



## **Minutes of the General Assembly**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> November 2003**

**Place: Hotel Bern, 3011 Bern**

The meeting started at 19:15. 15 members participated to the Assembly, 6 members gave their proxies and 24 members were excused.

### **1. Welcome words**

Nadia Nibbio (NN), the SJA President, welcomed the members and presented the actual committee. The general assembly programme is accepted by the members. The minutes of the last General Assembly is approved.

### **2. 2003's Activity report**

#### **1. SJA website**

Sanne Stijve (SS) is in charge of the SJA Website. A new internet address and website have been chosen, [www.swiss-japan.org](http://www.swiss-japan.org). SS presented the statistics about the number of visits and page views of the site: the pages were especially used by the EPFL students who followed the STS course. Our website is referenced on SJCC, EPFL, HEV, Swisstalents, France-Japon.net, Association Genève-Asie and the Japan Ring. Furthermore SS promoted the site towards the Chamber of Commerce, EPFL-SOC and HES-Valais.

#### **2. SJA database (NN)**

The SJA database is now working. Some members already built their online CV. This database will be used for sponsoring purposes.

#### **3. Picnic**

The Picnic took place on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2003. It was not a success at all: only 3 members were present. The pic-nic will be proposed again: the cancellation of the yearly pic-nic might be decided if too few people participate this year.

#### **4. Scholarship 2003**

Two scholarships of an amount of CHF 500.- each were attributed to HES students, Ms Plancherel and Mr Truffer, who did their diploma thesis in Japan. These students were selected on a proposition of Mr Martial Geiser.

#### **5. Scholarship 2004**

We already found one sponsor: the company Nosaki which will offer CHF 500.-  
Regulations to the attribution of the scholarship will be defined and be put online on our website.

#### **6. New members**

4 new members were present. During the year 2003, 9 new members joined the association.

#### **7. Mailing list**

The mailing list is now active. The aim of the list is to improve the contact between the SJA members by creating a forum to exchange information or post questions of interest for all members.

#### **8. EPFL course**

The third EPFL course on "Technology policy - the Japanese case" took place during the academic year 2002-2003. NN, SS and other members participated actively. This course will

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also take place during the academic year 2003-2004, but it is not sure if the course will be take place afterwards due to some changes within the EPFL program.

### 9. SJA Logo

A new logo has been created by Mr Cédric Morel. The presentation document about the Association was reviewed.

### 10. External relationship

We had during the last year contacts with:

- Consulate of Japan in Geneva
- JETRO
- Association Suisse-Japon
- Cercle Suisse-Japon in Lausanne
- Embassy of Japan

### 3. Accounts

Nathalie Piguet (NP) presented the accounts (some members made for CHF 190.- contribution for the scholarship), which were approved by the auditors and accepted by the assembly, with no additional remarks. Some members have not been paying their membership contribution for more than two years. Their exclusion will be decided by the committee after verification and members will be informed.

<b>Dépenses</b>		<b>Recettes</b>	
Impôts anticipés	2.85	Etat compte postal exercice précédent	3333.85
Frais gestion compte postal	59.05	Intérêt compte postal	8.10
Frais assemblée générale 2002	185.50	Cotisations 2001 (5)	150.00
Envois postaux	156.45	Cotisations 2002 (29)	910.00
Pic-nic	100.00	Cotisations 2003 (35)	1050.00
Internet: domaine+hébergement	333.95	Bourses	190.00
Bourses	1000.00	Sponsoring	100
<b>Sous-total dépenses</b>	<b>1837.80</b>		
<b>Reste sur compte postal</b>	<b>3694.55</b>		
<b>Reste en caisse</b>	<b>209.60</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>5741.95</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5741.95</b>

The new auditors for 2004 are Mr Gérard Egger and Mr Philipp Richard.

### 4. Presentation of the 2004 budget

Sanne Stijve presented the budget for 2004. Questions aroused about the financing of the grant over the time. It was proposed that members make voluntary contribution besides the membership fees to support this grant. The budget was accepted by the assembly.

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<b>Active</b>		<b>Passive</b>	
<b>Fortune</b> (November 2003)	3900	<b>General expenses</b>	1100
<b>Membership fees</b> (40 members)	1200	<b>Pic-nic / Event (?)</b>	250
<b>Voluntary contributions to the grants</b>	400	<b>Grants</b>	2000
<b>Sponsor</b>	1000	<b>Web site</b>	260
		<b>Fortune</b> (November 2004)	2890
<b>Total</b>	<b>6500</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>6500</b>

### 5. Modification of the status

The following 3 propositions were accepted by the members:

#### Proposition 1 :

Modifier l'énoncé de l'article 2 en remplaçant "Objectifs" par "Buts" afin d'être mieux cohérents avec le reste des statuts.

Selon les statuts actuels :

Article 2 : Objectifs

L'association a pour buts :

- de regrouper les ingénieurs et scientifiques ayant travaillé, qui travaillent ou qui devront travailler au Japon, pour une longue durée, comme stagiaire ou chercheur,
- de mettre en valeur l'expérience professionnelle japonaise auprès des milieux scientifiques, techniques et industrielles,
- de promouvoir des contacts avec des associations ou des organisations susceptibles d'aider l'association à remplir ses objectifs,
- d'informer et de conseiller, dans la mesure des moyens disponibles, les étudiants, les stagiaires ou les chercheurs désirant séjourner au Japon pour des raisons professionnelles.

#### Proposition 2 :

Modification de l'article 3b des statuts. Complément : Les conjoints d'un membre actif, sur leur demande, deviennent automatiquement membres passifs et sont exemptés de cotisation annuelle.

Selon les statuts actuels :

Article 3b

Membre passif :

peut devenir membre passif de l'association toute personne physique ou morale s'intéressant à l'association et désirant oeuvrer pour la promotion de ses objectifs.

Les membres passifs ne jouissent ni du droit de vote ni du droit électoral.

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### Proposition 3 :

Complément à l'article 5 des statuts : Les membres ne répondent pas des engagements de l'Association, lesquels sont uniquement garantis par les biens sociaux.

Selon les statuts actuels :

Article 5 : Obligations

Tout membre doit respecter les statuts de l'Association ainsi que les décisions prises en son nom par le comité directeur.

## 6. Election of the Committee

Jean-Michel Henchoz (JMH) announced that he will no more be member of the committee.

NN announced that in case of her re-election at the committee, she would not anymore apply to the presidency of the Association.

There were 6 candidates (5 members of the actual committee and 1 member). Following candidates were elected:

- Nadia Nibbio
- Cédric Morel
- Cédric Oelhafen
- Nathalie Piguet
- Sanne Stijve

NN thanked sincerely both Jean-Michel Henchoz and Emile Tasev for their engagement in the committee and the association.

## 7. Activities 2004

The 2004 activities are as follows:

1. Sponsoring
2. Grants
3. EPFL course for the academic year 2003-2004
4. The picnic will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2004
5. Online member's CV book
6. Mailing list
7. Contacts with other associations

## 8. Miscellaneous

The Japanese Consulate in Geneva is inviting the SJA to hold the next general assembly on their premises.

A member suggested having a shorter rotation term for the presidency as well as the election of the president by the General Assembly. This would mean a modification of the status which is not wished by the members present at the Assembly.

The Assembly ended up at 21.15.