

**REPORT ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL
DOSTOEVSKY SOCIETY – BOSTON MA (USA), 16TH JULY 2019**

(Minutes of the General Meeting of the members of the International Dostoevsky Society, held at 7pm on 16th July 2019 in Room 522 of the College of Arts & Sciences of Boston University, 685 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston MA, during the XVII Symposium of the IDS).

The president, prof. Vladimir Zakharov, began by detailing the agenda of the general meeting and then proceeded to read the President's Report 2016-2019. He stressed the importance of collaborating and promoting networking in international projects. He thanked the many people who have contributed to the good development of IDS activities during this period. The report was approved unanimously.

Following the next point in the agenda, Treasurer's Report for 2016-2019, the treasurer Jonathan Paine explained that when he took over the IDS accounts in 2016 few records existed, and the society had effectively been run on a merged basis with the North American Dostoevsky Society over the intervening period. It had been possible to reconstruct approximate accounts for the period January 2018-June 2019, showing the members at 30 June 2019, an approximate statement of income and expenditure over the period, and a reconciliation of cash balances as at 30 June 2019 as between IDS and NADS. A report was presented to the meeting detailing the above. The report was approved unanimously.

Moving on to discuss *Dostoevsky Studies*, Prof. Stefano Aloe explained the development and improvement prospects for the journal. The journal will become an electronic publication, while maintaining its history and tradition. Specific details about deadlines, format and other author guidelines will be provided by the end of this year. The editorial board will initially include Prof. Stefano Aloe, Prof. Christoph Garstka and Prof. Benamí Barros.

Then, the treasurer posed the issues related to the place of Incorporation, explaining that as a result of the difficulties and expenses encountered in running the Society from its current Swiss base, it had been decided, subject to the approval of the meeting, to transfer the Society's business to a new corporate entity to be established in the United States of America by means of the establishment of a non-stock corporation to be organized under the general corporation law of the State of Delaware, to be known as the International Dostoevsky Society. After considering the relevant explanation of the advantages of establi-

shing the Society in the USA and the bureaucratic impediments to establish it in Russia, the proposal was unanimously approved.

After the proposal to establish the Society in the USA was approved, the preparation of the XVIII Symposium in 2022 was introduced and discussed. The President Vladimir Zakharov explained that only one proposal, from the Japanese colleagues represented in the assembly by Prof. Ikuo Kameyama, had been received in this period. A presentation with details of the proposal to hold the XVII Symposium in the city of Nagoya (Japan) was shown. The preferred month for the event (March or August) is to be subject to preliminary debate. The proposal was unanimously approved.

Once these items in the agenda had been discussed, Prof. Igor Volgin shared, as Other business, information about the Symposium to be organized by the Dostoevsky Foundation (“Fond Dostoevskogo”) to commemorate the 200 anniversary of F. M. Dostoevsky’s birth.

It was then that Elections to the presidency and other offices were discussed. After two terms, Prof. Zakharov put forward that a new president needs to be elected. He nominated Prof. Carol Apollonio. The proposal was unanimously approved. The nominations of Prof. William Mills Todd III as Honorary President, and of Prof. Pavel Fokin as regional coordinator of the IDS in Russia were approved unanimously. Prof Benamí Barros was re-elected as Executive Secretary for a further three years until 2022. Prof. Vladimir Zakharov yielded the floor to Prof. Carol Apollonio, who lead the *in memoriam* during which several IDS members paid tribute to Karen Stepanyan, Nina Perlina, Rimma Yakubova, Tatiana Malchukova and Vasilii Ivanov.

Benamí Barros García
Executive Secretary of the
International Dostoevsky Society