

# **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

## **JANUARY 2016**

### **DRAE MEETING**

During 2015 the ExCo had two meetings, in Hannover in February and in Bergen in the end of June.

To be followed up from the meeting in Hannover:

- Meeting with GS Heather Roy from Eurodiaconia for mutual discussions. The meeting will take place in Basel.
- New web-master. Due to an in curie a report from the web-master is not put on the agenda for the Basel meeting. That will not happen again.

From the meeting in Bergen I will mention some few issues beside the main issue – the Assembly:

- The Assembly will be evaluated as a separate item on the agenda.
- Regional groups: The group discussion included focus on the future of DRAE and DIAKONIA. The results of these discussions will be evaluated in our meeting.
- Bank of Scotland account. A long journey has come to its end. A lot of thanks to many people especially Martin Vogler and Janie Martin.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE**

The standing committee consist of the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Regional President. The committee mainly works and communicate through e-mails. It is a very efficient way of working and there is a lot of contact across borders and languages.

### **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The planning committee for this meeting has been Elisabeth Meier and Martin Vogler. They have done a marvellous job and I am very excited to be in Basel for this meeting. I will also take the opportunity to thank the Planning Committee for the Assembly in Bergen. Few, but strong, ladies are able to do what is needed!

### **DIAKONIA WORLD MEETING**

The meeting took place in Chicago in the US. In addition to work on all the items in the meeting we were able to visit Loyola University the place of Word Assembly 2017 and Valparaiso, the city of the Lutheran Deaconess Association.

Items from the meeting:

- **Constitution and Bylaws:**  
The three Regional Presidents are requested to initiate dialogue in order to offer mutual support across regions, to review regional structures and practices and election processes, and to look at ways that the Constitutions in each Region may be consistent with each other and with DIAKONIA World.  
A report of progress on outcomes will be received at the 2016 EC.

- **DIAKAID and Emergency Fund**

No applications were received. After discussion, it was agreed that each Regional President would follow up with member associations. The Executive would intentionally plan to promote a different project focus each year (e.g. teaching, education) although applications for projects in other focus areas that addressed criteria for DIAKAID and Emergency Fund would be welcomed.

- **Membership.**

- **Registration of DIAKONIA World Federation**

- **DIAKONIA World Assembly 2017**

## **ECUMENICAL PARTNERS**

Ulrike Kellner and Marianne Uri Øverland joined the AGM of Eurodiaconia that was held in Barcelona in June. This was part of our strategy to increase the contact between DRAE and Eurodiaconia.