**HDCA Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**February 26, 2021**

**5 pm UK**

**Present:** Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti, Andrew Crabtree, Jay Drydyk, Oscar Garza, Tom de Herdt, Stacy Kosko, Sophie Mitra, , Rosie Peppin-Vaughan, Jack Simpson, Elaine Unterhalter

**Chair:** Jay Drydyk

1. **2021 Virtual Program of Events**
   1. Thematic Group (TG) and Regional Network (RN) coordinators and Fellows have been consulted about their top choices and their responses are due March 5. Many coordinators have asked their group members for feedback.
   2. Hang out spaces – various software can be used for informal ‘cafes’ where members can get together.
   3. Some issues raised in coordinators’ meetings: how are they going to decide how to rank events? How to handle language – if events are going to be regionally focused, it would be good to include closed caption translation in Zoom.
2. **2021 EC Nominations/Elections**
   1. Positions up for election: President-elect, Treasurer, Education Coordinator, Network Coordinator and Officer at Large.
   2. A nominating committee is in place consisting of Anantha Durraiappah, Javier Iguiñiz, Jaya Krishnakumar, and Murray Leibbrandt, in addition to Sophie Mitra who is the Chair. There will be a 2-week period for nominations and two weeks for elections. A decision was taken to make member engagement and outreach the focus of the Officer at Large position. This would include use of technology to connect with members.
3. **Book of Regulations – final amendments**
   1. A final set of proposed amendments to the Book of Regulations was presented. There are two changes since the previous draft: 1. Language was added to the Treasurer description to reflect a decision adopted at the November 17, 2020 EC meeting; 2. The Education Coordinator description was updated with wording which emphasizes the development and delivery of educational events and support for learning-related initiatives undertaken by members.
   2. Stacy moved to accept all amendments. Andrew seconded. All voted in favor.
4. **India International conference issue** 
   1. Jay outlined the Indian government’s new restrictions on conferences hosted online: if a publicly funded institution wants to hold an international conference or training online, they must get permission from one of the government ministries. Jay consulted with past HDCA Presidents about whether HDCA should issue a response statement, as other organizations have done and they were favorable. Jay is looking for approval in principle from the EC, and the statement would then go to members for online consultation.
   2. The EC is in agreement to provisionally adopt the statement and proceed to consultation with the full membership. After that, the EC will the make a final decision about release of the statement.
5. **New thematic group on gender and sexuality**
   1. A revised proposal has been submitted with changes to the language that is more inclusive and explicitly includes LGBTQ+. The proposal was approved unanimously.
6. **Affiliated event request** 
   1. A request was received to use the HDCA logo for a webinar in May that will be jointly organized by the HDCA Human Security thematic group and the MENA Social Policy Network at Bath University. The request is under consideration by the Affiliation Committee, and if approved, will be sent to EC members for a final decision.
7. **HDCA-HDRO update** 
   1. Jay reported that HDRO is interested in participating in joint events with the HDCA this year and in the lead-up to the 2022 conference. A number of possibilities have been discussed.
8. **Strategic Goals Discussion**
   1. At the November EC meeting it was be decided to look back at how well we have done in achieving the HDCA’s initial mandate. Jay presented data that has been collected, including member data classified by region, using World Bank classification, and Journal data by region. In addition, general interest was measured by using search terms: capabilities approach, capability approach and human development approach.
   2. It was decided that more refined research should be undertaken, particularly to look at the specific issues listed in the HDCA mission statement, including poverty, gender, justice, and the environment, as well as the influence of capability approach in the policy world.
9. **Any Other Business** 
   1. None