

EADH AGM, Sydney - Wednesday, July 1, 2015

7:59 to 8:45

UWS, EQ Building, UWS Parramatta South campus, Room G.05

1. Attendance

Committee:

- Arianna Ciula (Secretary) (AC)
- Claire Clivaz (CC)
- Karina van Dalen-Oskam (President) (KvDO)
- Øyvind Eide (ØE)
- Leif Isaksen (LI)
- Elena Gonzales-Blanco (EGB)
- Jan Christoph Meister (Chair) (JCM)
- Christian-Emil Ore (CEO)

Apologies:

- David Beavan (DB)
- Aurélien Berra (AB)
- Barbara Bordalejo (BB)
- Fabio Ciotti (FC)
- Maurizio Lana (ML)
- Jan Rybicki (JR)
- Edward Vanhoutte (DSH Editor-in-Chief) (EV)
- Paul Vetch (Treasurer) (PV)

[apologies from Harold Short]

A record was taken of other members attending for logging in the attendance book later.

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The meetings started at 7.59.

Chair welcomes and thanks everybody for attending. He thanks DB as outgoing membership secretary.

Chair mentions minor additions to report compared to what was circulated prior to the meeting.

2. Minutes and matters arising

Electronic copies of the minutes from the Lausanne 2014 meeting were circulated to the EADH members list 2 weeks prior to the meeting. Members were asked to check the minutes and report any issues. These minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

ØE suggests motion to accept, KvDO seconded. Voted nem con.

3. Reports

3.1. Chair's report

- [Report](#)

The report was distributed prior to the meeting.

Chair emphasises few developments:

- Our association is still growing in overall numbers; the AOs have contributed greatly to our numbers but a solution to represent AOs within EADH still awaits a concrete implementation; current *interim* solution has been to ask AOs to appoint representatives to join the executive committee meetings; remote access of course pose a problem when the conference is in a different time zone.
- The association is engaged in many ADHO activities of which Chair will report on later.
- We held a midterm meeting in Madrid which was very productive (Chair thanks EGB for hosting it); this year we will hold it in Leuven and will be organised by BB; overall we introduced a strict expenditure policy which reduced the costs of the midterm meetings considerably. We are trying to minimise the financial impact of the AGM meetings too so that we run the executive committee business in as a lean manner as possible; on the other hand the face to face meetings benefit the organisation.

Floor is open for discussion and questions.

Glen Worthey proposes to accept the report, LI seconds. All in favour.

3.2. Secretary's report

AC starts expressing her gratitude to the president for having returned active so quickly after her leave. She also states that regular officers meetings are now held via skype and have made the administration of the association easier. Indeed, the workload for the officers in the background is consistent and intensive so these regular meetings are proving very useful to organise that. She calls again for the collaboration of all members to the works of the associations, independently of whether they are members of the executive committee. There are many ways of making oneself useful. The members' mailing list is active again after multiple hacking of the ADHO server and should now include all active members (she thanks DB for his excellent office in keeping all threads together in the experimental phase of regional organisations joining EADH as AOs).

She ends encouraging members to contact her via the secretary account as needed.

Chair record thanks AC for her hard work as secretary.

3.3. Treasurer's report

- [Report](#)

Since PV could not attend the AGM, Chair introduces the report on his behalf. For the first time the treasurer's report includes expenditures. Noteworthy is the percentage going into grants (41%).

We are facing a financial decrease in our income; one of the main reasons for this is that the amount of members who subscribe to the journal has gone down and this is a direct consequence of the introduction of the membership only option which is financially more attractive.

The floor was opened for questions but there was no discussion.

We expect the allocation from ADHO to amount to over 10k EUR *per annum* which is relatively little for an organisation of our size to distribute back to members. Despite this, in the 2015 budget, we allocated some funding from our reserve to fund few members' activities; but we will have to find alternative ways to support our activities so as not to having to cut down that 41%.

We are one of the biggest users of the ADHO service infrastructure; this is a direct consequence of our website being hacked in November 2014. For the 2015 budget we are operating currently with a projected over expenditure or budget shortfall of £3k, but that will be reduced to ca. £1k. We have reserve of around £30k. IFE requirements stipulate that we keep 6 months operating budget in our accounts at least and we have more than that, so we are fine for the time being.

The IFE report is normally signed at the summer meeting but this year there was a delay since the report won't be ready before August so the approval will be done remotely.

Our bankers have been reappointed by the executive committee, but we are looking into changing bank.

KvDO proposes adoption; EB seconds. All in favour.

3.4 Membership report

- [Report](#)

Chair reports on behalf of DB who could not attend this meeting. Membership numbers have gone up significantly. Chair records our sincere thanks to DB as outgoing membership officer. In his report, DB speculated over the basis of joint members. This indicates that EADH accounts for half of individual members in ADHO in general (in the order of ca. 420 members of European basis).

Glen Worthey asks whether that basis includes joint members.

It is clarified that the biggest cohort comes of course from AOs.

Chair mentions that in ADHO there is a discussion on redesigning the distribution formula to synchronise with individual members.

Floor is open for questions.

CEO proposes we adopt the report, EGB seconds. All in favour.

Chair record thanks to DB as outgoing officer; our new membership officer is FC (acting as *interim* since May). FC is also the membership secretary for ADHO. We continue with this double role performed by EADH given that we are the largest contributors.

4. Elections

We had two vacancies for voting members in the executive committee to be filled.

Candidates nominated by April 20th (deadline for nominations):

- Aurelién Berra;
- Elisabeth Burr;
- Mike Kestemont;
- Maurizio Lana;
- Antonio Rojas Castro;
- Christof Schöch.

There were a few issues with the ballots, but these were resolved on time. Of a total electorate of 635, 190 ballots were entered.

OUP set up the election and members had the opportunity to vote for two candidates. The election site was open from the 22nd of May to the 12th of June (see call for nominations at <http://eadh.org/news/2015/04/03/call-nominations-eadh-executive-committee>).

The candidates with most votes, and so elected, are Elisabeth Burr and Maurizio Lana (second term).

Chair thanks DB and OUP for their help in setting up and managing the election process.

List of elected members:

- Elisabeth Burr
- Maurizio Lana (ML could not attend and had sent his apologies prior to the meeting)

Chair welcomes Elisabeth as new member of the executive committee and congratulates ML in his absence for being re-elected.

The executive also decided to co-opt two members for a second time:

- Aurelién Berra;
- Øyvind Eide.

The third possibility for a co-opted member hasn't been decided yet but we are trying to include new expertise in the committee.

John Nerbonne welcomes the initiative to have representation of AOs in the executive committee.

The newly elected members will begin as (regular) members after the summer meeting.

The results of the elections are accepted unanimously.

5. Publications

- [Report](#)

Chair summarise that the journal is doing well despite the fact that individual subscriptions are declining.

Paul Gooding is attending the meeting and introduced himself as review editor. He explains the journal continues to receive a regular set of high quality submissions. In fact, there are enough to cover the next 5 issues, so a considerable backlog is noted. EV sent ADHO a proposal to introduce a 5th issue each year. Growing unavailability of peer reviewers for DSH remains an issue, which is most likely a general problem across the publishing sector. Suggestions are welcome on how best to increase that pool, so Paul invites people to suggest their own candidatures as reviewers and also to contact him directly if they have a new book coming up. Submissions are being received from non-Anglo-speaking countries – discussion with MCML committee is ongoing so that no disadvantages are created with this respect. The current period of acceptance is 4.9 weeks.

The proposal for a 5th issue a year is meant to dedicate that issue to the selection of contributions to the DH conference. Other solutions were proposed like reducing acceptance rate. This extra issue would be free of access without breaking the contract with subscribers since subscribers still get the other 4 issues.

A final point is made about a document produced by EV and KvDO on the journal for the executive committee meeting: the question the document raises is whether the strategic perspective for the journal should be to be an inclusive type of journal or more exclusive type with much lower acceptance rate. This is not a decision of the editorial team. Chair mentions that this was indeed discussed at ADHO as well as EADH level: publications committee should have an overview of all ADHO publications and take a global perspective to look into this matter. LI has been appointed as new chair of the Publications committee.

John Nerbonne intervenes by stating that he thinks that the community will self-regulate.

Paul thanks EV and the other members of the editorial team for their work. Chair also record thanks to the team for their work on this longstanding flagship. Thanks are also recorded to OUP too as strong professional partner. The smooth transition to the new name is praised as an example of this.

6. EADH & ADHO

6.1. Report on strategy development

EADH together with ADHO's other Constituent Organisations (COs) is engaged in an ongoing process of strategy development. One point of discussion is whether ADHO organisation should become leaner and decentralise some work to the COs (i.e. decentralisation is seen as an answer to face complexity).

On the other hand, there are areas where centralisation is important such as infrastructure (also connected to membership and finance administration). There will be another ADHO strategy meeting later in the year sometimes in November to deal with some of the issues connected to this strategy development; EADH will continue to contribute to this discussion. With respect to the diversity issues, EADH contributed to dealing with the growing complexity of its community by creating a model for Associate Organisations.

Humanistica applied to become an ADHO CO; this was accepted in principle but details will have to be worked out since Humanistica is different from other organisations. It will also be necessary to revisit the ADHO finance disbursement formula, notwithstanding the extremely good deal ADHO has with OUP.

7. Conferences

Chair thanks the hosts for organising DH 2015; unfortunately the hosts for DH 2016 (to be held in Krakow) were not able to join us but one of the local organisers - Maciej Eder - will give a presentation at the conference closing plenary. Maciej reported at the ADHO SC meeting that the theme of the conference will be on "Digital identities: the past and the future". The conference dates are 11-16 July 2016.

Chair mentions that DH 2017 will be held in Montreal and DH 2018 in Mexico City.

CC mentions that she is the new chair of the ADHO Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC) and that EGB is the new EADH representatives in CCC. The next call for DH conference host bids is directed to Europe.

Thanks are recorded to the programme committee chair Deb Verhoeven and the rest of the programme committee for this year.

8. Association initiatives

8.1. Associate Organisations

This item was partially dealt with in the context of the chair's report (3.1).

Chair welcomes colleagues from the Digital humaniora i Norden association (Digital Humanities in the Nordic Countries, DHN). Their official application to become an AO was discussed by the EADH executive committee at the meeting on Monday.

Mats Malm is introduced as interim chair for DHN; he presents DHN as a recently established initiative which is looking forward to a positive reply to their application.

Chair mentions that the vast majority of votes received on the topic is very positive. The vote will be concluded on Friday so that the application can hopefully be responded to by Saturday. Chair thanks DHN and looks forward to further cooperation. [Following the meeting an announcement was made that DHN's application to obtain AO status was accepted]

8.2. European forum

8.3. EADH Day

EGB mentions the organisation of the first EADH day in connection with the HDH conference and encourages participation.

8.4. EASSH Initiative

Nothing to report.

8.5. Cultural Literacy in Europe (see <http://www.cleurope.eu>)

AC reports on the successful conference held in London in April 2015 as well as on the larger initiative (see London statement at <http://cleurope.eu/events/cle-london-2015/london-statement/>).

EADH was a partner of this initiative from the start. So far partnership is wide and included policy makers. ADHO offers infrastructure support for a symbolic fee.

9. Any other Business

Chair thanks everybody for coming (especially given the early rise) and wishes a wonderful continuation of the conference.

Chair records thanks to everybody on the exec for their contribution to the ongoing work and in particular to the members for their continuing support in making the community strong and vibrant.

He closes the meeting at 8.48.

CC thanks warmly our chair.