General Meeting of the members of the International Dostoevsky Society, held at 7pm on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 in Room 522 of the College of Arts & Sciences of Boston University, 685 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston MA, United States.

## Minutes:

- 1. The president began by detailing the agenda of the general meeting
- 2. President's Report

The president 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.

3. Treasurer's Report for 2016-2019.

The treasurer 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.

4. Dostoevsky Studies.

Prof. Stefano Aloe explained the development and improvement prospects for the journal Dostoevsky Studies. 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.

5. Place of Incorporation.

The treasurer explained 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 of 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 establishing the Society in the USA and the bureaucratic impediments to establish it in Russia, the proposal was unanimously approved.

6. Discussion of the preparation of the XVIII Symposium in 2022.

The President explained that only one proposal, from the Japanese colleagues represented in the assembly by Prof. Kamayama, 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.

7. Other business.

Prof. Volgin shared information about the symposium to be organized by the Dostoevsky Fond to commemorate the 200 anniversary of F.M. Dostoevsky's birth.

8. Elections

President, other officers. After two terms, Prof. Zakharov put forward that a new president needs to be elected, He nominated Prof. Apollonio. The proposal was unanimously approved.

The nomination of Prof. William Todd III as Honorary President, and Prof. Pavel Fokin as regional coordinator of IDS in Russia wa approved unanimously. Pref Benami Barros was reelected as Secretary for a further three years to 2022. Prof. Zakharov yielded the floor to Prof. Apollonio.

## 9. In memoriam.

The new President of the IDS lead the *in memoriam* during which several IDS members paid tribute to Karen Stepanyan, Nina Perlina, Rimma Yakubova, Tatiana Malchukova and Vasilii Ivanov.