**HDCA Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**May 25, 2023**

**3:00 pm UK**

**Present:** Melanie Walker, Petya Ilieva-Trichova, Sophie Mitra, Jack Simpson, Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti, Ann Mitchell, Jay Drydyk, Carlos Garzon, Elaine Unterhalter, Giulia Greco, Oliver Mutanga, Carmen Martinez Vargas, Matthias Kramm, Paul Anand

**Guest**: Sandra Boni

**Chair:** Melanie Walker, President

1. **Journal Report**
   1. Enrica reported that she and Kathy met with portfolio managers from Taylor & Francis (T&F) in March. T&F suggested marketing strategies: better use of social media, enhance website and search engine optimization; ‘Reaching Readers’ campaign – e.g. send notification of articles after publication; invite authors to post about their articles. Each author will promote their own work, but the Journal might consider appointing a social media editor.
   2. Virtual issues are an option – a collection of articles on a relevant topic that have been published in different issues in recent years.
   3. T&F offered to provide funding for copy-editing for selected articles that may have English language issues. This might make a difference in being able to accept a good quality article that otherwise might not make it through the review process because of language problems.
   4. Trend toward open access (OA). The expense can cause obstacles for many scholars, especially those in the global South, but for others as well who don’t have institutional funding available. We should try to find ways to make this more affordable.
   5. Current contract with Taylor & Francis goes through 2024 with automatic renewal for 5 years. It was agreed that a committee will meet with Taylor & Francis to review contract terms prior to renewal.
2. **2023 Election and Special Election**
   1. Three positions were filled: President-elect, Vice President, and Officer at Large.
   2. There were no nominees for Conference Coordinator or Development Director.
   3. Consensus to open nominations for Conference Coordinator and hold a special election for that position. The position of Development Director will be on hold and may change to a fundraising position.
3. **2023 HDCA Conference update**
   1. Acceptance letters have been sent. 238 accepted proposals, including 24 panels and 33 online.
   2. Registration has opened. About 80 registrations to date, 16 for online and remainder in person. June 9 deadline for early bird rates; regular registration deadline is August 4.
   3. Scholarship awards have been made – about 30 recipients received partial scholarships. Three people were awarded Ul Haq scholarships.
   4. Various pre-conference events are planned, such as Martha Nussbaum book launch and a panel organized by Mario Biggeri with UNDP participants.
4. **Summer School request for tutor funds**
   1. Funding was requested to help two lecturers recruited to teach at the summer school who are currently independent researchers and do not have access to institutional funding.
   2. All were in favor of authorizing $1200 total for summer school lecturer expenses.
5. **2024 Conference Update**
   1. Dates are set and venue booked: Sept. 24-26, 2024
   2. Theme is “Capabilities, crises and social transformation”. A Program Committee is being assembled.
6. **2025 Call for Conference Hosts**
   1. The call has gone out and proposals are due by November 1, 2023.
7. **Fundraising Proposal**
   1. The Donorly proposal was discussed. It will be put on hold until a decision has been made about a fundraising position on the EC.
8. **TG and RN Issues** 
   1. Carmen – various issues have arisen from meetings with coordinators:
      1. Proposal to change name of regional network from Francophone West Africa and Madagascar to Francophone Africa. Unanimous vote in favor of changing the group’s name.
      2. Kuklys Prize. Request to clarify restrictions regarding supervisor role. Request is to take this into consideration for 2024.
      3. Mismatch between call for proposals and online submission system. Request to correct this in the future.
      4. Preconference events – request for clarification of role of coordinators with regard to pre-conference events. It was confirmed that coordinators are welcome to propose pre-conference events, and should be in touch with Petya if they would like to do so this year.
9. **AOB–** 
   1. None
10. **Next meeting**
    1. Kathy will circulate a scheduling poll

Minutes submitted by Kathy Rosenblum