
AEA-Europe General Assembly 2022

Meeting Notes

Friday 11 November 2022
Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Ireland

Welcome and Minutes

Christina Wikström welcomed everyone to the General Assembly.

Minutes of the General Assembly, 2021

No comments – taken as a correct version.

Council Inaugurations

Christina explained that in 2020 we had an online festival where we were able to ‘give back’ something to our members free of charge, in 2021 we had a full online conference and that it was great to be back together, face to face, in 2022.

Christina announced that Alex Scharaschkin will continue as Executive Secretary and AQA will be staying on as Secretariat. Melchior De Vries from CITO will be replacing Cor Sluijter as Treasurer, who is retiring. Cor has done an incredible job for AEA-Europe for many years and we would like to thank him for all his hard work and wish him a happy retirement.

VP elect, Therese Hopfenbeck, will now take over as President.

Newly nominated, Damian Murchan, will now take over as Vice President.

Stuart Shaw, a new Council member, who will be the Chair of the Scientific Programme Committee, will take over from Andrej Novik.

We would also like to thank Andrej for all his hard work over the last four years.

The 2023 Council now looks like this:

President	Therese Hopfenbeck
Vice President	Damian Murchan
Executive Secretary	Alex Scharaschkin
Treasurer	Melchior de Vries

Christina Wikström
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matters**
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Council Member – Chair of the Communications Committee	Debbie Chetcuti
Council Member – Chair of the Professional Development Committee	Elena Papanastasiou
Council Member – Chair of the Scientific Programme Committee	Stuart Shaw
Council Member – Chair of the SIGs	Vacant
Linda Wye (non-member)	Secretariat administration

Annual Report

President's Report

Christina noted that even though the digital format worked well, we decided not to make the AEA-Europe conference hybrid. New researchers/PhD students wouldn't get the opportunity to meet so we are planning to meet onsite for future annual conferences.

The Council members have minimized travelling this year with only one face to face meeting in May at the conference venue. All other meetings have been online.

EasyConferences have now taken over the professional side of the organization supporting with the website, membership and conference administration.

All the Committees have been working very hard and we have lots of great people involved. We are hoping to engage some of the younger and/or new members to help also.

Christina noted that AEA-Europe wants to offer a platform for collaboration where everyone can attend safely. We therefore have implemented a policy for future meetings to be careful where we organise events so that our members feel safe to travel. We have worked with an index for this which will help us decide.

Therese thanked Christina for leading the Association through these challenging times and she will try to follow in her footsteps. We are a democratic organization and are all 'in it together' and will carry on despite uncertain times. Therese then welcomed our new VP, Damian Murchan and Stuart Shaw to the council.

Secretariat activities

Alex Scharaschkin noted an increase in numbers of members for the Association – figures are in the Annual Report.

We have two substantive proposals to make:

1. Proposed renaming of Publications Committee to Communications Committee
This more accurately reflects the work of the committee.
No dissent – taken as confirmed
2. Proposed change to the Constitution to appoint an additional Council member with responsibility for SIGs.
To amend Article 7 of the AEA-Europe Constitution to have 8 members on the Council instead of 7. The SIGs have grown over the last couple of years with groups expanding which takes a lot of work and responsibility to run.
No dissent – taken as confirmed.

Alex and Christina thanked Linda Wye for her work as part of the Secretariat.

Publication Committee activities

Debbie Chetcuti explained that renaming the Publications Committee to the Communications Committee gave it more focus on comms and better reflected their work. She thanked her committee members:

- Amina Afif (interviews)
- Judith Gracey (website and blog)
- Lesley Wiseman (SIGs)
- Mary Richardson (social media)

Debbie thanked Mary Richardson for her hard work, as she is now moving on, and is sorry to see her go. Mary will need to be replaced and a call for volunteers will go out shortly.

Debbie also reported that webinars are organised through the SIGs and are important as they keep everyone in contact. The website has been refreshed but there are still a number of things to improve, the blog for example. We are working with EasyConferences to make it more user friendly and accessible. We will continue to communicate with everyone. Feedback and contributions are always welcome.

Scientific Programme Committee activities

Andrej reflected on the last four years. When he stepped in it was a well-established Association, and then covid exploded onto the scene, and everything we had done in the past had to be re-planned. Andrej thanked Stuart Shaw and was very grateful for his efficiency and new ideas.

Stuart said he had fond memories of working with Andrej and Elisa de Padua (pre-pandemic) at the one day meetings in Cambridge and especially the construction of an initial draft of the programme which is a complicated and important role.

This year the programme was published on the conference website 3 months before the actual conference event with the help of Damian Murchan, Gerry Shiel, Elisa de Padua and Nico Dieteren.

The SPC received over 200 quality submissions from 23 countries and will be experimenting with further formats in the future. The SPC rely on many reviewers, which we are very grateful to, and are looking for more in the future.

Stuart said he was looking forward to working with the Council.

Professional Development Committee activities

Elena Papanastasiou thanked Christina and the committee for their help, especially Bas Hemker and Shakeh Manessian. There was a reduction in membership this year as we used to have a student member, but they are now working on the SIG.

Paula Lehane was our Kathleen Tattersall New Researcher award winner who gave a keynote speech.

We had 9 applications for accreditation; 3 Fellows, 5 Practitioners and 1 Associate.

Elena explained that we will be revising the process of evaluation of the KTNRA and making improvements for the accreditation awards this year.

Report on Accounts

Cor presented the accounts to the GA and reported that the financial operations have now been outsourced to EasyConferences. We still have issues with uncollectible debtors, ie, members not paying their fees. However, AEA-Europe are stable financially at this current time.

Cor thanked Graham Hudson, Sebastiaan de Klerk and Fazilat Sadiq for serving on the Audit Committee. We are looking for new volunteers for the Audit committee next year.

Graham Hudson reported that the committee reviewed the finances by Cor and they have been recorded accurately and fairly. The Audit Committee would like to recommend the accounts to you for approval.

Accounts are approved by the General Assembly.

Cor will now step down and Melchior de Vries will take over as Treasurer.

Melchior raised the point about increasing the subscription fee and emphasized we are not here to make a profit, but to make it possible to run the Association. The 2023/24 costs are stable but will need to be monitored carefully and we will give more attention to the Participation Fund.

It was put to the GA that 2023 membership and conference fees are increased by a proposed 5%.

Damian explained that costs have increased significantly recently and running a conference is expensive. The Council have looked into indices and the inflation rate and felt that it was difficult to continue without this, otherwise there could be a large impact on budget.

After a vote, the proposal was accepted by the members.



Association for Educational
Assessment – Europe

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Future Conferences

Malta 2023

Call for Expression of Interest for 2024

Resolutions from Members

To consider any other resolutions received from members – NONE RECEIVED

Any Other Business

None.

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Subscriptions and
other financial
matters
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