**HDCA Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 20, 2022**

**5:00 pm UK**

**Present:** Paul Anand, Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti, Giulia Greco, Tom de Herdt, Jay Drydyk, Carmen Martinez Vargas, Ann Mitchell, Sophie Mitra, Oliver Mutanga, Jack Simpson, Elaine Unterhalter, Melanie Walker

**Chair:** Jay Drydyk

1. **2022 conference**
   1. Currently about 50 proposals submitted. Tom’s group will see what happens over the next month and extend the deadline if needed. Panels must be all online or all in person; at time of submission people are asked to indicate their preference.
   2. After Jan. 31, Fellows will be contacted about doing reviews.
2. **Strategic planning discussion**
   1. The EC has looked at our mission statement and rough data to determine how well we’re achieving our mandate. Jay distributed a ‘Strategies Priorities’ document which extrapolates from the discussion, recommends priorities, and suggests consultations that we should have to move forward. He outlines three basic proposals: 1. Identify high priority goals for the association and the EC over the next 3 years. 2. Identify means for achieving goals, including different kinds of consultations to come up with proposals. The goal is to reach substantial decisions prior to Antwerp conference; 3. Investigate two priorities that are notable but may not be as high priority as the others. Discussion ensued.
   2. There was unanimous approval of the four priority areas identified in the document, and to establish or reconstitute committees to address the issues of hybrid/virtual conferences, membership benefits and fee structure, regional imbalances, and fundraising/financial planning.
3. **2023 Conference**
   1. An application was received to host the 2023 conference by a consortium led by the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Following discussion, there was unanimous decision to accept the conference host application.
4. **Regional Network and Thematic Group issues**
   1. The Graduate Student Network would like to change their name to: Junior Researchers and Practitioners Network. After discussion, it was decided to have further conversation about whether to have only one group for both academics and practitioners, and also whether the group should be open to early career scholars.
   2. The creation of a mentorship program creating one on one connections between senior and junior scholars was discussed. After discussion, it was decided that Giulia and Oliver would work with the Graduate Student Network to draft a plan.
5. **Changes to investment portfolio**
   1. Ann reported that 2021 ended with a small surplus in the operating budget, due to higher than expected membership dues income, lower than expected tech support costs, and additional funds from UNDP to cover Global Dialogue expenses.
   2. We currently have $378,000 in the HDCA investment funds. At the last EC meeting, it was decided to shift the investment portfolio to more ethical investments, specifically to ESG (Environment/Social/Governance) funds.
   3. There was a unanimous decision to have an advisor at First Republic research and recommend specific ESG funds based on HDCA priority areas. These funds will be brought back for EC approval.
6. **Regional ‘mapping’ and outreach**
   1. We are moving forward with an online interactive map of members working on human development and capabilities around the world.
7. **AOB–** 
   1. None

Minutes submitted by Kathy Rosenblum