

RDA Council Meeting GICC, Gaborone, Botswana Wednesday 7 November 2018

Meeting Chairs: Ross Wilkinson & Ingrid Dillo

Attendees:

1. Fran Berman
2. Ingrid Dillo
3. Jason Haga
4. Edit Herczog
5. Claudia Maria Bauzer Medeiros
6. Kay Raseroka
7. Ross Wilkinson
8. Kevin Ashley (OAB Co-Chair – Observer)
9. Françoise Genova (TAB Co-Chair – Observer)
10. Amy Nurnberger (OAB Co-Chair – Observer)
11. Andrew Treloar (TAB Co-Chair – Observer)
12. Hilary Hanahoe (Secretary General)
13. Stefanie Kethers (Secretariat – notes/minutes)
14. Sandra Collins – remote participation
15. Bernard Minster - remote participation

Minutes of the face-to-face meeting in Troy, NY, USA – June 2018

Decision: Minutes accepted.

RDA Funders Forum and Interaction – Hilary Hanahoe

Discussion: Hilary reported on her interaction with Josh Greenberg and Matthew Lucas about the Funders' Forum. A Secretariat member needs to be identified to provide the administrative support needed. Council also discussed how the regions will fit into the governance structure of the RDA, and what the connection with the Funders' Forum will be.

Actions:

1. Identify a Secretariat member to provide administrative support to the Funders' Forum.
2. Transform Funders' Forum BoF into an Interest Group (<https://www.rda-alliance.org/groups/research-funders-and-stakeholders-open-research-and-data-management-policies-and-practices-ig>)

RDA Regional Engagement – Ingrid Dillo

Discussion: A Regional Engagement session was held at the Botswana Plenary. Mark Leggott moderated the session, Sarah Jones gave an overview of the Regional Engagement document. The discussion in the session revealed that there is a need for some clarifications and information to the community. <https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-regions>

Council also discussed starting bilateral talks with interested regions, and making sure the Regional Engagement document works in the context of the USA, Australia, and Europe.

Actions:

1. Finalize the Regional Engagement document.
2. Run Webinars to provide further information on the proposed Regional Engagement.
3. Road-test the Regional Engagement document with USA, Australia, Europe.
4. Start bilateral conversations with interested regions.

Organisational Membership – Amy Nurnberger, Kevin Ashley

Discussion: Council was presented with an update on Organisational Membership proposals together with OA proposals. Council discussed recommendations including a resource to be provided by Secretariat, privileged fees for Organisational Members, representing the Organisational Assembly and Organisational Members on the diagram of the RDA Organisation, cocktail events at Plenaries, providing data on organisational engagement with RDA.

Actions:

1. Ross with help from Kevin and Amy will ensure proposition for a task force focusing on individual, organisational and regional engagement.

RDA Plenary Meetings - Andrew Treloar

Discussion: Andrew presented an Unconference proposal and Council discussed supporting an Unconference expansion of the Plenary. Council discussed requesting and submitting BoFs, the mechanisms for allowing discussion across groups and how small groups can be effective and be facilitated. Council considered TAB becoming the owner of this process and the general feeling was an expansion needs to be tried at a future plenary, possibly P14.

Actions:

- Ross - Follow up with Australian organisation that provided P12 bid.

Decisions

- Council decided that an unconference component could be introduced to P14 (upon acceptance by local hosts as it was not part of the original request) as a once off element.

Secretary General Updates

Discussion: Hilary reported on challenges and achievements of Secretary General and a Secretariat update. She highlighted that we now have evaluation criteria for competing plenary bids. She discussed different levels of staff satisfaction and positive bilateral collaboration in some activities between US and Europe. Hilary has had interaction with the Funders' Forum and the idea of Regional Engagement. There is support for the four strategic pillars - Regional Engagement, Growth Management, Organisational and Financial Sustainability. Commitment from the Wellcome Trust has been given for 2 years. The Operations Plan is moving to the final version and the Annual Report has begun. Hilary highlighted the priorities for the next 6 months: Regional Engagement, Stakeholder Engagement, Organisational Members.

Actions:

Hilary, Andrew, Amy, Stefanie to work on Code of Conduct.

Council discussed importance of people having job satisfaction and Secretariat needing a plan to welcome in-kind regional people. Council raised the question of post Brexit travel considering the RDA is UK registered. Hilary confirmed there is no intention to close the UK connection but is looking at the possibility of opening a foundation in the Netherlands or Belgium as a fallback.

Council had no objections to Hilary's 6-month priorities.

Value Statements

Status and Progress

Discussion: Council reported that value statements for Organisations/Research Performing Organisations and Libraries had been revised based on the feedback. Value statements for Corporate and Private Sector, Funders, Regions, Individuals and HPC/Distributed Infrastructures are to be generated.

Actions:

1. Hilary to put Research Performing Organisations and Libraries value statements up as final versions.
2. Hilary to provide template by 14 November for remaining value statements to be finalised.
3. Everyone to provide draft documents by 14 December.
4. Stefanie to Doodle poll for circa 19 December.

Any Other Business

Discussion: Ross discussed the process for Council nominations suggesting the same procedure as followed and outlined in the governance document. All agreed.

Meeting was closed with no further actions or decisions.