

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2014

1. News from the EJTA Board

Next board meeting: Mechelen, 17-18 March 2014.

On the agenda:

- Preparation of Conference/AGM 2014, Jyväskylä, Finland, 22 & 23 May 2014
- Preparation of AGM 2015, EJTA's 25th Anniversary
- EJTA's strategy
- Membership EJTA
- Secretariat in Mechelen

Questions/topics from members? Please let us know...

2. Conference/AGM 2014 in Jyväskylä

Colleagues from Jyväskylä are working hard to make the 2014 Conference and AGM a real success. At the end of February their website will be ready to give you all the information you need on travel, location, hotels, programme, speakers, etcetera.

Of course we hope to welcome lots of EJTA members to the conference, so make sure you mark Thursday 22 May and Friday 23 May in your busy schedule and start planning your trip! We'll send everybody an agenda with information on all AGM items well in advance.

In a sneak preview, you'll find a brief outline of the programme below.

EJTA conference: Thursday 22 May

- Theme: 'Impact of social media on journalism and journalism education' with presentations from Finnish and international speakers and discussions.
- EJTA dinner

EJTA AGM: Friday 23 May

- Report from the President about Board meetings, an evaluation of the WJEC3, changes in the EJTA secretariat, projects and finances.
- Info on membership: new, leaving and potential members.
- Forum for European Journalism Students: presentation by members of the FEJS Board.
 - Lunch: in network groups
 - Student mobility
 - Bilateral agreements
 - Strategic partnerships
- Strategy Discussion: 'EJTA 2020' (see underneath)
- Organisation of AGM 2015: 25th Anniversary
- Election of new Board members

3. Strategy 'EJTA 2020'

During the AGM we want to take some time to discuss EJTA's future strategy now the golden era of the news industry is over and the definition of journalism, and models of journalism education, are changing rapidly.

To encourage all members to start thinking about this, we'll attach a note by Nico Drok to the agenda of the AGM. And here you can already find some food for thought.

EJTA's strategy for the years up to 2020 is characterized by three core terms:

- I. Renewal
- II. Research
- III. Relations

Renewal ought to be achieved in the curriculum of journalism schools through, amongst other actions, the organisation of extra conferences for teachers within EJTA, online courses and the enforcement of the Tartu declaration. We also hope to establish renewal within EJTA itself by trying to gather members from all European countries and create European partnerships between all members.

Research: We also wish to give more attention to research done by EJTA members, participate in research programmes and continue with EJTA

the Alba hotel, Finland



research on shifting qualifications of (starting) professionals within Europe.

Relations: the idea is to strengthen EJTA's relationship with the European Union, with the World Journalism Education Council, with ECREA (the European Communication Research and Education Association), with African schools of journalism from Low Income Countries, and with the FEJS (Forum for European Journalism Students).

If you have any valuable ideas on how to proceed with these key concepts, please make sure you tell us, either by mail or during the AGM discussion.

4. New board members

After four years of 'faithful service' in the Board Manuela Manliher and Hans Paukens will step down in May 2014. This means we need two new candidates for the EJTA Board and we'll have an election during the AGM.

There are some characteristics for the candidates' profile:

- One seat is reserved for the mid-career section of EJTA
- The other seat is not reserved, but the Board favours a geographical spread. Since we now have a Dutch president, an English and a Flemish Board member, it would be good to have other parts of Europe represented too.
- Not only is geographical diversity favoured, but also gender diversity will work positively in the Board. So preferably one of the two new members is male.

Candidates will make themselves known before the end of March in an email to the president. They should provide a short biography with a photograph and their motivation (about 100-150 words).

5. Payment yearly member fee

The Board has decided to change the period of payment for membership: an invoice for the next budget year will be sent to all members in February 2014. Members pay by 30 March 2014 at the latest, so we know at the AGM which members are up to date on their payment.

This means that in the coming weeks all members will receive the invoice for the calendar year 2014 (and not for the academic year 2013/2014). Be careful: the new EJTA account is Belgian and the account number has changed!

6. Upcoming events

Annual Congress FEJS

For students of Journalism Schools in Europe. Cologne, 1-6 May 2014, theme: 'The Future of Journalism in Europe'

More info: <http://fejsint.org>

AGM 2015

Date to be confirmed, probably at the end of May. This will be our 25th anniversary, so it will be a special place and a special AGM and Conference.