



Business Meeting of ERGOMAS held in Ra'anana Israel on June 10, 2015

1. Opening by the President Yagil Levy and welcome to the business meeting.
2. Awards ceremony.
 - a. Awards were presented by René Moelker based on the decision of the Awards Committee - René Moelker (Chair), Ashu Pasrisha, and Maren Tomforde.
 - b. ERGOMAS Award for Best Book in Civil-military Relations was given to Lana Obradovic, for her book entitled *Gender Integration in NATO Military Forces*.
 - c. ERGOMAS Award for Best Graduate Paper delivered at the conference was given to Mika Penttinen for his paper entitled *The Success of Tomorrow is based on Actions of Today*.
3. Time was taken to commemorate our colleagues who passed away since the last conference in 2013.
 - a. René Moelker offered parting words about Rudy Richardson.
 - b. Heiko Biehl offered parting words about Sabine Colmer.
4. Report was provided by the Executive, the Webmaster, and the Working Group Coordinators.
 - a. Yagil reflected on the previous term and the many accomplishments that have taken place, including website and social media, publication partnerships with Springer Publishers and Res Militaris, advances in our payment system, funding of a workshop by the Military Profession WG, and establishment of best book and best paper awards.
 - b. David Kuehn, as webmaster, provided details on the re-development of the website and the initiation of Facebook and Twitter.

- c. Irina Goldenberg detailed the progress with Springer Publishers. In particular, there is continued liaison with Springer to stand up of a Defence Series, in collaboration with our partner organization the International Sociological Associations Research Committee on Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution (RC01). The latest progress on this comes from a teleconference held with Dr. Liesbeth Mol, Editorial Director, on 3 June. At this teleconference it was confirmed that the requirement to produce approximately 4 books per year in order to create a visible stand alone series. In the interim, ERGOMAS and RC01 titles may be published under an existing series entitled *Advanced Sciences and Technologies for Security Applications*. Of note, ERGOMAS and RC01 logos may be added to these publications. Members were encouraged to consider Springer for the publication of their academic work so as to support this initiative.
- d. Working Group Coordinators provided updates, including:
 - i. Tibor Szvircsev Tresch discussed a meeting in July for the Recruitment and Retention WG and the plan to partner with the Morale, Coehsion, and Leadership WG in order to put together a special issue of Res Militaris.
 - ii. Marina Nuciari, for the Gender and the Military WG, provided details on two special issues of Res Militaris; response to the Call for Proposals was greater than expected allowing for the development of two volumes.
 - iii. Giuseppe Caforio reported on the proceedings of the Military Profession WG, including the workshop held in Torino in February 2015 and the roundtable discussion scheduled on 12 June to discuss publication of a volume of Officer and Commander.
 - iv. David Kuehn, reported on the current initiatives of the Civilian Control of the Military WG, including the panels that took place at the conference, the successful workshop that took place in February 2015 funded by the Thyssen Foundation, planned publication of an edited volume in 2016, two panels planned at the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society in October 2015, and a special volume of Res Militaris in 2016/2017.
 - v. Marjan Malesic reported on the Public Opinion, Mass Media and the Military WG and the two successful sessions held at the conference. It was reported that since the last conference there has been much research of public opinion and mass media carried out in various countries, however, the research is not based upon common theory and methodology, but is rather nation-specific. The goal for the future is to achieve a common cross-national research of the military on the topic of public opinion and mass media. To support this, attraction of scholars from more nations into the WG, and greater stability with respect to tenure of the WG, is desired.
 - vi. Gielt Algra reported on the Veterans in the Military WG; this WG was stood up following the 12 bienniel conference in Madrid and is relatively new; as such, it was off to a good start with plans to continue to develop this WG in the coming term.
 - vii. Manon Andres reported on the proceedings of the Military Families WG, including three great presentations in the parallel session as well as the very succesful plenary presentation based on the Military Families edited volume that was initiated following the 11th bienniel conference in Amsterdam and was recently published.
 - viii. Warriors in Peacekeeping WG was chaired by René Moelker in the absence of Maren Tomforde at the conference this year. The WG had two panels at the conference of high quality papers.

- ix. Amir Bar-Or chaired the Blurring of Military and Police Roles in the absence of Marleen Easton at the conference this year. Although there was only one parallel session on this topic, the quality of the presentations and discussion was very high.
 - x. Michael Holenweger chaired the Morale, Cohesion, and Leadership WG which was highly successful this year, with 19 conference presentations and a book planned in the near future.
 - xi. Ashu Pasricha, coordinator of the Military Conflict Management and Peace Economics WG, was not present at the conference (which had one parallel session with high-quality papers, chaired by Irina Goldenberg).
 - xii. Eyal Ben-Ari chaired the Violence and the Military WG in the absence of Karl Ydén. The WG held two quality parallel sessions and a book is being developed.
5. Amended By-Laws were proposed and discussed. The only point of debate to the proposed changes was in regard to the term for the President – in particular, it was agreed that the President could serve for more than one term but that a President could not serve for more than one consecutive term. In total 66 ERGOMAS members were present at the business meeting to vote on the acceptance of the By-Law amendment. The new By-Laws will be revised based on the discussion at the business meeting, promulgated through the upcoming newsletter, and posted on the web-site.
6. Auditors. New auditors were selected – we thank Amir Bar-Or (Chair of Auditing Committee) and Morten Braender for assuming the roles of the auditors. Manon Andres was thanked for her role as auditor over the past term (due to new by-law indicating that auditors may not be members of the executive committee, Manon was no longer eligible to serve as auditor due to her role as WG coordinator of the Military Families WG).
7. Elections.
- a. George Kaffes was the sole nominee for ERGOMAS President.
 - b. George delivered a speech to introduce himself and his dedication to the discipline, ERGOMAS, and to hosting the upcoming conference in Athens in 2017.
 - c. George was elected during the vote held at the business meeting.
 - d. George Kaffes is an Associate Professor of Military Sociology at the Hellenic Army Academy. George was warmly welcomed by the executive and the members as the incoming President.
8. Closing remarks – including thanking all for their significant roles, particularly Yagil Levy for his service over the past year and to the Open University for hosting a successful conference.