**HDCA Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 4, 2022**

**3:00 pm UK**

**Present:** Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti, Melis Cin, Tom de Herdt, Jay Drydyk, Carlos Garzon, Giulia Greco, Petya Ilieva-Trichkova, Matthias Kramm, Ann Mitchell, Sophie Mitra, Oliver Mutanga, Jack Simpson, Melanie Walker

Guest: Andrew Crabtree

**Chair:** Melanie Walker

Melanie extended a warm welcome to new EC members, Carlos Garzon - Secretary, Matthias Kramm – Information Coordinator and Petya Ilieva-Trichkova – 2023 Conference Chair.

1. **Report on sustainability survey**
   1. Andrew Crabtree presented background: the conversation about sustainability started at the conference in Cape Town in 2017. Subsequently, Covid moved the 2020 conference online, followed by an all online event in 2021 and then a hybrid conference in 2022. Andrew was asked to look at sustainability as it relates to flights.
   2. About 99% of survey respondents felt that climate warming of 2 degrees or less was appropriate, but 99% thought it was okay to fly to conferences. Online only conferences would be the most sustainable in terms of carbon emissions. Asked to look at sustainability in context of strategic priorities - a. promote high quality research on human development and capabilities; b. address regional imbalances in research on human development and capabilities; c. promote greater interaction between researchers and practitioners on the application of research from the fields of human development and capabilities; d. establish criteria for environmental sustainability of HDCA activities, especially those involving travel.
   3. People value meeting other people in person, talking with senior researchers, etc – this came through clearly in the survey results. Most people prefer a hybrid or multi-site conference. Many people can’t go to conferences because of the expense – this exacerbates regional imbalances. Some form of online activity addresses this. Online access is also important to those with disability/mobility issues that prevent them from attending in person.
   4. Survey looked at changing behaviors – would people change behavior when aware of their greenhouse gas emissions.
   5. Future conferences – hybrid or multi-hybrid conference would get to most of the aims that we wish to fulfill in the HDCA. Andrew will provide additional feedback after discussing with the other Sustainability Committee members.
   6. Melanie suggested working on some practical steps to move forward with future conferences.
2. **2022 HDCA Conference report**
   1. The conference organizers are still gathering data and working on a report, but Tom provided some highlights. There were 1,045 attendees registered in Whova, but a difference in this amount and the number who downloaded Whova, which is the effective number of attendees: 780.
   2. 60% participated online, and 40% in person. Programming became more complicated because of the hybrid nature.
   3. Discussion needs to take place on whether to disconnect the Global Dialogue Day from the conference.
   4. More in-depth discussion will take place at the next EC meeting when the official report is presented.
3. **2022 Summer School report**
   1. Summer School was a big success. 35 students attended and were diverse regionally, coming from West Africa, Hawaii, Japan, Indonesia, Europe, Canada and U.S. Majority were doctoral students. Diverse also in terms of fields of study. 29 submitted evaluations, which were positive: 8-9 rating for each of the 7 lectures. 9 of 10 would recommend it to peers. They equally enjoyed meeting peers, peer scholars, and learning something new. Giulia and Oliver will have a written report available for the next EC meeting.
4. **2023 Conference update**
   1. Dates of 2023 conference: 11-13, September. Theme is “Vulnerability, human development, and cooperative re-building inturbulent times.” Summer School would take place the two days prior.
   2. They have a good team of partners: The Bulgarian Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, The Open Society Institute of Sofia, Sofia University, and SCOOP.
   3. Some of the keynote speakers are confirmed.
5. **Host prospects for 2024 conference**
   1. Elaine had 3 approaches in Antwerp from organizations for 2024. She is in communication with them about submitting host proposals.
6. **Review of strategic goals**
   1. Jay had led effort to identify strategic goals and committees to carry these forward. Membership Committee has finished its work. The conference committee will look at models for taking conferences forward. Now doing focus groups with Regional Networks and hope to report on that at the November EC meeting. Role that the conference plays in research and development, and role of Summer School, as well as the mentoring pilot program. Focus on fundraising and finances at next meeting to see how to fund activities and support future conference hosts.
   2. Melanie would like to consolidate the work that Jay started, without excluding other ideas that people would like to put on the table. She is in favor of practical action steps.
   3. Melanie will prepare a document for next EC meeting that summarizes where we are with current strategic goals and anticipated next steps.
7. **AOB–** 
   1. None
8. **Next meeting**
   1. Will poll for dates around week of Nov. 21

Minutes submitted by Kathy Rosenblum