

Agenda ENID Board and General Assembly

Friday, 6th September 2019, 9 -12.30, CNR IRCRES, Via dei Taurini 19 Roma, Aula Piano terra

The following members were present and represented by:

Institutional members	Represented by
CNR CERIS	Emanuela Reale
CWTS, Leiden University	Theod van Leeuwen, Ed Noyons
Department of Computer, Control, and Management Engineering Antonio Ruberti, University of Rome La Sapienza	Cinzia Daraio
DZHW, Dept. Research System and Science Dynamics	Sybille Hinze
GRETHA Univ Bordeaux and CNRS	Nicholas Carayol
INGENIO-CSIC Valencia	Jordi Molas-Gallart
Joanneum, Vienna	Michael Ploder
KU Leuven, ECOOM	Wolfgang Glänzel
Max Planck Institute for Solid State Research	Robin Haunschild
NIFU, Oslo	Gunnar Sivertsen
Observatoire des Sciences et Techniques (OST), Paris	Frédérique Sachwald
Samuel Neaman Institute,	Daphne Getz
State Public Scientific Technological Library of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences	Andrey Guskov, Denis Kosyakov
UNU-MERIT	Fabian Vinsentin
Guest	
Danish Centre for Studies in Research and Research Policy, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University	Jesper Schneider

1. Approval of the agenda
The agenda was approved.
2. Report of the President on the activities of the ENID association, on the general strategy for ENID
In his report, Jordi Molas-Gallart, provided the customary overview of the previous year activities. This was also the last year of his ENID Presidency, and he added a reflection of what has been done over the last 4 years and, a consideration of issues that are on the agenda for the association to consider in the upcoming years.

Annual report

- The main novelty this year has been the experiment of a joint ISSI / STI conference. Thus, instead of organizing the annual stand-alone STI Indicators conference, we have participated as a track in the ISSI Conference. For the discussion of the experience see agenda item 5.
- The changes to the ENID statutes, which were approved at ENID GA 2017, have now been registered with the French authorities. With the new statutes in place we have had new institutional memberships (some associated to individual active members) and several additional applications:
 - In total since September 2018, 9 institutions applied for ENID membership, 6 applications were accepted by the boards, and 3 were rejected. These were the first

rejections ever. Rejections were made on the basis of lack of evidence that there was a group (even if small) working in areas of relevance to ENID.

- At present there are two open applications under consideration, which will be presented to the board after the GA following the discussion under item 6.
- Currently ENID has 45 institutional members; all but 5 in Europe (the other 5 are 2 in Iran, 1 in India, 1 in Uganda, 1 in Egypt). There is also 1 in Israel, which has been actively involved for many years. The 5 non-European organizations are not leading centers in our field. ENID kept its European remit and avoided becoming global but, we do accept non-European members. Leading organizations elsewhere have other references for their work and naturally they do not seem interested to join an organization whose regional scope is different.

Over the years

The philosophy

- In previous meetings we discussed the character ENID, as an association, is striving for: A heavy or a light organization?
 - Tony van Raan, the previous president, in his farewell speech proposed that the association extended and intensified its operations towards becoming a “certification authority” for analysts/evaluators in the field.
 - We then discussed possible alternatives for the future and decided to stay with a very light organization revolving around the organization of the conference series.
 - This conference has a distinct flavor, as it sits at the interface between indicators and policy. Issues like the type of use of indicators in evaluation and the implications of this use are key to the Conference and the work of ENID
 - Yet, we need to revisit constantly this light role, its alternatives and the potential consequences e.g.
 - For an extended scope of ENID’s activities (maybe winter conferences, early career workshops, or even a more active policy participation role) funds would be needed, thus we would have to revisit the ‘no membership fee’ policy. This would be a major step
- Membership: We were facing a rather substantial growth of membership with partly overlapping individual and institutional membership. We perceived this growth posed a problem regarding the governance of the association. Therefore, we decided to move to institutional membership only, and adjusted the statutes accordingly.

The new statutes

- Move from individual to group “membership”...as a mechanism to manage growth.
- Made the positions of Secretary and Treasurer renewable without limit.

Some important but perhaps not so visible changes

- Name change of Conference Series: From Science and Technology Indicators to Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators

An effort has been made to broaden the scope of activities of ENID to include the innovation indicators community. This community is differentiated as it revolves mainly around economist/business admin scholars, rather than our existing community. One can see the process as one of expansion, from initially “Information Science”, adding later “public policy, evaluation and, to a lesser extent perhaps STS communities (through the concern about the use of indicators), to now include the innovation studies/economics of innovation communities. This was important because the sharp boundary between S&T and Innovation is becoming increasingly anachronistic. So an effort has been made to include centers active in this field. We need to continue these efforts as the presence of relevant institutions is still limited.

Issues for the future

- How light should ENID be? This question needs to be regularly revisited with regard to the scope of our activities as well as the geographical scope (see above).

- Management of membership: ENID has 45 members but, many of these members are dormant, they do not attend the Conference, or the Assembly meetings, and do not participate in any of our discussions. If the number of dormant members grows “too much” (what is too much?) we might consider a mechanism to review memberships.
- The link with the journal *Research Evaluation*: The journal has a similar philosophy to the Conference and, in the past it had systematically produced a special issue based on the Conference. *RE* and *SPP* do not have special issues anymore, but “special sections”. We have since had special sections based on conference papers but, this is not a systematic practice. The link between Conference and journal has, if anything become more tenuous. How to take this forward considering that the journal is not “our” journal, but OUPs, but has always had an informal association with us, should be discussed.
- And finally, the relationship with ISSI and the Conference (see agenda item 5).

In the discussion

Options regarding the publication of conference proceedings were discussed. It was confirmed that the proceedings are highly relevant and, that the organizing institution has to ensure that proceedings are being made available and should cover all formats of papers presented at the conference. ENID should support the preparation of the proceedings, in particular by providing tacit knowledge about how to compile them in the most efficient and effective way. In addition, a more systematic and active approach regarding special issues / special sections in selected journals should be pursued also making use of the presence of editors of relevant journals in ENID. As the journals, in particular *RE* and *SPP*, have a policy of only accepting special sections with a coherent thematic focus, special sections need to evolve bottom up from special tracks of the conference, still ENID should facilitate activities to compile these thematically coherent collections and seek contact with the editors, who also are called upon as regards the identification of potentially interesting topics / conference tracks that could be developed into a special section.

Robin Haunstein offered to use a special issue of the mdpi journal *Computation*, which he is guest editing, as an outlet for conference proceedings. Scepticism was raised regarding this particular publisher, which, e.g. in Norway, is regarded as being problematic.

The implications that extending the scope of ENID activities in terms of administrative burden and the consequent increased pressure for the reintroduction of membership fees were seen as problematic.

3. Report on finances

Rigas Arvanitis (treasurer), who was unable to attend the meeting, provided via Email information that the account remained untouched and thus, unchanged since the last ENID GA.

4. Election of ENID board, president, treasurer, secretary

In line with the ENID statutes, elections were due. A number of recent board members were not re-electable due to the rules laid out in the statutes. According to the statutes the “Association is directed by a board of directors of at least 5 members elected for 2 years by the general assembly from among its members. Elected members of the board of directors can be re-elected a maximum of two consecutive times”. The President “is elected by the general assembly for 2 years and can be reelected”. (He) “cannot serve for more than four consecutive years” According to the newly approved statutes there are no limits as to the re-eligibility of the treasurer and the secretary.

Candidates for the board:

Prof. Nicolas Carayol, GRETHA Univ Bordeaux and CNRS, Bordeaux, France:
Nicolas Carayol was elected unanimously by the members present.

Dr. Emanuela Reale, CNR CERIS, Rome, Italy

Emanuela Reale was elected unanimously by the members present.

Prof. Wolfgang Glänzel, ECOOM - KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
Wolfgang Glänzel was elected by the members present with one abstain.

Prof. Jordi Molas-Gallart, INGENIO (CSIC-UPV), Valencia, Spain
Jordi Molas-Gallart was elected unanimously by the members present.

Mag. Michael Ploder, Joanneum Research, Vienna, Austria
Michael Ploder was elected unanimously by the members present.

Dr. Thomas Scherngell, Austrian Institute of Technology, Vienna, Austria
Thomas Scherngell was elected unanimously by the members present.

Prof. Gunnar Sivertsen, NIFU, Oslo, Norway
Gunnar Sivertsen was elected unanimously by the members present.

Dr. Fabiana Visentin, MERIT, Maastricht, Netherlands
Fabiana Visentin was elected unanimously by the members present.

President

Dr. Thed van Leeuwen, CWTS, Leiden Netherlands
Thed van Leeuwen was elected unanimously by the members present.

Secretary

Dr. Sybille Hinze, DZHW, Berlin, Germany
Sybille Hinze was elected unanimously by the members present.

Treasurer

Dr. Rigas Arvanitis, IRD / IFRIS, Paris, France
Rigas Arvanitis was elected unanimously by the members present.

5. Future activities: STI conference series

- a. Evaluation of joint ISSI / STI conference in Rome and deriving conclusions for the future of the STI conference series

In 2019 for the first time a joint ISSI / STI Indicators conference was organized. It was very much appreciated that Cinzia Daraio and her team undertook the effort to organize this joint event. Cinzia Daraio pointed out, that from the perspective of the organizer combining both conferences was more difficult than anticipated: Both conferences, while overlapping still have distinct personalities as regards the themes that are covered, the way the conferences are organized and, the expectations from the audience as well as the two associations. The issues that were brought up in the discussion and which were considered relevant for the decision on how to proceed were:

- Size, the joint conference was attended by approx. 600 participant and thus, the conference was considerably larger than in previous years. This resulted in a rather packed agenda with eight parallel sessions, some labelled as STI tracks. Despite the best effort made to label the STI Indicators tracks it was perceived that the format reduces ENID's visibility. The size, in particular the high number of parallel sessions, was also perceived as being detrimental for interaction. The increasing size was also perceived as problematic from an organizational point as many smaller groups in the community might not be equipped to organize bigger events, which would limit the number of organizations potentially being prepared to host the event.

An alternative format, that would potentially still allow to exploit commonalities of both conferences, namely organizing both events back to back, was discussed but, perceived as to demanding and burdensome for the organizers but also the participants due to the duration of such an event. Thus, it was decided not to consider it as an alternative. In addition, it was also discussed whether an alternative format –

STI Indicator workshops – should replace the STI conference in the year when also the ISSI conference takes place. While it was agreed that a smaller sized event would allow for more experimental approaches, adding another title could potentially lead to confusion as regards the “brand” of the Conference. Thus, the name should not be altered but nevertheless, experimental approaches, in particular attempting more intense discussion and interaction, should be encouraged.

- Focus, it was agreed that while there are overlapping topics between both conference series, there are sufficient distinctive features. ENID understands itself as focusing more closely – compared to ISSI - on STI policy related topics. The STI Indicator conferences thus attempts to attract an audience that incorporates policy makers. This also means that the conference has to deliver a rather high share of policy relevant content. In a joint event the balance between policy relevant sessions / contributions and methods oriented sessions / contributions is diluted, which was perceived as a threat as regards to keeping it interesting enough for policy makers to attend.
- Sequence / Timing: While the ISSI conference takes place bi-annually, ENID organizes its conference annually, thus, it was discussed whether, in order to avoid the overlap, also ENID should move to a bi-annual schedule. While we are aware of the fact that in the year when both conferences take place, the number of participants attending either event might be smaller, this was seen as an opportunity rather than a threat. Smaller events can facilitate experimental and highly interactive approaches. However, we should monitor and ensure that there is a gap as regards the actual dates between both conferences.
- Location: While ISSI tends to go global, ENID sees itself as a primarily European event, thus, especially conferences that are organized outside Europe (planned for 2023 and 2025) raise a barrier for the intended close interaction with European policy makers.

Jordi Molas and Sybille Hinze, who met with the ISSI board on Thursday, September 5, confirmed that the views regarding size, focus and visibility were also widely shared by the ISSI board and keeping both conferences separate would be in the interest of the two associations.

Based on the discussion it was decided to:

- organize the STI Indicators conference as a stand-alone conference
- organize the STI Indicators conference as an annual event in order to facilitate close and continuous interaction and exchange within and beyond the community, in particular with policy makers and other relevant stakeholders
- to develop a distinct profile, which means to sharpen the focus on policy relevant topics / sessions, this includes to include “policy relevance” as a criteria for the reviewers and use it in the decision process about the acceptance of the proposal.
- allow for and encourage experimental formats to increase interaction and discussion
- discuss with ISSI the timing of the conference (STI Indicator conference as a rule takes place early to mid-September while ISSI handles this more flexibly. We should come to an agreement to avoid conflicting dates)
- get the ENID board or a dedicated sub-group to engage more intensively with the local organizers to ensure transferring tacit knowledge. In addition, to support learning across events and guide local organizers, it was decided that a guide book would be developed outlining general principles, expectations, experiences, potential formats etc. The guidebook will be made publicly available to inform organizations interested in organizing or organizing a STI Indicators conference.

b. 2020 – Aarhus

In the closing session of the joint ISSI / STI conference Jesper Schneider presented Aarhus as the location for the 2020 STI Indicators conference. The conference will take place from Sept. 2-4 2020. The program committee as well as the local organizing committee have been defined. ENID needs to identify the dedicated board member to be included in the programme committee. The decision was postponed until after the draft of the call for the conference was submitted to the ENID board for discussion so that we can select a member that fits the focus of the conference. Jesper Schneider confirmed that the draft call will be submitted in a couple of weeks. In previous years the Global TechMining Conference took place as a pre-STI Indicators event. Whether or not this should be repeated depends on the initiative of the GTM Organizers and should be decided by the local organizers in line with their capacities to host a pre-conference event.

c. 2021 – Candidates?

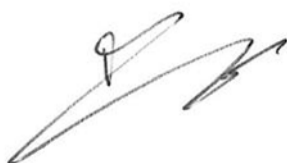
The Scientometrics group in Granada (Nicholas Robinson-Garcia / Daniel Torres-Salinas) expressed interest in organizing STI2021. Against the background of the discussion – sharpening the profile as regards policy relevance - it was agreed that Sybille Hinze will ask them to provide an expose for the conference outlining the specific focus of the conference and in particular also addressing the issue of policy relevance.

In the discussion the general procedure for selecting conference locations was discussed. While on the ENID website potential candidates are invited to communicate their interest to the board or the secretary. So far the most successful way was that board members actively approach potential candidates, which often agreed to organize the event. It was suggested to launch a call of interest to assemble a list of potential candidates that could be discussed in the board.

6. ENID memberships: approval criteria

As reported by the president in the last year for the first time we decided to reject applications of membership due to the lack of convincing proof that ENID relevant topics were dealt with by at least a small group of actors. These organizations which were rejected, were rather large without an obvious focus on STI Indicators. In order to be able to take these decisions in a systematic manner it was discussed what kind of information applicants should provide, also preventing having to get back to the applicant asking for this information after the original application. It was decided that applicants should provide a list of relevant activities and output such as a size of the group, main actors, list of projects and publications, the name of the relevant unit and a web link, in order to facilitate decision making by the Board.

Leiden, 17. September 2019



Thed van Leeuwen
ENID president

Berlin, 17. September 2019



Sybille Hinze
ENID Secretary