

Free Journal Network (FJN) Annual General Meeting 2022 Meeting Minutes

5 May 2022 – virtual meeting (Gotomeeting)

Meeting start: 17:30 CET / Meeting end: 19:00 CET

Documented by: Wendy Patterson, FJN Secretary

Members in attendance

Michael Poss (MP), Virginia Steel (VS), Patrick Trettenbrein (PT), Nicolás Alessandroni (NA), Jamie Farquharson (JF), Currie, Jean-Sébastien Caux (JSC), Barbara Sarnecka (BS), Mark C. Wilson (MW), Alberto Salguero (AS), Alcobendas, Dan Kral (DK), Wendy Patterson (WP), Asmita Kabra (AKab), Cristina Bleortu, Abel Garab (AG), Andrzej Klimczuk (AK)

Voting and voting outcome

Nominating process:

All members were notified on April 7, 2022 that nominations were open for new Board members. The notification was posted in the member forum on GitLab. The members were reminded on April 14 and 28, 2022 that nominations are still open. On May 3, 2022 the nomination process was closed and all members were notified of three nominated persons and were given information on their biographies.

Motion #1 raised (BS):

Proposal to conduct Board election vote by voice and hand raising. All hands will remain held until counting is complete. A simple majority voting will determine the outcome.

Motion #1 was seconded (VS).

Motion #1 was passed.

Motion #2 raised (BS):

Proposal to nominate the following Board candidates:

- Jamie Farquharson (Journal Representative) - Editor-in-Chief Volcanica - <https://jifarquharson.github.io/>
- Michaël Poss (Journal Representative) - Founding Managing Editor of the Open Journal of Mathematical Optimization - <https://cv.archives-ouvertes.fr/michael-poss>
- Matthieu Latapy (At-large Member) - Advisory Board Member FJN - <https://www-complexnetworks.lip6.fr/~latapy/>

Motion #2 was seconded (JSC).

Votes were cast and 9 attendees were in agreement to pass the motions. 3 members abstained from the voting (President and candidates).

Motion #2 was passed.

Topics of business

AGENDA (times in EDT)

11:30 AM Welcome and introductions
11:35 AM President remarks
11:40 AM Financial report
11:45 AM Election of officers
12:00 PM Fundraising report
12:10 PM Diamond OA ecosystem news
12:20 PM Journal status report and 2022 journal survey
12:30 PM Plan S compliance planning
12:40 PM Any other business
1:00 PM Closing comments

The President and Secretary presented reports as included in the Annex. The President guided the meeting through the agenda. The discussion and outcomes are summarized below.

Discussion points raised included:

- Discussion point - Fundraising
 - VS: idea of having a membership for fundraising could be a good idea, libraries are set up for memberships and might be more likely to contribute
- Discussion point - Diamond OA Landscape
 - BS: pro-diamond-OA arguments - anytime money changes hands it degrades the process
 - GS: OA2020 and transformative agreements started in Germany, it is a model they developed and may be less receptive to changing the system for this reason
 - JSC: German institutions have been welcoming for him and his journal, US is more difficult for him
 - JSC: we face hurdles to be taken seriously: some argue that we are not scalable, not serious, etc. We can't compete on lobbying, etc.
 - BS: we have a chance with scientists but not in corporate America

- o AK: Brought the report “Towards a reform of the research assessment system - Scoping report” to the member’s attention
<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/36ebb96c-50c5-11ec-91ac-01aa75ed71a1/language-en> This report discusses the issues with the current evaluation system based on JIF and the goal to reform. AK noted that the European Commission has the means to change the system.
- o AK: Recently the largest research university in Poland banned paid publications in MDPI. This was after a study showed how much money was being transferred to MDPI. In his university no APCs are paid to Frontiers or any publisher without an institutional agreement.
- Discussion topic - Recruiting new member journals
 - o MW: have not been able to convince J. Machine Learning Research so far
 - o MP: J. Machine Learning Research do not and do not want to have DOIs (so far)
- Discussion topic - Voluntary author payments
 - o MW: Donations are okay but not required waiver forms during submission
 - o JSC: voluntary author payments connected to an article are not good. BS agreed; AG: agreed; JF: agreed but OJS makes it possible and easy with a paypal button (not article specific but on the journal page)

Actions agreed to be taken

MW: Start thread in forum about regional issues related to diamond OA publishing; quote example given by Andrzej in Poland as an example.

MW: Post info about FJN Grants

Board: discuss idea of a membership for libraries to fundraising easier

Board: continue discussion of the limit of voluntary author payments vs donations

Annex

Part 1: President Report.pptx / FJN President, Mark Wilson

Part 2: Treasurer’s Report.xls / FJN Treasurer, Elyse Gustafson (presented by FJN President)

Part 3: Summary of links and information related to the diamond open access landscape 2021-2022.docx / FJN Secretary, Wendy Patterson