Development of membership numbers

Last years the number of members of the Dutch group has increased to 440 members (2017: 423) of which 104 members are young members, 7 company members and 2 honorary members.

Group officers and leadership (board members)

In 2018 the board of the Dutch Group consisted of: Mr. Gwen ten Berge (president); Mr. Bas Pinckaers (secretary); Mr. Ir. Lillian Hesselink (treasurer); Mr. T.H. Tanja-van den Broek; Mr. Marieke Westgeest; Ir. Jako Eleveeld; Mr. Derk-Jan de Groot; Dr. Stef van Gompel, Mr.drs. Peter de Lange and Mr. Tobias Cohen Jehoram.

The board bid farewell to Drs. Koen Bijvank and Mr. Ellen Gevers in April. They were succeeded by Mr.drs. Peter de Lange en Mr. Marieke Westgeest. Koen Bijvank handed over the gavel to Gwen ten Berge.

On Friday March 23, the Dutch Group and members of the International Bureau enjoyed a joint dinner in Amsterdam.

Representation

The Dutch group has representatives in the Standing Committee on Trademarks and the Standing Committee on Patents of the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs as well as on the Standing Committee on Copyright. The group is represented at the board of the Foundation for the Education of Patent Attorneys.

The association was represented at the annual meeting of the Netherlands Institute of Patent Attorneys on 13 April 2018 in Utrecht by secretary Bas Pinckaers. Later that year new president Gwen ten Berge was invited to an introductory meeting of the Institute.

Board member Derk-Jan de Groot, Director of the Netherlands Patent Office, is representative at the Administrative Council of the EPO.

Membership activities

   a. Educational meetings

In 2018 the Dutch Group organized several educational meeting

On February 1, a well-attended meeting with more than 50 members present was organized on the IP protection of micro-organisms.

On March 14, 2018 the Annual IE Symposium was held in Zeist with over 400 participants, members as well as non-members. The VIE-award, awarded to a young contributor for an article in the field of IE was given to Mr. Roderick Hoynck van Papendrecht for his article on “distinctive character in article 5Hnw”

On April 9, an AGM was held together with the discussion of the draft reports on the Questions 2018. During the AGM two new board members were approved as well as the nomination of Gwen ten
Berge as president of the Dutch Group. During the AGM the Annual Financial Report was approved as well. After the AGM representatives of the four study groups discussed the draft reports that were prepared.

On November 19 a member meeting was organized on the topic of Trade names and Domain names* attended by 30 members. This meeting was combined with a short AGM to discuss the increase of the annual contribution fee per 2019. The members agreed upon the proposed new contribution fee.

b. Young members

The active group of Young members within the Dutch group organized two meetings for young members.

On May 17 a general meeting was organized at the Customs Agency at Schiphol Airport.

On November 9 a lecture on the IP Protection for GUIs was organized with guest speaker Dr. Shemtov of the Queen Mary IP Research Institute in London. 40 Young members attended this special meeting.

c. World Congress Cancun

At the World Congress in September in Cancun 23 members were present. Dutch members and speakers were well represented among the speakers and panelist at the Congress.

The resolutions taken in Cancun have been sent for notification to the Netherlands Patent Office and the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property.

Reports by the Dutch Group on AIPPI Study questions

The Dutch group formed four working groups to prepare the reports that were submitted to the international bureau in May.

Contributors within the working groups were:

Study Group on Conflicting application
Jeroen Boelens (Chairman); Liselotte Bekke; Ricardo Dijkstra; Mark Groen; Jasper Groot Koerkamp; William Jackman; Martin Klok; Maurits Westerik; Henk-Jan Zonneveld

Study Group on Partial designs
Hidde Koenraad (Chairman), Carja Mastenbroek, Moïra Truijens, Nils Winthagen

Study Group on Registrability of 3D trademarks
Sjo-Anne Hoogcarspel (Chairman); Huib Berendschot; Micheline Don; Leonie Kroon; Nine Bennink; Jaap Bremer; Jos Klaus

Study Group on Joint liability of IP Infringement
Thijs van Aerde (Chairman); Joost Bekkers; Benjamino Blok; Arnout Gieske; Tim Iserief; Bart Jansen; Robin van Kleeff; Bernard Ledeboer; Bart van Wezenbeek; Claudia Zeri

In August the report on the 2nd Hague Questionnaire, prepared by members Liselotte Bekke, Jeroen Boelens and Anne Marie Verschuur, was submitted on behalf of the Dutch Group as well.

All reports of the group are published at the AIPPI Netherlands website (http://www.aippi.nl/nl/reports.htm)
Challenges 2019-2020

For 2019 all national groups of AIPPI were confronted by a significant increase of the international membership fee. The board of the Dutch group decided to pass the increased fee to the members in two steps, the first on 2019 and the second probably in 2020. This proposal was submitted to all members and subject of the membership meeting at the end of the year. The proposal to pass on half of the membership fee in 2019 was approved by the members.