

JSSS Board Meeting Minutes, 2023-07-29 (to be endorsed at the next JSSS Board meeting)

Attendance: Evi V, Susan R, Heather TZ, Luke H, Cynthia C, Petra O, Robert M, Susan W, Jessica F, Sukey F, Peter D, Inez M, Sharon P, Greg M, Elizabeth N, Matthe F, Catriona M.. Absent: Alex F, Khrystine K, Lisa P.

Agenda:

1. Minutes of the Board meeting, March 2, 2023 (endorsement).
2. Welcome to the new Board members.
3. [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement](#) (endorsement) (Elizabeth with Inez & Cynthia).
4. [Environmental Statement](#) and Responsibilities (Luke, Greg).
5. JSSS (new Chief Editor and way forward) (Luke, Catriona).
6. IT Coordinatization (report & way forward) (Jessica).
7. JSSS Online (report & way forward) (Evi).
8. Conference Grants (report & way forward) (Heather).
10. Feedback on this year's conference and plan for the next conference(s) (Petra, Evi).
11. Any other business previously notified.

1. Minutes of the Board meeting, March 2, 2023 (endorsement).

Approved with no corrections or changes.

2. Welcome to the new Board members.

Jessica Fink was introduced with deep appreciation for her work and proposed work (as she outlined.)

3. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement (endorsement) (Elizabeth with Inez & Cynthia).

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement was passed at the Members' Meeting (7-28-23) after a discussion and the following (2) suggestions. Proposal was passed unanimously with a committee to work out the details: 1.) Accountability Measures, and 2.) Designated Contact Person.

Elizabeth presented and volunteered to be the contact person. A subcommittee meeting will be held to address the need for accountability, including the existing members: Elizabeth, Inez, Cynthia, Heather, Petra, Evi.

4. Environmental Statement and Responsibilities (Luke, Greg).

Luke spoke to the desire to live the spirit and ethos of JSSS regarding our environmental commitment. The Environmental Statement is a commitment to honour our society's belief in collaborating with and valuing the nonhuman world. The need to consider another platform, given the cost of the United Nations carbon offset was noted.

A second issue was addressed by Matthew regarding wording. Matthew submitted a statement with corrections to be reviewed. Luke, Matthew, Heather, and Inez will form a subcommittee (the original members and Matthew).

Greg reported on the payment via UN organized platform to offset our carbon footprint and suggested that we research other opportunities to reduce the transaction fees.

5. JSSS Journal (new Chief Editor and way forward) (Luke, Catriona).

In light of her excellent credentials and personal statement aligning to our organization's values, the new JSSS Editor candidate, Catriona, was introduced, nominated, and unanimously appointed.

6. IT Coordinatization (report & way forward) (Jessica).

Jessica presented what had been accomplished and proposed additional changes in the future. While many changes have been made to modernize and streamline the organization, additional review and assessment, along with ongoing implementation are underway.

7. JSSS Online (report & way forward) (Evi).

Evi presented the achievements of JSSS Online and a discussion ensued about the need for additional help to make JSSS Online viable as an ongoing offering. The continuation of the JSSS Online Events offering was unanimously approved with an additional subcommittee to review viability (Evi, Jessica, Heather, and Cynthia).

8. Conference Grants (report & way forward) (Heather).

Heather presented for the Grant Committee in Khrystine's absence. The discussion of a donate button and other mechanisms to generate funds to increase the number of grants was followed by a unanimous vote to continue with this effort. The subcommittee will continue to meet (Khrystine, Heather, and Cynthia).

9. JSSS Treasury (report) (Greg).

Greg spoke on the financial state of the organization. For details and additional information, see the attached financial report.

10. Feedback on this year's conference and plan for the next conference(s) (Petra, Evi).

The next conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, June 13-16, 2024. Petra as Site Coordinator, Jessica as tech coordinator on site and prior to the conference, Sharon Wallace as program co-chair with Evi, and Greg as financial coordinator.

11. Any other business previously notified.

Evi's role and her work were acknowledged. The meeting was adjourned.