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	COUNCIL MEETING DEC 2017 MINUTES	04.04.2018


WDA Council Meeting - Remotely

December 18th, 2017, 19:00 UTC – Zoom (online) conference

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Note: Audio and video records of this Council Meeting are available and supports these minutes: 12-18-17 WDA council audio only.mp4 & 12-18-17 WDA council meeting.mp4.

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1. Agenda

The agenda for this Council meeting was included in both information packages (**WDA-Dec2017-BriefingNotes-PART 1.pdf** and **WDA-Dec2017-BriefingNotes-PART 2.pdf**) sent to all Council member. The last package was mailed Dec 11th, 2017.

2. Opening procedures

Council was called to order by President **Deb Miller** at 19:00 UTC, and after completion of a roll call (presented ahead in 3) it was verified that **quorum was established**. The President thanked all members for participation and moved immediately to the council business as established in the agenda.


3. Council members' attendance

The following Council members were present:

Function	Name	Comments
President	Debra Miller	
Vice-President	Carlos das Neves	
Secretary	María Forzán	
Treasurer	Michael Ziccardi	
Past-President	Marcela Uhart	
Member at Large	Mark Drew	
Member at Large	Lisa Yon	
Member at Large	Richard Kock	
Member at Large	Heather Fenton	
Member at Large	Holly Ernest	
Member at Large	Alonso Aguirre	
WVS	Anne Justice-Allen	
Nordic Section	Knut Madslie	
Latin America Section	Gerardo Suzan	

WDA Executive Manager **Dave Jessup** was also present.

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The following Council members were absent:

Function	Name
JWD Editor	Daniel Mulcahy
Australasian Section	Andrew Peters
European Section	Marie Pierre Ryser
Student Member	Catherine Vendl
Africa-Middle East Section	Tom Nyariki

4. Council Business – Action Items

4.1. ACT#2017-17 Approval of Council Meeting Minutes, July 2017

Das Neves provided the minutes and explained how they are prepared, specifically that the minutes do not include the motion brought to Council but only whether the motion was approved or not. The only exception would be if the motion is changed during a Council meeting, in which case the modified motion will be included in the minutes. A mistake in the spelling of “Chiapas”, the location of the Annual Meeting and last Council meeting, was pointed out. **Das Neves** will correct it.

Kock moved this Action Item’s Motion to Council and the motion was seconded by **Yon**.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

4.2. ACT#2017-18 Approval of Council Minutes, July 2017

Das Neves read the motion.

Ernest moved this Action Item’s motion to Council; it was seconded by **Uhart**.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.


4.3. ACT#2017-19 Mandate to adjust WDA bylaws regarding substitutes to section chairs

Miller presented a summary of this item to Council.

Das Neves moved this Action Item’s motion to Council; it was seconded by **Drew**.

Ziccardi asked whether substitutes would have similar voting rights as those of the Council member they substitute. **Das Neves** confirmed this would be so, and that the amendment to the Bylaws [Constitution, MF April 4, 2018] makes that clear. **Uhart** expressed concern about the potential for all

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elected officials, not just the Section’s chair, being absent and thus a Section lacking representation. **Das Neves** clarified that the change in mandate is to remove the need for Council approval when an elected officer is substituting a Council member, but does not preclude an alternative: the substitute may be someone other than an elected officer, but in that case there will be a need for Council approval.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

4.4. ACT#2017-20 Approval of Latin America student chapter

Miller introduced the student chapter, which includes several academic institutions in several countries.

Justice-Allen moved this Action Item’s motion to Council; it was seconded by **Uhart**.

Jessup mentioned that neither approval nor comments from the Latin American Section had been brought forward and asked **Suzan** (LA President) if there were any concerns regarding the formation of a LA student chapter. **Suzan** said the LA Section is in support of formation of this LA student chapter.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

4.5. ACT#2017-21 Approval of Southern Africa student chapter

Jessup provided some history on the formation of this student chapter: it started out as an initiative from 3 universities – the ones that compose it in the present proposal. There was an attempt by some Africa-Middle East Section to change it into a Section-wide chapter, similar to the European student chapter. This resulted in great confusion within the Section, partly because the officers were unfamiliar with the specific guidelines for student chapters. It was all sorted out later on and now there is support from the Section but not as a Section-wide chapter but as “Southern Africa” student chapter including those original 3 universities.

Das Neves moved this Action Item’s Motion to Council; it was seconded by **Ernest**.


Kock expressed the hope that the initiative may increase involvement and member recruitment in Africa and, perhaps, evolve into an Africa-wide student chapter. **Jessup** proposed making a statement to the Section to encourage growth; he will draft it.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

4.6. ACT#2017-22 Approval of University of Guelph student chapter

Miller read out the summary. This is a renewal of a lapse student chapter.

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Ziccardi moved this Action Item’s Motion to Council; it was seconded by **Kock**.

Miller brought up the topic of lapse student chapters in general and asked if there was a usual protocol to follow for them to be re-instated. **Jessup** informed Council that there is no established protocol, but that recommendations are usually based on how long the chapter has been inactive and how significantly different the new form is proposed to take. **Miller** reminded Council that only the officers and Faculty Advisor need to be active WDA members, so students can belong to the student chapter even if they are not active WDA student members.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

4.7. ACT#2017-23 Approval of Approval of changes to SAwC

Das Neves gave a brief summary of what the requested changes were.

Justice-Allen moved this Action Item’s Motion to Council; it was seconded by **Yon**.

Ziccardi wanted to add something to the guidelines that restricts what the price money may be used for, he will contact Student Awards Committee Chair, Tiggy Grillo, and include that to the proposed changes.

Das Neves assured Council that the motion can still be voted on regardless of that additional change and the one proposed by **Miller** (“only the two” to “only”) for clarity’s sake.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

4.8. ACT#2017-24 Approval of Changes to Committee Name

Miller provided the historical background to the currently named “Budget and Audit Committee” and explained that since there is now a separate Audit Committee populated by different members, the name needs to be altered to reflect this. As per WDA Bylaws, the name change needs to be approved by Council vote, **Jessup** informed all present.

Das Neves moved this Action Item’s Motion to Council; it was seconded by **Uhart**.


MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

4.9. ACT#2017-25 Approval of Budget

Ziccardi provided a summary of the documents included in the Briefing Note, and explained how the report was put together, highlighting the poor response and untimeliness of Allen Press (AP) regarding WDA’s accounting needs. **Ziccardi** is and will continue to use Quick Books software to keep track of the budget, as he has done in his role of Treasurer for other professional associations.

Uhart moved this Action Item’s Motion to Council; it was seconded by **Drew**.

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Uhart requested clarification on the Annual Conference and Incomes. There was some discussion but no conclusion was reached as in previous years the same items have been entered in various places and thus it is difficult to compare between years. A comment was made about the fact that AP will not be asked to do the accounting for WDA in the coming 2018 as **Ziccardi** will be handling it.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Miller thanked **Ziccardi** for all his work and for making his report and accounting so clear.

5. Council Business – Information Items

5.1. INF#2017-10 WDA Conference 2018 update

Das Neves summarized for Council. Mainly, the logistics have been sorted for the accommodations and abstract submission. March is planned as the deadline for abstract submissions, with notification to submitters by end of April. There have been some problems with the traditional monetary support from US Agencies for this Conference, so a request was made that all present to try and support funding initiatives in their own institutions.

At a request from **das Neves**, **Yon** provided information on the upcoming EWDA Conference in 2018. She confirmed the date and location and that the website for information is already up and running.

Das Neves informed Council that further information on both Conferences will be forthcoming in the Spring of 2018 and that the 2020 Annual Conference will likely take place along with that year's EWDA Conference.

6. Other Council Business

Miller asked Council if there were any other items for discussion. **Jessup**, finally unmuted, updated Council on the status on contracts with AP: he has reviewed and signed all contracts that AP sent for the upcoming year, except for the management contract which includes accounting. He will ask AP to remove "accounting" from said management contract, adjust the cost accordingly, reimburse WDA for the months in 2017 when the conditions of the current management contract went unfulfilled. Removing accounting from the AP management contract is a direct result of Treasurer **Ziccardi** taking over the task himself. Council was appreciative of **Ziccardi's** work and dedication.

Jessup talked about the African-Middle East (AME) Section and how respected Council member **Kock** is there. **Kock** mentioned that AME section sees its role as that of linking wildlife workers in Africa and is hoping to involve more people from the Western and Southern ends of the continent.


7. Conclusion remarks

No further topics being brought before Council. President **Miller** thanked all members for their participation and called for a motion to close the meeting

Forzán moved to close the meeting and was seconded by **das Neves**.

MOTION was put to vote and UNANIMOUSLY (and enthusiastically) APPROVED.

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Council was officially declared closed at approximately 18:32 UTC.

Respectfully submitted to the attention and approval of the WDA Council,

Ithaca, New York, USA, April 4th, 2018



María J. Forzán, *MVZ PhD DiplACVP*
WDA Secretary

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