ESRAD

European Society for Research in Adult Development

AGM MINUTES

June 28th 2024

Attendance: Oliver Robinson (President), Teresa Sgaramella (Vice President), Nick Shannon (Treasurer), Iva Vurdelja (Secretary), Natalia Waechter, Salla Ahola, Marc Lucas, Clare Mehta, Katja Hleb, Georgios Vleioras, Deeya Mitra, Titus Mars, Jenni Spännäri, Jeff Schneider, Igor Bogdanovich Shiyan

1. Announcement by the Chairman, legality of meeting, working order of the meeting

- Oliver announced the meeting legal and open

2. Ratification of annual report

- Oliver presented the annual report and action plan. He confirmed that relevant board changes had been registered with the Finnish Patent and Registration Office (PRH) and that the tax authorities had notified the society that no tax was due in 2023.
- Oliver stated that plans were under way for the 2025 conference to be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia with the help of Katja Hleb.

3. Board appointments / re-appointments / resignations

- Salla Ahola and Iva Vurdelja have completed their two-year terms of office. Salla Ahola offered herself for re-election for a further two-year term and this was approved. Iva Vurdelja offered herself for re-election for a further one-year term, and this was approved. Nick Shannon confirmed that he would continue to the end of his two-year term with a view to standing down in 2025.
- Jenni Spannari offered herself for election to the board. It was agreed that she would be invited to attend some board meetings pending a place becoming open.
- Jeff Schneider offered to support the society without becoming a board member, and was invited to take on the role of US National Representative, which he accepted.
- Action agreed for Jenni and Jeff to forward their CVs to Oliver.
- Oliver noted that he would like to stand down as President when his term of office comes to an end in 2025. Clare Mehta indicated that she would be interested to stand for election in his place.

4. Announcement by Treasurer of financial statement and budget for 2024

- Nick commented on the 2023 accounts and reported that the association's funds now stood at around €14,000 less current liabilities of €3,000 in respect of the small grants payments. He reported that the balance sheet had increased by around €1400 during 2023 thanks to a surplus arising from the conference. He considered that, being a non-profit organisation, the society should aim to maintain its cash funds between €5,000 and €15,000.
- Nick projected revenue and expenses to be about level during 2024.

- Nick noted that he thought the society should make provision to take payment by credit card going forward, saving some of the costs of using Eventbrite ticketing for its activities.

5. Auditor's report and ratification of the annual report

- Titus Mars confirmed that he and Melissa George as auditors had approved the financial statement and considered that the society was in sound financial health.

6. Discussion of plans for the forthcoming year

Oliver announced plans as follows:-

- Three webinars over the next 12 months, with the possibility of introducing a small fee.
- The 2024 summer symposium on 5th July, with keynotes from Judith Gluck and Monika Ardelt. In response to a proposal from Deeya Mitra, it was agreed to look into introducing a bursary for students from developing countries.
- The conference in June 2025 at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana.
- Special Interest Groups to have a special informative page on the ESRAD website.
- A review of the society's presence on social media and communications with members.
- Exploration of repeating the small grants scheme each year or every other year, subject to funds raised.
- A budget for advertising on Facebook or Google Ads with advertisements for specific events as well as the organization as a whole.
- Action to promote ESRAD's X and Facebook accounts to members via email to members.
- Further Board discussion about the use of social media accounts including the content and frequency of posts.

7. Date for the 2025 AGM

- As the society will hold a conference in 2025, Oliver confirmed that the AGM will be held at about the same time and, if possible, at the conference itself.

8. Election of examiners of the minutes

- Titus Mars and Jeff Schneider agreed to be the examiners of the minutes.

9. Appointment of auditors for 2025 and 2026

- It was proposed and agreed for Deeya Mitra to act as an auditor for 2025 and 2026.
- It was decided to ask Melissa George if she would continue in the role for a further two year term.