

RDA Council Meeting
Aalto University, Espoo, Helsinki
21st October 2019

Meeting Chairs: Ingrid Dillo and Mark Leggott

Attendees:

1. Kevin Ashley
2. Jill Benn
3. Sandra Collins
4. Ingrid Dillo
5. Françoise Genova
6. Jason Haga
7. Robert Hanisch
8. Edit Herczog
9. Claudia Medeiros
10. Amy Nurnberger
11. Kay Raseroka
12. Andrew Treloar
13. Hilary Hanahoe (RDA Foundation SG)
14. Bridget Walker RDA Foundation EA (notes)

Notes and actions following the face-to-face meeting in Den Haag – June 2019

Decision: Notes and actions accepted.

Financial Status Update - Kevin Ashley, Jason Haga, Edit Herczog

Discussion:

The Financial Sub Committee presented the financial situation and forecasts for the remainder of 2019 and 2020. Council discussed in-kind contribution to the Foundation and difficulties of showing this in real terms due to regional variability.

Secretary General Update – Hilary Hanahoe

Discussion:

Summary given of Secretary General activities since June 2019 together with an overview of plans providing an understanding of the main focus areas and priorities until the end of January 2020.

Regional Engagement (Financial Perspectives and Governance Use Case – Hilary Hanahoe, all

Discussion:

An update was given by all Council members on the financial and in-kind perspectives as a result of regional engagement following which it was agreed that the Regional Engagement Framework document would be updated. Hilary provided an overview of coordination and communication with regard to aspiring regions highlighting RDA in Brazil as a use case. Council discussed suggestions on how to proceed with good representation/exposure to Latin American research community of RDA WDS Brazilian Academy of Sciences in April 2020.

An understanding of regional engagement possibilities for 2020 was presented followed by discussions on aspiring regions interaction and coordination.

European Office – Hilary Hanahoe

Discussion:

Confirmation was given of ongoing steps for the opening of an RDA Foundation AISBL (internationally acting non-profit) office in Belgium which will run as an individual entity, not as a subsidiary to the existing office in the UK.

Grand Challenges and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Update – Robert Hanisch

Discussion:

Bob reported back on first conference call on 10th October 2019 of the Task Force (Bob Hanisch, Edit Herczog, Françoise Genova, Kay Raseroka) providing a clear understanding of the defined actions and next steps. The first presentation of RDA and the SDGs will be given on Friday 25th October during the RDA Outputs and Adoption Session at the 14th Plenary Meeting in Helsinki and will look at the question of what the SDGs are and what complementary role RDA can offer taking into consideration the efforts already started by RDA Interest and Working Groups.

Governance Document – Mark Leggott

Discussion:

Mark highlighted the required changes to the RDA Governance Document Version 2.3. It was agreed that Mark Leggott, Stefanie Kethers and Bridget Walker would work together on updating the Governance Document with particular focus on reflecting new developments, checking inconsistencies across other governing documents and deciding on suitable place of storage.

TAB Update – Françoise Genova, Andrew Treloar

Discussion:

A summary of TAB activities and plans was given together with an explanation of the 2019 elections. Francoise and Andrew presented the actions for TAB going forward and it was decided that a decision on the continuation or not of the plenary unconference would be made following the 2nd edition in Helsinki.

OAB Update – Amy Nurnberger, Kevin Ashley

Discussion:

A summary of OA/ OAB activities, discussions and proposals to Council was given together with plans and an understanding of actions going forward.

Website Task Force Update – Hilary Hanahoe

Discussion:

Hilary updated Council on recent discussions with Trust-IT (RDA web platform provider through the RDA Europe 4.0 grant) and the value of putting out a call for proposals for the setting up and monthly/annual running costs of the RDA website from June 2020.

Membership Task Force Update – Sandra Collins

Discussion:

Sandra gave an update on the task force's ongoing discussions on contributing to the sustainability of RDA through different membership forms with particular regard to individual membership and organizational and regional membership.

Data Together Document – Sandra Collins

Discussion:

Hilary updated Council on the lengthy discussions with the authors of the Data Together document with particular focus on what the 4 member organisations do, why and how they work together. A diagram is currently being discussed which shows a vision of how the 4 member organisations work together.

Council 2020 Elections – Mark Leggott

Discussion:

Mark, chair of the Nominations Committee, gave an update on the nominations committee and proposed members. Council discussed eligible council members and whether they will stand again. A clear understanding of the election time-line was achieved together and it was agreed that Mark should form the Nominating Committee by end October 2019 in order to publish the call for nominations by mid November.

AOB

Discussion:

Council Group and Output Review Steps: Council were reminded of the lifecycle of Groups, the input of TAB and expectations of Council in the review process.

GIDA Affiliate Membership: Hilary presented this potential new affiliate membership and Council gave no objections.

SG and Executive Assistant Contracts: Following a review of Hilary Hanahoe's and Bridget Walker's contracts, Council agreed they should both be renewed by a further 2 years, with the addition of plus 2 for Hilary, from the end of contractual terms in early 2020 to 2022.

Next Council Face to Face Meeting

The next face to face meeting of the Council is scheduled for Monday 16th March before the 15th RDA Plenary Meeting in Melbourne, Australia.