

Minutes of the meeting of SEGH board, held virtually, on 22nd September 2020 08.30 am UK time

Present:

Maurizio Barbieri
Anthea Brown (Treasurer)
Odipo Osano
Sanja Potgieter Veermak (left 00.90)
Michael Watts (president)
Xia Huo (left 09.00)
Ahad Nazarpour
Munir Zia
Ariadne Argyraki
Chaocheng Zheng
Ofelia Bermea
Gillian Gibson (Secretary)
Andrew Hursthouse (By invitation)
Akinade Olatungi

Not present:

Paula Reis
Belinda Kaninga

1: Apologies

Dan Middleton
Kosei Yamaguchi
Keith Torrance
Taicheng An
Olivier Humphrey
Mark Button (US time)
Bob Finkelman (US time) (conversation previous day with Michael – see below)

2: Matters arising:

As all matters arising are directly linked to agenda items, other than those already completed, the rest of the agenda was addressed directly.

3: The issue of the anniversary papers was addressed. The co-ordination team is currently Maurizio B, Mark B and MT; Andrew Hursthouse is assisting, and therefore invited to this board meeting. Mark B is willing to help, but has unexpected pressures at the moment and cannot give as much time as would like. MaurizioB is trying to get a handle on this, with AH. There is a plan in place which was circulated to the board in March and again in June. This contains suggestions of appropriate papers as supplied by Fellows following the invitation to them in February. It is further populated with ECRs who may wish to be involved, as populated by OH and DM. Each suggestion attempts to include Health and Geology.

AH has spoken with Sher and Ming at Springer: they are supportive, and keeping space for it. They will be set up to accept submission. Editors need to be aware of what is happening, in order to review appropriately- these will not be standard academic papers. Ideally more papers are needed, but which are thought provoking and topical. Maurizio B will make additional contact with Fellows.

Action: MB contacts fellows to increase papers

Action: GG supplies list of Fellows to MB.

The project needs to have firm deadlines which need to be communicated. Suggest mid - December to allow for slippage. The ECR team need to ensure that the ECRs know what is required of them. The Editorial team should be able to provide help. All papers should be on line in time for the next on-line meeting next July.

Ideally each piece would include an illustration to allow it to be conveyed through the web site.

Action : Co-ordinating team to keep board updated .

4: ECR network.

(CO-ordinators : KT;AA;XH;BK, DM, OH)

AA reported that a) she had been promoting the network via her students; those from MCR meeting still involved. AA has been in touch with KT. Have been in discussion on how to keep network involved. Possible short meetings to take place via zoom; approx. 90 mins each, talking about SEGh, and also soft skills and profile raising. KT has engaged 20 people for the network from his students. Other board members to approach their students in similar manner. Zoom meeting improved the chances for them to attend.

Action: board members to recruit more ECRs

ECRs in Kenya are currently active. Possible to identify ECRs in other areas of Africa, to carry out collaborative studies. Entire continent could be mobilised.

Action : AB to send contact list to AO to enable targeted emails to be sent.

IMPERATIVE: contact must be made with the existing ECRs as they have not had any communication from the board, and there is currently no reason for them to stay engaged.

AA intends to offer a global zoom meeting to ECRs. Will be recorded to go on website

Action: AA to co-ordinate ECR event

AO has offered to assist

5: Strategy and Business plan

There have been no volunteers to assist with the Strategy and Business plan. These were circulated with the minutes of the last meeting. GG prepared the last one. As Covid has now changed many things, there are some issues which have moved forward unexpectedly (Virtual meetings) and others which have ground to a halt. It is an appropriate and ideal time to review the strategy and update the business plan accordingly. MW has allocated board members to this task, if not currently involved in other areas. (See below) GG will communicate directly with this group to progress activity. All welcome!

Action: GG to engage working party for strategy/business plan

6: Future meetings

The meeting in China has been postponed to the end of 2021, as it is not possible to invite overseas speakers or delegates.

Discussion regarding next year's meeting. In reality, there is unlikely to be a choice, it is probably virtual. This has the advantage of it being able to reach many people, but the disadvantage of not having informal breakout networking. Questions re monetizing the meetings? Put behind a firewall? How do we engage sponsors?

RH and OB are organising 'local' virtual event focusing on S. American issues.

Suggestion of short sharp frequent sessions to be made available on the web after the event, but behind firewall. Free to members, others pay to access.

MW spoken with Diego Friedland at IMGA: possible joint event.

MW also spoken with Jose Centrino, who works for US pathology for armed forces, with links to Nigeria; should be engaged in events.

ECRs in Canada and Kentucky are keen to do something. Gaining impetus.

Africa wanting to hold regional events, via zoom licence held by Aki.

Challenge to ECRs: can they organise a virtual social event? If this works it could be replicated for a bigger meeting.

ACTION: ECRs with assistance: organise a virtual social event?

Not holding international meetings enables a reduction in carbon emissions. We need to be carbon literate.

7. Finance

Finances are healthier than expected; zoom meeting helped to retain members. No longer having to pay web hosting fees, thanks to OH's work on web site.

Discussion re purchasing a zoom licence, so it can be used for local as well as international meetings. MW to look at costs.

ACTION: MW to investigate cost of zoom licence for SEGH

8: AOB

There was no AOB

Meeting closed at 09.45.

ACTIONS:

Action designation	Action required	owner	Date for completion	Date completed
3.1	MB contacts fellows to increase papers	Maurizio B	ASAP	
3.2	GG to provide contact details for Fellows to MB	GG	ASAP	24 Sept

3.3	Co-ordinating team to keep board updated	AH;MB;MB MT	Ongoing to final publications	
4.1	Board members to recruit ECRs from their student population	board	Asap ongoing	
4.2	AB to send contact list of members in Africa to AO to enable targeted emails to be sent.	AH	asap	
4.3	ECR event to be delivered	AA with rest of ECR team	ASAP	
5.1	GG to engage working party for strategy/business plan	GG	asap	
6.1	Organise a virtual social event?	ECR group with board support	December	
7.1	Investigate cost of zoom licence for SEGH	MW	asap	

Points of engagement for board members:

Early Career Researcher coordinators

Keith Torrance

Xia Huo

Odipo Osano

Ariadne Argyraki

Taicheng An

Belinda Kaninga

Akinade Olatunji

Dan Middleton and Olivier Humphrey assisting in handover of ECR communications

Special Issue – anniversary papers

Coordinators

Maurizio Barbieri

Mark Button

Moatez Tarek

Andrew Hursthouse – co-opted to board as additional editor

Contributors

Ming Wong & Dan Middleton

Bob Finkelman

Paula Marinho

Sanja Potgieter

Chaosheng Zhang

Kosei Yamaguchi

Business plan & Strategy document

Akinade Olatunji

Kosei Yamaguchi

Ahad Nazarpour

Ofelia Morton-Bermea

Munir Zia

Paula Marinho

Michael Watts & Gillian Gibson to assist group (previously European input, need wider contributions now)

Other activities

SEGH Live

Michael, Dan, Olivier January 2021

Bob Finkelman, Ofelia Morton-Bermea in 2021 for Latin and north America

SEGH 2021 conference Kenya

Odipo Osano