absence, the Vice President or nominee, in that order) shall preside at all meetings of the Association.

**[[ D) The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than six and not more than nine members. These include the President, the VicePresident, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Communications Officer, along with up to four, other, elected ordinary members.]]**

**D) The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than six and not more than nine members. These include the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and Treasurer, along with up to five, other, elected ordinary members.**

This 10th amendment follows the projected move to ISISA's own website and a diversity of communication solutions that cannot be handled by one person. The proposal is thus to eliminate the position of Communications Officer – although the incumbent can continue a full term.

E) Each Executive Committee will also include at least two supernumerary (or co-opted) members: one representing the immediately preceding 'Islands of the World' Conference; and one representing the immediately following 'Islands of the World' Conference.

**[[Article VI. Advisory Council]] DELETED**

This 11th amendment involves the complete removal of this Article, following agreement to disband the Advisory Council. The agreement to disband was unanimously confirmed by the members of the current AC themselves.

## Article VI. Conferences and Meetings

**[[ A) Conferences shall be held periodically at times and places to be determined by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Membership.]]**

**A) Conferences shall usually be held biennially, at times and places to be determined by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Membership.**

This 12th amendment takes cognizance of the membership's wish to stick mainly to a biennial conference schedule.

B) A General Meeting shall be held as part of each ISISA Conference.

C) The Executive Committee shall confer at least twice each year, at such time and in such manner as they shall determine.

#### Article VII. Duration

A) The duration of ISISA is Perpetual.

#### Article VIII. Amendments

A) This Charter may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of all ISISA members in good standing present at the General Meeting.

**[[ B) Amendments may be proposed by the President, Executive Committee, the Advisory Council, or through the petition of 20% or more of the members in good standing. ISISA will vote upon all such proposed amendments at its next regularly scheduled General Meeting.]]**

B) Amendments may be proposed by the President, Executive Committee, or through the petition of 20% or more of the members in good standing. ISISA will vote upon all such proposed amendments at its next regularly scheduled General Meeting convened for this purpose. Any such meetings can be scheduled electronically.

This 13th and final amendment removes the Advisory Council from the article, and specifies that a 'meeting' may be held virtually, using suitable information technology.

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