IECA

Board meeting minutes 17 March 2023, 22:00-23:00 CET

Meeting: 17 March 2023, 22:00-23:00 CET

Present: Franzisca Weder (FW), Gabi Mocatta (GM), Steven Depoe (SD), Mira Rochyadi-Reetz (MR), Catherine Bruns (CB), Sibo Chen (SC), Anke Wonneberger (AW), Robert Cox (RC),Jen Rae (JN), Hannah Morris (HM), Kathleen Hunt (KH)

Absent: Shirley Ho (SH), Tadesse Amera Sahilu (TAS), Leonore Solis (LS),

Minutes: Meeting minutes from March accepted (9 Votes)

Topics: (1) Opening by Chair (Exec. Committee)
(2) Report from task force
(3) Report from Research Committee

I. **Opening and exec. comm report (FW)**.

II. **Task force report (GM)**

- The task force and KH drafted two models of job description for future ED of the IECA; (1) university faculty or research model and (2) association manager or staff. The first model will be employed or paid by a faculty at a university meanwhile the second model will be paid from the association directly. Job description of both models available in the board meeting folder May. Job description on the second model created based on KH's working experience so far as ED interim of the IECA. She sees that it mostly conducting administrative or management work of the association and not directing the association. Thus it fits more to call it as "manager" or "staff" of the association instead of "executive director". The staff should bridge the board's chair and members with the association members.
- The board discussed the positive and negative traits of both models. Benefits of the first model are, among others, (1) saving a significant amount of financial expenses of the IECA and (2) the extensive network owned by university faculty's member. Meanwhile the disadvantages of the first model are: (1)This model is considered a "kind of US model" and less open for those coming from non-US faculty staff and not in line with the vision of the IECA as an international association. (2) The board will/could lose control of the association as the person financed by a certain university would most likely be

contingent towards the university where she/he works rather than the association.

- Considering the disadvantages of the first model and the good cooperation with KH as interim ED of the association which should continue by the second model, all board members who attended the meeting voted to choose the second model.

III. Research committee report

- The editor search committee has conducted the following action: (1) reviewed 7 applications for the new RENC editor, deemed 4 individuals to be minimally qualified, and interviewed 2 individuals for the position: Bruno Takahashi (March 8) and Phaedra Pezzullo (March 14). The committee found both candidates as acceptable for the editor position. However, Phaedra emerged as the preferred candidate of the majority of committee members. T&F was informed about this but no contract sign yet with the new editor.
- Currently, the IECA does not have a copyright for the content of RENC which hopefully could be renegotiated. Furthermore, the research committee will negotiate the next 5 year agreement with T&F on the following subjects: (1) moving the portfolio the journal Environmental Communication (RENC) from the Earth and Environmental Sciences portfolio to the Communication, Cultural and Media Studies portfolio within the company by the end of 2023. (2) Remuneration for reviewers in the form of financial remuneration or other form of remuneration (e.g.: additional discounts to publish open source at RENC for members of IECA). (3) The association also would like to get data on the journal directly from the company since currently only the editor who received the data. (4) The committee would like to negotiate the option of open source publication and more discount for the IECA members to publish open source in the journal. The existing benefit also has to better communicate to our members.
- Options discussed when agreement cannot be reached with T&F: to end cooperation with T&F and create a new journal (open source).
- All attended members of the board agree to support the negotiation led by the research committee with T&F.

IV. Other business

- There will be two (hybrid) board meetings during COCE: the first one will only be a short meeting)ca. 30 min) with board members and the second one will be between the board and all members of the IECA. The new board members will be introduced to members of the association on the second meeting.

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