

The programme committee, headed by Professor Geoffrey Greatrex of the University of Ottawa, together with an enthusiastic cadre of student assistants, should be congratulated for their success in welcoming Shifting Frontiers stalwarts and newcomers alike to a most congenial and stimulating scholarly gathering.

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Report on the Intercongrès of the AIEB in Athens, September 2013

The regular meeting of the AIEB between the quinquennial congresses took place at the Best Western Ilisia hotel in Athens, 20-22 September 2013. The meeting was presided over by Professor Johannes Koder (Austria); both the treasurer, Michel Kaplan (France) and the secretary, Athanasios Markopoulos (Greece) were present. They had secured the financial help of several organisations in the preparation of the event; those attending also had the chance to catch up with Greek colleagues at the faculty club, the *Kapodistriakon*, of the University of Athens, at a dinner on the Saturday evening. The university itself, however, was shut at the time, as a result of a strike, which continues even now (in protest against draconian lay-offs of administrative staff). There was a report on progress in preparing the next congress in Belgrade in 2016; already a draft of the round tables accepted was available. Changes were made to the constitution in line with suggestions circulated earlier by the bureau. I had myself proposed alternatives, in particular in order to expand the membership of the bureau: it seems to me that three people running a world-wide organisation is insufficient, given that other similar bodies (such as FIEC, the *Fédération Internationale des Études Classiques*) have an executive of seven. Despite support from the Swedish delegation, my proposals came to nothing, but readers who want to know more of proceedings can consult the remarkably detailed minutes to be found on the upgraded AIEB website (another topic of discussion). The website itself was discussed: national committees, such as ours, can log on to make adjustments to their pages. It is not entirely clear to me (and to others) how this is helpful, in that we can update news and so forth more easily on our own national pages, to which the AIEB site has links; the risk is that the AIEB site will contain rather out-of-date information, at least as regards national committees. We shall see how this evolves over time.

The AIEB website may be found at: <http://www.aiebnet.gr/en/>. To find the minutes of the meeting, go to the section headed 'International Bureau'.

Geoffrey Greatrex