

Minutes of SEGH virtual meeting Monday 22nd June 2020 08.30 BST.

1: Apologies. No apologies were received.

2. Attendees:

Michael Watts, Chair

Gillian Gibson (by phone) secretary

Anthea Brown membership secretary/treasurer

Ofelia Bermea

Kosei Yamaguchi

Keith Torrance

Xia Huo

Odipo Osani

Olivier Humphrey

Ariadne Argyraki

Paula Marinho

Maurizio Barbieri

Chaocheng Zhang

Moataz Tarek

Dan Middleton

Taicheng An

Belinda Kaninga

Not present:

Sanja Pogieter Vermak

Ahad Nazarpour

Opportunity was taken for board members to introduce themselves to each other. Those who have provided a photo and brief introduction for the website were thanked; others were reminded that they need to do so please!

Prior to matters arising, MW outlined the on-line meeting which will take place on Monday 29th June/Tuesday 30th June (2020) as a replacement for the Eldoret meeting. It does have the advantage of enabling more people to attend, potentially, as no travel is required, but it does lose the important elements of networking, and the poster sessions. Sponsors are still keen to be involved, for which we are grateful. AGM will be held at the end of the session.

3: Matters arising.

Matters arising are the same as have been present for some time: engagement from board members is required for specific tasks, notably assisting DM and OH with co-ordinating ECRs, and reviewing the Strategy and Business plan.

Volunteers for ECR activity were KT, MBa, and AA.

ACTION: KT, MB and AA to liaise with DM and OH to progress the ECR, especially as the annual dinner cannot take place.

Discussion regarding the Strategy and Business plan: GG expressed the need for a new board member to take ownership of this and to develop it. Both are available on the website. MW requested that they be circulated to the board.

ACTION: GG to circulate both documents with the minutes

ACTION: volunteers required to own the strategy and develop new business plan

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4: Anniversary publications.

Volunteers required to co-ordinate this. Activity has already taken place between the Fellows, with suggestions and liaisons. Board member required to help to co-ordinate it.

Volunteers to help with the anniversary issue were MBu, MBa, and MT

ACTION: MBu MBa and MT to liaise with authors of papers, co-ordinate production and peer review in a timely manner

ACTION: GG to circulate email thread of Fellows engagement to date

5: Future meetings and logistics.

A great deal of hard work has gone into the June meeting (virtual) as mentioned above. It is hoped that there may be another virtual meeting in October.

Nanjing in November is uncertain (Covid).

MBu organising meeting for Vancouver for August 2021. This will be a local (America's) meeting, not an international conference. It is hoped that it will stimulate the Americas region again after its recent wane.

It is hoped that the Kenya meeting can be reinstated for June/July 2021, and for Portugal 2022.

As always, assistance is required with these meetings, in particular an urgently, for the virtual meeting for October.

ACTION: Volunteers required to assist with future meetings.

6: The website has been revamped (Thank you to OH) and is now much more accessible. It looks fresh and new and is easier to attach new material to it. With that in mind, one of the undertakings for board members is to produce a web article. Please undertake one of these asap. The suggestion was made that PhD students could be tasked with producing something on your behalf, as a useful exercise.

7: Finances are just ticking over. With the absence of a conference to boost income, they are likely to remain low. The finances, and the membership, always reflect the conferences: Manchester conference attendees are still members. There has been some expense incurred for rebuilding the web site, however it will save us money in the long run. If Nanjing goes ahead in November, it has the potential to boost both income and membership. It was hoped that the Anniversary year would be a big one for both the annual conference and smaller meetings, thus boosting income and membership, but as things remain uncertain we cannot rely on those things.

8. There was no AOB.

The meeting closed at 10.50.

NB 1: MW will be holding a meeting with the Americas chairs later in the day.

2: As the actions were becoming confused linked back to earlier meetings, I have taken the opportunity with a new board and a fresh start to attribute new numbering commencing with these minutes.

Action	owner	Date required	Date completed
1:Support and liaise with ECRs	KT MBa AA	Start immediately	Ongoing
2: Send copies of strategy and business plan to new board (Available immediately on website)	GG	asap	24/06/2020
3:Board members to volunteer to rejuvenate strategy and business plan	board	asap	
4:Liaise with authors of Anniversary papers, co-ordinate production and peer review in a timely manner	MBu MBa MT	Start immediately	
5:Send email link to Fellows thread	GG	Asap	21/06/2020
6:Volunteers to assist with future meetings	all	ASAP	
7:More articles for the website	all	asap	