

COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE

between the United States of America, Belgium & Luxembourg

FAAB Summer Board Meeting

22 June 2017 | Fulbright Commission

ATTENDED: Elisabeth Bloxam, Salomé Cissal de Ugarté, Cecilia Gielen, Marijke Hendrickx, Erica Lutes, Gilles Moreau (dial in), Louis-Hubert Pacco, Frédéric Papeians (dial in), Filip Vandeveldé

DID NOT ATTEND: Paulien Detailleur, Renilde Reynders, Nathalie Schraepen

I. Update on FAAB Programming for 2016-2017

Fulbright Executive Director Erica Lutes provided a summary of FAAB programming during the 2016-2017 academic year:

- A. FAAB Fall Event: A History of Human Rights in Mechelen (October 2016)
- B. "Drinks & Debate" Alumni Afterwork (October 2017, November 2016)
- C. Christmas Market events in Brussels, Ghent, and Liège (December 2016)
- D. Eat & Meet with Alexandre De Croo (February 2017)

II. Event Planning for Fall 2017

Attendees discussed the following upcoming events to be held this fall:

- A. Eat & Meet with Jean Van Eynde on 28 September 2017
- B. FAAB Fall Event on 14 October 2017
 - a. Day-long event open to alumni and current grantees
 - b. Location and theme to be determined
- C. Eat & Meet with Marc Raisiere in November 2017 (tentative - TBC)
- D. Thanksgiving Dinner
 - a. Open to current Fulbright grantees, FAAB Board, and select alumni
 - b. Hosted at DCM Residence in Uccle
- E. Cookies & Carols on 3 or 10 December 2017 (TBC)
 - a. Open to current Fulbright grantees, FAAB Board, and select alumni
 - b. Hosted by Salomé Cissal de Ugarté

III. 70th Anniversary of Fulbright Program in Belgium and Luxembourg

Attendees discussed the 70th anniversary of the Fulbright Commission celebrating Belgium and Luxembourg, which will be celebrated on 8 October 2018. Preparations for the anniversary will be completed with the assistance of both a special volunteer alumni committee (currently 10 volunteers) and a Fulbright Commission Board sub-committee.

The Fulbright Commission is submitting a proposal for \$50,000 in funding for anniversary celebrations, and hopes to receive around \$30,000. Receipt of this money is contingent on the Fulbright Commission being able to prove cost-sharing, fundraising initiatives, and/or in-kind donations.

COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE

between the United States of America, Belgium & Luxembourg

IV. Alumni Database

The alumni database has been finished, and the Fulbright Commission staff are in the midst of populating the database with alumni data. The database places an emphasis on ease of access: once their data is entered by staff, alumni will receive a welcome email with a personalized link from secretary@fulbright.com that allows them to update or confirm their personal information.

Attendees made the following suggestions to the welcome email:

- A. Replace Fulbright logo with Fulbright Alumni Association in Belgium logo.
- B. Reword title message to put an emphasis on “Verify your information” or “Update your information” rather than merely “Stay in touch”

Attendees thanked Marijke Hendrickx for her hard work in preparing the alumni database

V. Financial Update

Treasurer Giles Moreau provided an update about the financial status of FAAB. The following items were discussed:

- A. Additional 25,000€ in account
 - a. Intended to be used for “supporting students while abroad”
- B. Dues
 - a. Only 4 alumni paid dues in 2017 (compared to 1 in 2016)
 - b. Giles Moreau suggested that this might be due to alumni choosing to make donations through KBF for tax purposes, rather than paying non-tax deductible dues to FAAB
- C. Purpose of FAAB BNP Paribas account
 - a. Pay for website (approximately 500€ per year)
 - b. Back-up account for upfront costs of otherwise self-sustained events
 - c. Scholarships?
- D. Legacy donations
 - a. Erica Lutes suggested that FAAB develop an outreach strategy for legacy donations from older alumni and friends of the Fulbright Program, perhaps as part of the 70th anniversary

Attendees thanked Giles Moreau for his hard work in ensuring the return of the previously inaccessible account.

VI. Website

Attendees discussed the status of the FAAB website.

Filip Vandeveldel proposed moving from the current server to a Wordpress site, which would make the site easier to manage for Webmaster Marijke Hendrickx.

VII. Succession

COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE

between the United States of America, Belgium & Luxembourg

After four years as President of the Fulbright Alumni Association in Belgium, Salomé Cissal de Ugarte has resigned. She will remain on the board as the Former National President. The Board addresses Salome a warm thank you for the last four years as president.

The Board has selected the following officers:

- A. President: Louis-Hubert Pacco
- B. Vice President: Filip Vandeveld
- C. Treasurer: Giles Moreau

VIII. Date of the Next FAAB Board Meeting

The date of the next FAAB Board Meeting will be 4 October 2017 at 12:30 p.m. at the Royal Library of Belgium. The Fulbright Commission will pay for lunch for meeting attendees.

The agenda for the board meeting will consist of:

- A. October 2017 FAAB event
- B. Confirmation of calendar for fall/winter events
- C. 70th Anniversary Committee
- D. Financial Update
- E. Presentation of Selections Process for 2018-2019
- F. Additional topics proposed by board members