

September 26, 2016

Dear Members of the IUAES,

On behalf of the IUAES Executive Committee, we are writing to inform you of the successful completion of the IUAES vote on a formalised collaboration with the WCAA. The proposal for a formalised collaboration between the two organisations was overwhelmingly approved, and the proposal for the MoU, “A Bicameral Organisation with IUAES and WCAA Chambers,” was adopted.

The vote was conducted from 15th June until 15th September 2016. All IUAES members in good standing as of 15th June were entitled to participate and they were sent voting codes unique to individual members. A detailed explanation of the vote was given in a [letter](#) and distributed to all IUAES members. Four video messages, including one by the IUAES President, were circulated to explain the meaning of the vote and the proposals put forth:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78pRope0BWY>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NhMA_19WHU

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KgWJu_T9DpQ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvva5P9uOrs>

We made every effort to encourage IUAES members to vote before the closing date. A number of reminders and prompts were sent by the administrator of the vote and by the Secretary-General in a series of e-mail news and Facebook messages along with the third issue of *IUAES News*. As a result, 231 members from 926 eligible voters voted in time, which is a turnout of 24.95%. This rate was not as high as ideally expected, but it was about the average we receive in this kind of ballot.

The first question on the ballot was as follows:

Should IUAES and WCAA have a formalised collaboration? (A two-thirds majority of votes cast is required for this motion to pass.)

The ballot results were:

Yes, I vote in favour: 215 (93.07%)

No, I vote against: 16 (6.93%)

Thus, the formalised collaboration between the IUAES and the WCAA was approved with an overwhelming support of IUAES members.

Then, the second question on the ballot was about a decision on how the formalised collaboration between the IUAES and the WCAA should be brought about. One of the two options was “a Strategic Alliance between IUAES and WCAA,” and it was described in the proposal for the MoA, “[Memorandum of Agreement for Consolidating the Strategic Alliance between the WCAA and the IUAES](#).” The other of the options was “an Integrated Bicameral Organisation with autonomous IUAES and WCAA Chambers”; it was detailed in the proposal for the MoU, “[Memorandum of Understanding for a Bicameral Organisation with IUAES and WCAA Chambers](#).”

These two options were coded in blue and yellow and also in infographics in order to assist the visually impaired. The two options were randomized on ballots so that the order in which the two options were placed would not affect the selection. They were put (in a randomized order) as follows in the second question on the ballot:

If YES, do you prefer:

(A simple majority of votes cast will decide the outcome of motion.)

A Strategic Alliance between IUAES and WCAA

A Bicameral Organisation with IUAES and WCAA Chambers

The voters' choices were as follows:

A Strategic Alliance between IUAES and WCAA: 106 (49.30%)

A Bicameral Organisation with IUAES and WCAA Chambers: 109 (50.70%)

Thus, the option for “a Bicameral Organisation with IUAES and WCAA Chambers” received a simple majority of votes. The result was close, but the differences between the two options were moderate and gradational, and represented two ways to put a formalised collaboration between the two organisations into practice. We, therefore, announce that the proposal for the MoU, “Memorandum of Understanding for a Bicameral Organisation with IUAES and WCAA Chambers,” has been adopted by the voters. The Executive Committee must now faithfully proceed to execute what IUAES members decided democratically. The Executive Committee is committed to fulfilling the will of members, as expressed by their votes.

We also wish to report the results of the identical WCAA ballot. In the [letter](#) sent in June to all IUAES members, we noted:

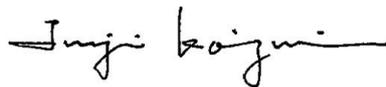
An identical vote will be conducted both by IUAES and WCAA members. In case the YES vote does not reach a two-third majority in the ballot either by IUAES or WCAA members, nothing will be decided by this electronic vote. Only if the YES vote attains a two-third majority will the MoA or the MoU be adopted, by a single majority.

In the WCAA ballot, YES votes reached a two-third majority for the first question and the MoU option was adopted for the second question. We, therefore, must start the process now for building a bicameral organisation with IUAES and WCAA Chambers. In doing so, we will carefully maintain the continuing integrity of the IUAES while sharing with the WCAA a common umbrella and steering committee structure to bind the two organisations together. This organisation change is for the betterment of our discipline, at a critical moment when it faces intense challenges and difficult problems in the contemporary world. We of the Executive Committee are determined to make our best efforts for further developing the IUAES and strengthening anthropology. We firmly believe that having an integrated world anthropological organisation will prove to be meaningful with positive outcomes for the future of our discipline.

Sincerely, on behalf of the IUAES Executive Committee,



Faye V. Harrison
IUAES President



Junji Koizumi
IUAES Secretary- General