

Freiburg the 5th of February 2017

NP Potsdam- Report by Luise Fiedler (Local PR Manager ESN Freiburg)

The NP Potsdam took place from the 26th- 29th of January 2017. The Opening Speeches put great emphasis on continuing to spread the European spirit by reminding everyone of the fact that some of the university buildings used to belong to the Stasi or governmental universities of the GDR. Apart from talking about the changes we would later vote on and listening to presentations of candidate sections, national board candidates and current national board members, we learned a lot about the Network. There were updates on the partnerships, the GCC, Finance, ESN Austria, the AGM, International updates, a network analysis, Spree Break and much more. The most important change was created by the webmaster. Her work makes it easier for the sections to update their websites. It is now possible for the webmaster to push content directly to the local websites which mainly concerns the partners. Furthermore, it will be possible for sections to automatically transfer events from the Facebook pages to the homepage. The webmaster also made sure that the ESN app works and makes it available to the sections in case they're interested. There were multiple workshops on topics like Social Erasmus, PR, Scribus or the Statutes. The Reliability reports were very short with an exception of the Treasurer who was questioned for quite some time. Next up were the candidate section presentations. Witten and Siegen were very motivated, organized and prepared with Siegen already presenting a possible logo in case of their acceptance. Because of a last-minute request, the delegates would later also have to decide whether ESN would only need three quarters of the attending delegates votes to change the object of the association instead of everyone's approval. Furthermore, the statutes would be voted on because they had been rephrased and changed for better understanding and clarity by the SOS and some volunteers during the NP. The presentations of applicants for the National Board proved a little more complicated as some applications for positions like the Partnership Manager arrived quite late and some candidates didn't make it to Potsdam. Their attendance was substituted by skype calls, presentations by other attending delegates or videos. Especially the skype calls with a presentation at the same time might have been a good idea, when really they might have negatively influenced the impression left with the audience. Most of the applicants seemed to be motivated, prepared and were able to answer all the questions asked by the audience. The applicant for the position of National Representative was the only one who left the audience wondering whether he was the right candidate for the spot. His overall behavior towards women, his comments, his problems defining the goals he wanted to achieve as Representative threw some of the delegates off.

All of the National Board members were relieved. Both candidate sections were accepted and welcomed to the Network starting on the 1st of February. The changes to the statutes were both accepted. Every National Board candidate who was the only applicant was accepted, even though the National Representative almost didn't get elected- it was one vote that saved him. Concerning every position with multiple applicants: Sabryna was reelected, Sara Stuckmeier became Education Officer and Johannes Hemme PR Manager. Overall, it was a very inspiring and successful Platform. Everyone learned a lot for themselves and their sections, myself included. Everyone was very thankful towards the CT, the NB and the OC.