

Summer Meeting of the EADH Executive Committee

Krakow, Poland

Monday, 11 July, 2016

Paderevianum A, room 2 (coffee breaks: 11:00-11:30 and 16:00-16:30; lunch 13:00-14:30)
9:30 – 17:58

1. Attendance and agenda

Attending:

- Aurélien Berra (AB)
- Barbara Bordalejo (BB)
- Elisabeth Burr (EB)
- Arianna Ciula (Secretary) (AC)
- Claire Clivaz (CC)
- Fabio Ciotti (FC)
- Øyvind Eide (ØE)
- Elena González-Blanco (EGB)
- Leif Isaksen (LI)
- Maurizio Lana (ML)
- Jan Christoph Meister (Chair) (JCM)
- Christian-Emil Ore (CEO)
- Jan Rybicki (JR)

Apologies from:

- Edward Vanhoutte (DSH Editor-in-Chief) (EV)
- Paul Vetch (Treasurer) (PV) – joins the meeting via skype at 3pm.

In addition to executive committee members, we have also invited OUP Associate Publisher Victoria Smith who will join the meeting to present DHS publisher's report under [item 6](#); while the organisers of DH 2017 could not join to present [item 8](#). Finally, Inna Kizhner and Maxim Rummyantsev will join us during the first break for informal greetings on behalf of the Russian DH network.

Chair opens the meeting at 9.30 and welcomes everybody in the room. We note with concern that a number of executive members have chosen to attend competing events and hence join the meeting with some delay.

Proposed items to add to the agenda:

- Discussion of the European conference (will be discussed under [item 9d](#))

Agenda is approved.

2. Minutes of Mid-term meeting and matters arising

- Minutes [in Agora](#)

Chair moves to accept the minutes as a true record of the midterm meeting held in Leuven last December, ØE proposes and BB seconds. Minutes are approved with no objections.

Chair thanks secretary for the minutes and BB for having hosted a very productive meeting in Leuven. FC has offered to host the next one in Rome in December.

We go over the action points to identify any matters arising. LI did not act on OUP issues but he will take it on again.

Chair reminds us of Lisa Lena having chaired her first executive committee meeting as chair in 2010 here in Krakow, also hosted by JR. A friendly reminder for Lisa Lena.

3. Organisational issues

a. ADHO Governance Reform, Process

Chair reports orally over the discussion had at the ADHO meeting on Sunday. The financial framework is based on an idea already adopted in principle at the ADHO Steering Committee (SC) Sydney meeting to change the disbursement formula to Constituent Organisations (COs) (currently income gained from institutional subscriptions is streamed first to ADHO, then to COs) and turn it around. The new model works in such a way that all ADHO business should be covered via income generated through institutional subscriptions – at the moment the level of such income is equal to what the ADHO budget amounts to; the second revenue coming from individual memberships will be distributed proportionally to COs. This financial model – which by the way might create some competition amongst COs – was voted and approved on yesterday. Currently each CO gets a minimum contribution of €4,000. Some COs are shrinking rapidly. It might happen that the request for a minimum amount might re-surface in another form as a compensation fund, possibly to be activated only on a temporary basis rather than as a regular mechanism.

The second part of the ADHO reform governance will be dealt with tomorrow. It is based on the idea of ADHO becoming a leaner scalable organisation relying on COs to lead activities in specific contexts at the regional level. Neil Freistat and Chair will be withdrawing from the ADHO SC tomorrow. Others within ADHO will need to take ownership of the process, possibly some of the younger members who will be affected by its implementation. It would be good to have EADH perspective represented in the upcoming process.

[CEO join in at 9.50.]

Following AB's question, Chair clarifies that we would have been quicker with the governance reform if it wasn't for John Nerbonne's resignation.

BB asks what are the requirements for this framework to be put in place. Chair clarifies that the new membership system is a technical requirement that would need to be in place for the new framework to work. Another element on the implementation side is the refinement of the financial model and disbursement formula (e.g. when transactions take place, in which currency).

In relation to discussion concerning the membership being administered by Oxford University Press (OUP), Chair clarifies that a design and exit strategy from disassociation from OUP need to be planned and implemented.

Discussion follows on the currently fluctuating collapse of the GBP and the possible increase (initiated by EADH or OUP) of the Digital Scholarship in the Humanities (DSH) journal subscription fees. In addition, the possibility for EADH to change its current status as UK charity is mentioned. That would require a change of the constitution which is of course a delicate process involving specific formalities (see <http://eadh.org/about/constitution>).

[EB and CC join the meeting at 9.57.]

Chair hopes that the new ADHO governance framework will be implemented in a year's time.

b. Application by DH Russia to become an EADH-PO

- DH Russia application [in Agora](#)

Following a visit by CC in September 2015 and further discussion and decision by committee, Chair visited our Russian/Siberian colleagues in Krasnojarsk (second largest University in Russia) in April 2016 (note that initial contacts go back to ALLC via Melissa Terras as association secretary at the time). Discussion there was very productive and commitment strong. Krasnojarsk has a solid applied Digital Humanities work in particular within digital archaeology. Its young community is particularly keen to establish contacts with the European context. The Vice Chancellor - Maxim Romyantsev - is extremely supportive of this initiative becoming also a representative of this movement. After having consulted with the committee, during the visit Chair proposed the following steps:

1. The existing DH institutes network established under the leadership of the Institute of the Humanities at SFU establishes itself as a formal entity and interest group along the lines of the DH Benelux initiative, with a defined structure and representation.
2. Such DH Russian network applies to the EADH exec for Partner Organisation (PO) status (similar to DH Benelux). While having the advantage of being a very lightweight in legal and administrative terms, the PO status is a significant signal of support to our Russian colleagues and enables them to gain and indeed increase the momentum of their initiative.
3. Maxim and colleagues at SFU together with other individuals from the DHRN could then

found a "DH Russia" organisation that caters for individual members. This organisation will be a legal entity with all necessary structural mechanisms in place, i.e. a constitution, membership admin, accounting, minimum 30 members etc. This process was estimated to take 12-18 months by our Russian colleagues.

4. The officially established DH Russia will then submit an application to become an EADH AO.

Having received an official proposal from the DH Russian network to gain EADH PO status, committee is acting on step 2.

Chair thanks CEO and AB for checking the translation. He also reminds committee that there are no financial obligation implied in this agreement upon which we can now build on.

Chair opens the floor to discussion of the proposal.

Discussion follows on the necessity to keep a mechanism of representation for POs and other AOs as the cohort enlarges. We dealt with this also with co-option mechanism to avoid changes in the constitution. DH Russia network aspires to become an AO (which has a strategic importance to them) – for AOs we have the forum. We could decide to make communication transparent by making their chair an observer in our executive mailing list (note that this action was not taken forward due to decisions on co-option; see [item 4c](#)). Chair does expect to have an expansion of AOs rather than POs.

[Chair asks that no tweets come out of the meeting.]

Discussion follows on how POs might compete with the centerNet structure but in fact this is not the case since the latter serves institutions rather than individuals. The Institute of Humanities at Krasnoyarsk, Russian Federation, is already a member of centerNet.

Chair proposes to adopt the proposal, JR and CEO second, all in favour (chair abstains due to his mediating role in the process).

AC asks whether Chair is still willing to follow on as liaison in the process in an advisory capacity despite his term as EADH officer ending after this meeting. Chair accepts to keep his involvement in this process until step 4 is concluded based on a specific mandate as arbiter in the process.

c. AO finances and forum

- AOs forum proposal to use fund [in Agora](#)

This proposal reached the officers on the 1st of July via one of the representative of the AOs Forum - Christof Schöch. In his accompanying email, Christof reported that the forum has deliberated intensely over the last several months over the disbursement of funds (see what was agreed at Leuven 2015 with respect to percentage of EADH income to be distributed to AOs). Their proposal includes a plan which has the support of DHd and AIUCD. Official

feedback from DHN was still pending when the officers received this and is still the case.

FC summarise the content and status of the proposal. (There is an ADHO mailing list for the forum. Unfortunately, neither BB nor AC were included in the mailing list.) 50% of the fund would be used to set up a platform for federation and interoperability across regional journals (sharing metadata and semantic classification with expended abstract translations) and the other 50% would be distributed equally across AOs. Note that AIUCD is starting a journal while DHd has just started one. DHN exec member reactions were not homogeneous.

As DHN new chair, CEO is asked to comment on it. He reports on six suggestions by the DHN executive to the proposal without granting formal acceptance. The idea of a multilingual journal is not of interest to DHN. The idea of setting up a Zenodo community as a shared repository for European DH papers (item 6 in the proposal) is welcome as it does not have financial implications. They also welcome a simpler version of 5 (e.g. list of relevant journals for DH as well as an archive of grey literature addressed by point 5 anyway). DHN prefers option 3 (i.e split the amount according to a formula mixing number of AOs and membership of each AO) in combination with 5 (federation of journals).

Chair makes the procedural point that committee will not contribute to the discussion and make a decision. Committee takes note of what it is being reported and could contribute ideas, but it is not for the committee to influence an AOs forum decision. So the points being raised by CEO on behalf of DHN should be debated within the AO forum. The committee could however signal its support to the initiative; as for the details, implementation and sustainability, that would be for AO forum to explore.

FC notes that there are issues concerning the transfers.

AB makes the remark that Humanistica journal would be most willing to join this initiative.

Chair summarise that 3, 5 and 6 are hence still under discussion within AOs forum. He notes that coming up with innovative ideas was exactly what he was hoping the AO forum would do to enhance our community building. He opens the floor for further discussion within which further support for the initiative is granted within the terms expressed by Chair and also in light of the very welcome exploitation of the technological innovations available to us.

Chair would like to thank the AO forum for the work done and proposes that committee expresses support, remaining curious about implementation details connected to 5 (content federation vs. common list of publications).

Chair reminds us that the original idea was for the President to engage. AC asks that new chair together with current AO forum decides how best to coordinate the forum and what mechanism of liaison between the forum and the committee should be put in place.

Action on FC to include AC in the AO forum list.

[EGB leaves the meeting at 10.44 to attend the centerNet meeting.]

d. Partner Organisations

BB reports briefly on the DH Benelux conference this year which she thinks was very successful. She does not foresee any movement however to make it into a membership organisation. Chair and AC clarify that DH Benelux never expressed intention to become a membership organisation or an EADH AO. The next DH Benelux will take place in Utrecht in June 2017.

Discussion follows also on engagement with other European initiatives (CLARIN, DARIAH, EAHSS, Europeana, Parthenos etc.). Concrete mechanisms and actions of making sure such liaisons are more structured than they have been could be established. We could have, for instance, a regular agenda item to report back on activities one is involved on a personal capacity.

Action on the new chair to put in place such structure mechanism of networking with initiatives of different kind within the heterogeneous DH landscape at the European level as well as in national contexts.

Chair concludes by stating that we ought to pull on this expertise with a more systematic approach.

At this point our colleagues - Inna Kizhner and Maxim Rumyantsev – join the meeting prior to the upcoming break. Committee members welcome our colleagues and introduce themselves.

Chair informs our colleagues that we dealt with the point of the DH Russian application which was accepted unanimously so we welcome DH Russia network as an EADH PO. We look forward to working together also towards the next steps in integrating and accepting an AO of DH Russia which would require some further formal steps from their side.

Chair also explains that in order to keep negotiations for the next steps, committee asked him to continue leasing with DH Russia and he agreed to work on the next steps from the EADH side. Chair asks to convey back appreciation to all DH Russia network colleagues and that we are looking forward to future cooperation.

Inna and Maxim say that they are happy to follow negotiations and the plans to become an EADH AO. Maxim says that website of DH Russia network will be developed moving towards creating a Russian association with a legal status. Chair states that ADHO can make available its infrastructure service for this development.

[ML joins the meeting at 11.08.]

*** Chair officially breaks the meeting at 11.08 until 11.35 ***

[EGB joins the meeting again.]

PV will join on skype at 3pm so the agenda is adjusted accordingly with the treasurer's report moved to that time (swapping item 9 and 5).

4. Elections 2016

a. EADH exec election results

The nomination committee was composed of BB (chair), FC, and CEO. Chair asks BB to summarise the process. She states there is a difference between elected people and those who weren't in terms of number of votes they gained. This is noted as a matter of possible concern but also as a stimulus to make sure constituencies that are not represented participate in the election process as possible candidates.

Elections opened on the 10th of May for three expiring terms of office (CC, LI, JR).

The nominations committee received seven nominations by the deadline of May 31st (for each this sub-committee checked that they were willing to serve if elected and that they'd been nominated and seconded by members in good standing):

- Daniel Alves
- Aurelién Berra
- Alejandro Bia
- Claire Clivaz
- Leif Isaksen
- Corina Moldovan
- Eveline Wandl-Vogt

There was a problem connected to double voting due to the same individual being recorded as member of EADH and of an AO in the OUP list, but this was picked up and corrected on time. Of a total electorate of 854, 201 ballots were entered. Chair comments that the lack of total votes is an issue he would not know how else to address except further motivating the electorate to vote.

OUP set up the election and members had the opportunity to vote for three candidates. The election site was open from the 10th to the 31st of May.

The candidates with most votes in alphabetical order, and so elected, are:

- Aurelién Berra
- Claire Clivaz (second term) and
- Leif Isaksen (second term).

Chair congratulates the re-elected members and newly elected member AB who was however co-opted by the committee in the last two years.

The new elected members won't serve on the committee until the AGM approval when the announcement of the results of the elections will be made public.

Discussion follows on the general high likelihood of being elected if the candidate has already served a term or has been co-opted. This has its costs in terms of opportunities for new people

to join in; it is noted that not every year follows this pattern but also that the co-option device is not necessarily always used to renew the committee.

Chair thanks BB for shepherding the election process and congratulates once again those elected. AC also records thanks to FC and OUP for their professional work and assistance during the elections. BB states she won't be able to hold the role of the chair of the nomination committee next year.

Chair summarises that we want to use the co-option instruments wisely as done in the past i.e. as a step to broaden the spectrum to enlarge representation. EGB made the point before that those who stand for elections do not make their statement attractive enough. Chair suggests that nomination committee mentors the candidates in this process to develop a culture to make candidates more visible (this would be part of the remit of the nominations committee).

Committee also records its thanks to JR after two terms of service. JR was instrumental in expanding the DH horizon on this side of Europe.

Action on incoming chair elections committee to be nominated.

b. Vote on proposed conferment of an honorary membership

Prior to the meeting, Chair made a proposal, seconded by AC to confer an honorary membership to Harold Short for his long dedicated service to ALLC/EADH and to ADHO. Harold has been a tireless worker for ALLC, EADH, ADHO and continues to be involved. He deserves this recognition from us.

Chair asks for a formal vote to this proposal. This is carried unanimously.

AC notes that for historical reasons, a point to bear in mind is that all our honorary members (a mechanism which has been used in rare occasions) are affiliated to a UK institution.

c. Co-option of further EADH exec members

Terms of office expiring in 2016 for currently co-opted members:

- Aurelién Berra (starting his term as elected member after this meeting)
- Øyvind Eide (served for a second year)

On the 7th of June Chair proposed to co-opt Corina Moldovan (Director of DigiHUBB, the Transylvania Digital Humanities Centre, Romania) via the EADH exec mailing list and AB seconded. On the 8th of June FC proposed to co-opt Daniel Alves (Associate Professor of History, Department of History, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal, and founding member of AHDig, Associação das Humanidades Digitais) via the EADH exec mailing list and AB seconded.

Chair summarises his rationale to propose Corina as co-opted member. It would be a way to reach out to the Romanian DH community and this is what the instrument is there for.

FC summarises his nomination for Daniel on the same rationale to expand connections with the constituency he represents as well as AHDig.

Chair makes a practical suggestion that we take decision on these two candidates before any thoughts are put forward for a third candidate.

LI summarises the statistics of intake of new people in the past 6 years and he warns against the consequence of not having new people joining in the committee in the future without previous exposure to the committee.

Chair proposes to nominate Corina, BB seconds. This is carried with one abstention.

Chair proposes Daniel, CC seconds. This is carried with one abstention.

Chair now comments that there could be a vacancy in the committee since we have one standing nominated candidate for the president role, so there is a possibility that her place could become vacant in the committee. He asks to take this into consideration as well as the strategic aim to increase membership via connecting to another CO. Chair makes the premise that the committee might not agree this is any longer a strategic priority. If this however remains a strategic priority, there is one constituency which has approached us – Israel – and there was also discussion about liaising with the Argentinian DH community.

The floor was opened for discussion. ØE suggests that rather than using the votes of this election to fill a possible vacancy in the committee, he would prefer to have another election. He also states that it would be important to keep the third vacant co-option for DH Russia network representation. Discussion over how much EADH remit should entail expansion beyond the strictly European context and over the third co-option takes place.

EB states that including communities that are not associated with a CO has been a very useful and beneficial strategy for all parties involved. In addition, she believes that we could not prevent constituencies to approach us first as they are currently doing. EGB believes that connection with countries that are not linked to COs should be made; in the case of Argentina there are already existing natural links with respect to the research remit and interests which we might want to build on. These statements find support but also other reactions.

The risk of matching too rigidly geo-political divisions and scholarly networking models is stressed. The importance of commonalities at the cultural and intellectual level is highlighted; the geographical remit is important too with respect to connection to membership but should not limit our connection with respect to the first point.

AB believes however that Japan is not a good example anymore to explain EADH's role as incubator. He thinks that the PO model is a useful way to play the same role now. AC notes however that often there is no organisation to link to, hence co-option might be the only way to do so. BB states that there has been a change in the names of COs which kind of made associations more geographically bounded than they originally were before. Chair intervenes to explain historically the reasons for a change of name from ALLC to EADH. BB proposes to

have an observer in each ACH/EADH exec from the respective committee. Chair invites BB to mention this at ADHO SC.

Chair asks if there are suggestions for a third co-option. Chair also reminds us that we can co-opt at any point.

EB proposes to nominate Inna Kizhner, CEO seconds nomination. This was accepted with two abstentions.

Chair warns that the process of co-option should start earlier in the discussion.

AB makes the point that the website is not clear on what our European remit is.

EGB thinks there is a problem in not having specific criteria for eligibility for co-option.

AC on the other hand points to the fact that the flexibility of this mechanism is very good since the committee can use it as it thinks best in specific circumstances.

Action on new chair to spend some thought on how to use the co-option instrument to further the aims of the association.

Action on BB to inform the non-elected members as personal notification which will make public at the AGM.

Chair to inform the co-opted members, to check willingness to accept nomination and to invite them to AGM if they wish to attend.

d. Appointment of ADHO SC representatives

Following a request for representatives by Diane Jakacki (DH 2017 chair), two representatives were nominated last year for DH 2017 ADHO Programme Committee (PC): AB and Mats Malm (at the time interim chair for DHN).

In May – as no chair for DH 2018 was yet in place - Diane kindly started working on setting up a PC also for 2018 and requested names of COs representatives also for the DH 2018 PC; EB and FC volunteered to be members for ADHO DH 2018 PC. Their names were passed to Diane.

BB notes that it is difficult for her to respond quickly to requests made last minute on the list. AC explained that we were pressurised to react quickly. CEO asks to have at least one week to react to requests on voting or other decisions. This is noted.

FC offers to withdraw as EADH representative in the PC 2018 and pass the role to BB. CC nominates BB, EB seconded.

So EADH PC members for DH 2018 are EB and BB. (note that after the meeting and via email exchange AC was notified that Mats decided to leave his role as PC member to CEO – current DHN chair – for DH 2017; hence EADH PC members for DH 2017 are AB and CEO).

CC clarifies that we never had more than two EADH representatives; it just happened that often EADH had other roles as local organiser (LO) or PC Chair.

Action on EGB to convey to ADHO that we need more time to take decisions on choosing representatives so as not to do it in a rushed manner.

AC raises the issue that EGB is in the ADHO Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC) both as ADHO secretary and as EADH representative. FC volunteers to be added as EADH representative in the CCC. BB nominates him, ØE seconds. All in favour.

Thanks are recorded to EGB for her role in CCC so far.

Action on AC to pass names of new representatives to Glen and Diane as well as CC with respect to CCC.

We returned to the point of ADHO SC representatives after elections of officers took place. Below is a summary of the discussion after elections took place:

ØE thinks that the president's role – especially an incoming one – requires the presence of that role in the ADHO SC. To him it makes sense that all three roles of officers – chair, treasurer and secretary – should have as part of their function the participation in ADHO SC.

Chair states that it is a good idea to discuss this on functional rather than personal basis.

LI seconds ØE's proposal. Potentially the withdrawing of AC as secretary might require the nomination of a new SC representative. Chair asks to keep this in mind. Committee is reminded that ADHO is undergoing a process of change of governance which might change the whole composition of the ADHO SC (or board as it could be renamed).

e. Election of EADH exec chair for the 2016-2019 term of office

- Candidate's statement [in Agora](#)

Following a request by Chair to committee members to identify possible candidates for the role of Chair, the officers received two nominations for this role in June; one of these is however not valid since the candidate first accepted but consequently withdrew the nomination. Hence, one candidate was nominated, seconded and willing to stand for the election to the office of EADH Chair:

- Øyvind Eide.

The new chair is elected via acclamation with one abstention.

Chair thanks ØE for taking on this role.

ØE notes that he is stepping down from the ADHO Awards chair both because of additional unmanageable workload but also clear conflict of interest.

f. Election of an EADH President

- Candidate's statement in [Agora](#)

Following a request by Chair to committee members to identify possible candidates for the role of President, the officers received two nominations for this role in June. As a result of our anonymous test ballot conducted within the committee in June we now have one candidate nominated, seconded and willing to stand for the election to the office of EADH President:

- Elisabeth Burr.

BB nominated, JR seconded. All in favour, one abstention.

Thanks are recorded to BB for her service as liaison with the AO forum in the interim situation as well as in the ADHO SC when no president was in office.

Chair comments that we now have a new reliable structure in place for the association to work on its future plans.

We return to [item 4d](#) with respect to ADHO SC representatives

BB might propose herself as EADH secretary since AC proposed to step down at the end of 2016.

Chair proposes to move to [item 6](#).

*** Chair break meeting for lunch at 13.20 and reconvenes at 14.33. ***

We move to [item 7](#) since Victoria Smith from OUP just joined us for the DSH report.

5. Treasurer's report

- Report and other docs [in Agora](#)

PV joins the meeting at 15.03. The documents were updated in Agora just prior to the meeting. PV starts by going over the accounts for 2015. Outgoing expenditures were lower than budgeted for and hence less than the disbursements. The steps taken to reduce costs of the mid-term meeting were very effective. The costs of officers' attendance of committee meetings associated to ADHO DH conference is in continuous trend of decrease too. We drew heavily on contingency in the last year due to emergency repairs on the website required after October 2014 which was only accounted for in 2015.

We are out of step by one year with respect to ADHO disbursement; we set our budget for 2016 on the projection of £10,000 GBP.

We have not dispersed any of the AO income since 2014.

Income from AOs in 2015 (received during the 2016 financial year) totalled to €7,231 / £5,181 GBP. Details on the actual disbursement which will go back to AOs are summarised in the minutes of the Leuven mid-term meeting. PV also suggests that an extra expenditure of £5,000 could be take on if committee so decides to spend on strategic or other activities.

PV mentions his disappointment in the change of bank taking so long to be put in place.

a. ADHO finances

Many of committee members are part of ADHO SC; however, PV gives a short version of ADHO's treasurer report for the benefit of all committee. ADHO has more money to disperse in 2016 (7.5% more) due to the uptake of the membership-only option. ADHO treasurer has to work with a very complex and inflexible disbursement formula. In the current framework, the larger CO subsidises the small one. PV explains that the plan put forward by the ADHO treasurer with respect to the changes in governance and financial structure outlined under [item 3a](#) would move towards a simple and directly proportional relationship between CO's membership numbers and the disbursement they receive.

Chair informs PV that the proposal for a new disbursement formula was approved yesterday at the ADHO SC meeting; however changes will take time to be implemented due to the lack of a management system that can support the approved new formula.

PV states that this change would be a beneficial outcome for our association.

Chair opens the floor for questions.

Speaking on behalf of AO forum, FC mentions that the forum will get in touch with him on how to proceed with the disbursement also to avoid costs of transfers across currencies. It might be also wiser to deduct upfront transfers from AOs to EADH to avoid costly back and forth transactions.

Chair asks whether from a financial point of view there is an advantage to relocate our banking to a European mainland country. PV mentions that he has been thinking about it. One benefit of keeping a UK-based account at the moment is that we receive journal income in GBP which avoids problems in fluctuation of exchange rates. The only disadvantage is the level of service of the bank itself. We are tied to operate in the UK and the METRO bank PV is being enquiring about is based in the UK. Chair also asks about the bank charges being quite high last year. PV mentions that his enquiry about METRO bank was indeed motivated by the fact that they do not charge for transactions within the EU context.

Chair thanks PV for his commitment and hard work summarized in his clear format report.

Chair also informs PV about the new incoming chair and president. This means of course that current Chair might be replaced as a trustee by the new chair.

PV states that from the Charity commission's perspective this is a straight format change which, on the other hand, is not so easy from the bank point of view.

Action on PV to initiate change of trustees.

Chair now moves to [item 8](#).

6. Membership report

- Report [in Agora](#)

FC presents his report. One highlight also mentioned in the report consists in the great success of DHN in recruiting membership. In general, there is an important increase in membership all over. We are by large the biggest association in the ADHO galaxy even if we distribute equally the joint members across COs.

FC informs committee that the ADHO SC took a decision to invest some of its funds in enquiring into a new membership system; this would hopefully improve our current manual workflow and membership management. If there are no improvements at the ADHO level, FC recommends we act to repair the situation at the EADH level.

Chair thanks FC for his work and a very detailed report which gives a clear understanding of where membership is based and what its development is. He invites the new executive to keep close look at the issues connected to the new membership system.

7. DSH editor and publisher reports

- Publisher's report [in Agora](#)

Victoria Smith joins the meeting at 14.33.

She starts by explaining the decrease in subscription renewal (which might in part be due to the bankruptcy of SWETS – 34 institutions were affected by this – and consequent cancellations). She then discusses the introduction of the membership-only rate which obviously meant a decrease in revenue of members' subscription.

Publication and production of the journal went very smoothly in the last year. Page budget was increased quite substantially for production in 2016.

DSH does not receive an impact factor under the new name. She explains the transition from LLC to DSH in terms of impact factors. Next year LLC and DSH will receive separate impact factors based on citation in the most recent year. By 2018 DSH should hence have an impact factor accessed over the preceding two years.

Victoria also highlights the Altometrics new feature. The shift to the new Drupal website took a while to be rectified with respect to usage; so the usage figures aren't currently very reliable. OUP introduced a new web-platform in collaboration with another commercial company. Current mock-ups show how this should enhance searching abilities across OUP products. These will be circulated to the committee to look at.

Marketing continues to be taken care of by the relevant officer - Alex Beaumont.

Chair thanks Victoria for a very comprehensive report and very professional as well as friendly cooperation which we really appreciate.

Based on continuous requests, Chair asks whether it would be possible to have an online only paid-subscription option for DSH. Other committee members second this request.

Victoria answers that this is of course technically possible; it is another matter whether this would undermine other options for the subscription model. Chair highlights that actually this could counteract against the decrease in subscriptions due to the uptake of the membership only model.

Victoria is happy to look into options and get back to committee.

Chair mentions also the significant backlog for DSH. This is for ADHO to invest on so Chair asks LI as ADHO Publications Committee chair to comment on it. LI mentions the proposal of having a special issue freely available every year for the DH proceedings as done last year. This would however need to be discussed based on specific costing. Victoria is happy to provide this but she basically anticipates the costs to be the same as the additional conferences issue financed so far.

LI asks a question about the geographical indication of where people are reading which could show us which regions are not taken care for. Victoria states that it is possible to have a breakdown by region. Chair proposes for Leif to get in touch directly with Victoria to drill into details. Chair also informs Victoria about the incoming president – EB – and incoming chair – ØE.

Victoria asks about discussion of the increase in fee for the membership option. Chair reminds us that that will be discussed at ADHO level since it affects all COs.

Actions on LI to liaise with OUP to get costing for DH issue as well as online only subscription model and regional breakdown of reading population for the journal.

Chair moves back to [item 4d](#) on ADHO SC representatives.

8. Conferences

Since the LO for DH 2017 is not present, Chair asks CC to summarise any progress she is aware of as ADHO CCC chair. CC inform us that DH 2017 PC is active and will already adopt the proposal approved by ADHO on extending the pool of reviewers.

In addition, CC reports that, following CCC proposal, ADHO SC was contacted by the Local Organiser (LO) of DH 2018 with a ranked list of candidates to be selected as chair for DH 2018. ADHO SC was happy to support LO's first choice, Glen Worthey, as the 2018 PC Chair. Note that DH 2018 will be the first ADHO conference organised "outside" the geographical remit of ADHO COs. ADHO SC hence proposed the inclusion of a SC appointed, non-voting vice chair (in addition to the regular vice-chair) filling an advisory role in the PC and Elika Ortega was selected for this role in assisting the chair. According to the guidelines, the official vice-chair for DH 2018 has to be the chair for DH 2019. CC reminds committee that this is why it is important to nominate a chair for DH 2019 very soon also to allow the LO for DH 2019 to get in touch with their chair and make relevant arrangements. Chair hence reminds committee that whoever will be DH 2018 vice chair could potentially have to face

organisational and political learning curves in supporting the PC chair while he will coordinate the intellectual and social appearance of a DH conference outside COs remit.

CC also announces that ADHO SC decided that DH 2019 will be hosted in Utrecht (MOU is already signed).

Chair states that we need to think ahead about a chair for DH 2019 because of the reasons mentioned above. CC reminds us that even if we had a candidate, this would need to be validated by ADHO SC. She also states that it would be good to have a PC chair from Italy. Chair seconds that it would be good to have somebody from a non-Anglo-Germanic context.

Chair asks if we have volunteers for the DH 2019 PC role. ML proposes FC as possible DH 2019 chair. FC states that he is concerned by the scale of the commitment but he is also excited by the challenge of being in the middle of the DH debate and to represent a long Italian tradition. FC is happy to accept the nomination but would prefer to have the possibility to discuss this both with the current and next PC chair. BB seconds this nomination.

Chair asks that FC takes a decision by Thursday (note that his decisions was confirmed following the meeting). Chair also adds whether there is a way in which we can support PC chair potentially also with a financial contribution for having an assistant but this is not discussed further or decided upon at this stage. CC answers that the new financial model provides ADHO support to enrol a PC assistant

CC is praised for her work in defining the roles of LO and PC.

Chair asks JR to give a short update on the current conference. JR states that 877 and more have registered (the field is growing independently of what the LO can or cannot do to attract participants). This year's PC was exemplary in the way it interacted with the LO. They have volunteers who are doing a great job. It is noted that no additional funds were available to LO to sustain the conference this year.

Chair states we are all extremely grateful for the work JR and the LO team in general have done especially in the context where they operate. This conference will leave a very positive impression.

Committee records thanks also to the PC chair – Manfred Thaller - and his committee as well as all the reviewers.

*** Chair breaks at 16.07 and reconvenes at 16.38 ***

9. Outreach and communication

a. EADH day (evaluation of Leipzig 2016; plans for Rome 2017)

- EADH Day 2016 report [in Agora](#)

Chair asks EB to report on the EADH Day 2016. EB explains that this event was part of DHd 2016 conference (475 attendees) as part of the pre-conference activities. She thinks that having EADH Day at the end of a conference like it happened in Madrid (EADH Day 2015) was more relaxed and possibly a better format to follow in the future. EB thinks it's important to have EADH Days associated to AO conferences since often those regional contexts are not aware of EADH existence and activities. She also suggests having a survey with participants to get some feedback and evaluate these Days. 216 officially registered for the EADH day of which 18 registered only for the EADH Day (about a third of the latter were affiliated to institutions outside Germany). The programme was organised thematically. Besides travel costs for the keynote given by EGB and for one more EADH representative (LI), EADH also funded a bursary as well as some additional costs (total of 50% of overall costs).

EB thinks that call needs to go out sooner than done for Leipzig. More reviewers would need to be involved.

EGB thinks that an increased presence of EADH executive committee members would give more weight to the event so a wider participation should be planned.

Based on the experience of both EADH Days in Madrid and Leipzig, LI thinks it is not yet clear what is the relationship between the EADH Day and the AO conference. He thinks the event was mostly useful for early career researchers to present their work for the first time. He argues for possibly defining more clearly that the EADH Day aimed indeed at involving this constituency to enrich their experience even if of course liaison with relevant AO would need to happen to make sure their needs are catered for.

EB thinks that depending on whether we decide to have a European conference the whole role of EADH Days might change.

Chair thinks that what is really in demand is the equivalent of a ThatCamp or Hackathon for young DH researchers. Hence investigating some of these formats would be useful.

Chair thanks all involved for their observations and summarises by saying that the original idea for the EADH Day was an interesting one now already explored via two different formats.

FC summaries his plans for EADH Day 2017 in Rome (25 January), the day after the DiXiT workshop which means DiXiT fellows would possibly attend the event. AC suggests to involve the fellows in the planning of the event.

EGB and EB think more support is needed from the association to publicise the EADH Day.

b. EADH grants initiative

FC asked to add this item to the agenda.

Based on treasurer's suggestions to use £5,000, Chair reminds the committee that we have this fund to dispose of which we could devote to reviewing this successful initiative.

Chair asks for volunteers to draw up a proposal for the small grants initiative in its third cycle. They would also be responsible to run it by evaluating proposals. LI did it before and volunteers to do it again. AB, ML and BB volunteer to help.

Action on them to come up with a proposal to revisit the scheme and run it.

c. Website editor and communication fellows

Committee records thanks to Antonio Rojas Castro for all his work. Chair suggests to pull the fund and extend Antonio's contract. He would also be the best person to liaise with for what concern the publicity of the EADH Day.

Chair proposes to extend the contract with Antonio as website editor and with the two (rather than three as it used to be) communication fellows.

All support this.

Action on Chair to communicate to Antonio and PV.

d. Discussion of the European conference

- EADH Conference notes [in Agora](#)

FC summarises his proposal. The first EADH conference would take place in 2018. The midterm meeting of the committee could be the venue to decide where to host the conference. A Programme Committee and a chair would then be appointed. He imagines a mid-level event. We would need to be careful about clashes with other conferences taking place in Europe.

Chair notices that organising conferences is indeed a big task. It might be that choosing one spot where to run it regularly at every cycle might be a better option (e.g. logistics would be run professionally by a local team). This would be a new format that we lack in our environment.

ØE suggests that if EADH decides to hold a European conference regularly, it should be possibly hosted outside a University for neutrality reasons (as well as isolating the event and people from a busy city context) and in an affordable location. FC mentions that Trento in Italy could be a possible interesting venue where the provincial government could be interested to provide in kind and financial support. Chair mentions that another candidate region could be Catalonia. BB also has contacts in Southern Spain. LI raises the issue of possible overlap with the ADHO DH conference outside Europe/north America and warns against making it a pattern of competition. AB thinks that since we are potentially competing with the ADHO DH conference, we must make sure that the event benefits from clear distinctive features.

Chair thanks FC for having taken this project a significant step further. He suggests to form a task group spearheaded by FC. BB, ML are interested to contribute. New members will be / might be invited to contribute.

Action on incoming chair to chart this task group.

10. Any other business

CEO mentions that a CfP for the DHN conference is out (14-18 March 2017) so no other events should be organised for that time if at all possible.

CC mentions the proposal to endorse an event on #dariahTeach closing conference, preceded by a DARIAH Public Humanities workshop, to be held in Lausanne on 22-24 March 2017. Committee is happy to endorse this.

AC reminds committee that she would like to resign from her role since she in fact already filled a term (2013-2016).

Chair wants to discuss his points of suggestions to pass to the incoming committee and officers (document available at <https://www.agoracommsy.uni-hamburg.de/commsy.php?cid=1985123&mod=material&fct=detail&iid=9081881>). Chair summarises his points as follows:

- A better strategy to be developed mid/long-term (e.g. supporting young researchers and other DH researchers to get recognition for their work);
- Benefits for POs and AOs must be defined in a clearer more concise and accessible way since mere expansion in terms of numbers is not inherently good (limits are as important as horizons);
- Investment into sketching midterm scenarios concerning the relationship with ADHO which is an instrument and facilitator for our constituency (e.g. what are the benefits and limitations? where it does not translate into that positive function, it can be dysfunctional and this should be addressed accordingly); it is important to assess this in a new phase of maturity in this relationship; EADH has been so far the major contributor to ADHO;
- Representation in the new ADHO board structure has not been defined; against the backdrop of the experience held at the end of last year within ADHO, Chair thinks proportional representation would actually be in the interests of EADH to keep;
- Support ADHO ISC chair in reviewing requirements for the new membership system (if ADHO cannot make it happen, EADH should);
- Based on an assessment of functional and dysfunctional aspects (e.g. open access agenda), design and execute phase exit strategy with respect to the association to OUP in a friendly fashion, given that they are being our biggest professional partner
- Investigate whether EADH should be changed into a Euro based organisation;
- Emphasise EADH as European (in the cultural and scholarly tradition sense) academic organisation; a strong academic profile is essential while everything else is additional; Chair hence warns against the “big tent” metaphor; the European long term trajectory with respect to funding is peculiar to our context.

The next meeting of the committee will take place in Rome on the 1st of December 2016.

Chair closes the meeting at 17.58. Thanks the committee and AC as secretary supporting the chair and member of the committee itself since 2008.

[Words and tokens of gratitude for his service are then dedicated to the outgoing Chair straight after the official meeting ends]