International Association for the Study of Traditional Asian Medicine

Interim Report from Paris, 15 September 1980

1/ Incorporation

Thanks to Carol LADERMAN's efforts, IASTAM, which had been incorporated in 1979 in Australia, will soon be legally re-incorporated in the State of New York. The purposes for which this not-for-profit corporation is being formed are to promote, by discussions and writings, the scholarly study of Asian medicine, of its various traditions, both in historical sources and in current practice, and of its place in the sociology and economy of contemporary health care systems.

2/ New Council

Following the election and installation of the new executive committee (Carol LADERMAN, Secretary-General, Francis ZIMMERMANN, President, and Kenneth G. ZYSK, Treasurer), a new Council is being constituted according to the rules of our association. Officers and council members will hold office until the next International Congress scheduled to take place in the second half of 1994.

Thirty-one scholars are being invited to join the new Council of IASTAM. A number of them have not yet accepted this invitation and might eventually decide to decline. Therefore, the list is still open and tentative. We simply wish to inform you of the steps we have taken to develop the association.

The list of people who have been invited to join the Council currently reads as follows. Their geographical specialization is indicated within <> brackets:

- Tomatsu Aoki, anthropology, Osaka <Japan>
- David Arnold, history, London <South Asia>
- Viggo Brun, East Asian studies, Copenhagen <Thailand>
- Lawrence Conrad, history, London <Islam>
- Christopher Cullen, history, London <China>
- Veena Desai, anthropology, Delhi <India>
- Catherine Despeux, sinology, Paris <China>
- Citibor Dostalak, indology, Prague <India>
- Judith Farquhar, anthropology, Chapel Hill <China>
- Roger Jeffery, sociology, Edinburgh <India>
- Arthur Kleinman, medicine & anthropology, Harvard <China>
- David Knipe, indology, Madison <India>
- Samuel Kottek, medical history, Jerusalem <Israel>
- Shigeo Kuroyama, science history, Tokyo <Japan>
- Carol Laderman, anthropology, New York <Malaysia>
- Charles Leslie, anthropology, Newark De. <India>
- Margaret Lock, anthropology, Montreal <Japan>
- G. Jan Meulenbeld, indology, Groningen <India>
- Fernand Meyer, anthropology, Paris <Tibet>
- R.K. Mutukar, sociology, Pune <India>
- Mark Nichte, anthropology, Tucson Az. <South Asia>
- Danuta Penkala-Gawecka, anthropology, Poznan <Afghanistan>
- Beatrix Pfleiderer, anthropology, Hamburg <India>
- Marina Rosenman, music & anthropology, Philadelphia <Malaysia>
- Shizu Sakai, medical history, Tokyo <Japan>
- Meutia Farida Swasono, anthropology, Jakarta <Indonesia>
- Paul Enscholdt, medical history, Munich <China>
- Mitchell Weiss, medicine & anthropology, Harvard <India>
- Li Yih-yuan, anthropology, Taipei <China>
- Francis Zimmermann, indology & anthropology, Paris <India>
- Kenneth Zysk, indology, New York <India>

The executive committee has been strengthened in accordance with the constitution, and it now consists of:

- Francis Zimmermann, President of IASTAM
- Carol Laderman, Secretary-General
- Kenneth Zysk, Treasurer
- Marina Roseman, Associate Secretary
- Beatrix Pfleiderer, Publications Editor
- IASTAM has three Vice-Presidents:
  - Professor Mo Kanwen (London)
  - Hakim Mohammed Said (Islamabad)
  - Professor K.N. Udupa (Varanasi)

3/ Office Addresses

For the time being, until the re-incorporation process is completed in New York, the Association is domiciled in Paris. Write to:

Francis Zimmermann, President of IASTAM
Centre d'Etudes de l'Inde et de l'Asie du Sud
Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales
54 boulevard Raspail
75006 Paris, France

Our Treasurer moved to New York recently. Please note his new address:

Kenneth G. Zysk, Treasurer of IASTAM
Near Eastern Languages and Literatures
Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies
New York University
50 Washington Square South
New York, NY 10003, USA

We would like to emphasize the fact that the Association is managed on a voluntary basis, by scholars who do not enjoy any other material support than what they find in the institutions which employ them.
4/ Regional Chapters
The Association has two regional chapters in good standing.

The newly elected President of the European chapter of IASTAM is Professor Lawrence I. Conrad, a scholar of Arab medicine who does research at the Wellcome Institute in London. Write to:
Lawrence Conrad, President of IASTAM-Europe
The Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BP, UK

A new board will soon be established. In the meantime, subscriptions should be sent to Dr. (Ms.) Elisabeth Rochat de la Vallée, whose address is given below.

The President of the North American chapter of IASTAM is Professor Mark Nichter, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA. The Secretary is Professor Margaret Trawick, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, New York 14456, USA. The Treasurer is Professor Phillip Zarrilli, whose address is given below.

5/ Fourth International Congress
IASTAM was founded in 1979 in the wake of the First International Congress on Traditional Asian Medicine (ICTAM I), organized by the lamented Professor Arthur L. Basham in Canberra (Australia). ICTAM II took place in Surabaya (Indonesia) in 1984. ICTAM III was held in Bombay (India) in January 1990. According to our Constitution, the "Fourth International Congress on Traditional Asian Medicine" (ICTAM IV), to be organized under the aegis of IASTAM, should take place in 1994.

Exciting suggestions and fruitful conversations have induced the executive committee of the association to think that Japan would be the ideal venue. Consequently, the President of IASTAM has officially written to Professor Yasuo Otsuka, Honorary Fellow of IASTAM, to Professors Keiji Yamada, Recipient of the Basham Medal 1990, and to Professors Shizu Sakai, Council Member of IASTAM, to respectfully request their help and invite them to establish a committee to explore the possibility of holding ICTAM IV in Japan in August 1994.

6/ Newsletter
The ASIAN MEDICINE NEWSLETTER is published twice a year, in May and November, to be circulated free of charge to the paid members of IASTAM. However, we were unable to publish this year's spring issue in due time. We apologize for the delay, and we shall be publishing a special, double-size issue in late November. Thus, the Asian Medicine Newsletter, no. 14 (November 1990) will have thirty-two dense pages carrying extensive book reviews and research notes. Our expectations are that this increase in the number of pages will give it more impact. If the new format stands up to the test, we would then perpetuate it.

This issue will include a questionnaire asking our members for information about their affiliation, interests, and recent publications. This information will be used to compile a DIRECTORY, which would be published in 1991, to be circulated free of charge to the paid members of the Association.