

REPORT JUNE 2013-SEPTEMBER 2014

Dear BNN members!

According to the BNN Network's rules the chairperson's duty is each year to submit, on behalf of the Committee, a report on previous year's activities to the members of the BNN. Here goes my report for 2013-2014.

First, I am happy to inform you that the membership increased from 35 members in 2009 to the current number of 70. We would appreciate it if you continue to share the information on BNN among your colleagues – everybody interested in belief narratives is welcome to join our Network! If you know of ISFNR members who are not yet members of the BNN but would be interested in joining us, please remind them that all they have to do is contact me (mirjam.mencej@ff.uni-lj.si or mirjam.mencej@guest.arnes.si) and I shall add them to the list. This means that in the future they will be informed about all BNN activities.

A construction of the BNN website is still being a work in progress. You can have a look to the present state at: <http://www.folklore.ee/bnn/> Some basic information on BNN you can also get at the ISFNR website. I am grateful to Mare Koïva for undertaking the task of being in charge of the construction of the website. If you want your CVs and bibliographies or / and a link to your webpage to be published at the website please, don't forget to send the information to Mare directly (mare@folklore.ee). Should any of you have any ideas, suggestions, proposals etc. regarding the proposed website, please contact Mare directly too.

The BNN Committee had been actively involved in all organisational phases of the conference *Nature Spirits: Continuity and Change* (organised by Professor Bela Mosia from Shota Meskhia State Teaching University of Zugdidi) which took place in Zugdidi, Georgia, 1-4 October 2014. Meeting of the BNN Committee as well as of all members of BNN took place during the conference.

BNN is also a co-organiser of the conference *Sacrifice and Divination* organised by Professor Éva Pócs from the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, University of Pécs, which is going to take place in Pécs, Hungary, on 12-14 December 2014.

The Committee had been actively involved in a discussion about the possible topics, interested for the Committee on Charms, Charmers and Charming as well as the BNN members, in order to have a joint conference with the Charms Committee in Cork. Unfortunately there have been no news so far and it seems that the joint conference is not going to take place any time soon.

Willem de Blécourt is still considering organising with Theo Meder a special conference on the type indexing of legends to be held at the Meertens Institute in Amsterdam, but at the moment they are still working on it. If any of you is interested in the topic, you can contact Willem (wjc.deb@googlemail.com) and he would still appreciate it if you could all let him know about the legend archives in your countries and send him the email addresses of those persons in charge.

On behalf of the BNN Committee,

Mirjam Mencej

BNN Committee:

Willem de Blécourt
Marion Bowman
Terry Gunnell
Anders Gustavsson
Desmond Kharmawphlang
Mare Kõiva
Kaarina Koski
Mirjam Mencej
Maria Ines Palleiro
Alexander Panchenko
Ülo Valk