

International Network for Training, Education, and Research on Culture

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes

Friday, 8 March 2024

13h00 EST

Venue: 244 Northwestern Avenue, Ottawa, Canada

Present: Angela Sumegi, Pauline MacKenzie-Aucoin, Idoia Arana-Beobide, Linnéa Rowlatt

Joining virtually: Marie-Françoise Guédon, Kierra Beament

Regrets:

Chair: Idoia Arana-Beobide

Minutes: Linnéa Rowlatt

Happy International Women's Day to all!

Agenda

1. approval of agenda (Arana-Beobide)

Idoia moves to approve the Agenda; Marie-Françoise seconds. Approved.

We note that the AGM is still being held at 244 Northwestern Avenue; next year, we will hold it at 23 Java Street, Ottawa. Linnéa contacted the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and reported that conversation; we may want to consider joining FHSS in 2024 in order to participate in Congress 2025.

2. approval of Minutes 2023.02.10 (Aucoin)

Linnéa moves to approve the Minutes from 10 February 2023; Marie-Françoise seconds. Approved.

3. statement from the President (Rowlatt) – see President's Report (attached). Mentions were included of the partnership of Frederica de Laguna Northern Books with Anthony Gaston for *The Heart of India* and our video project *Matriculture: Society Through Women's Eyes*, as well as the publication with Cambridge Scholars Publishing *The Powers That Be: Matriculture, Shamanism, and Women's Political Status*.

4. statement from the Treasurer (Sumegi) – see Treasurer's Report (attached). We discuss the need to increase our membership numbers. Membership fees are due for 2024. Idoia moves to approve 2023 Financial Statements; Angela seconds. Approved unanimously.

5. statement from the Secretary (Aucoin) – see Secretary's Report (attached). We confirm that all addresses and telephone numbers remain the same as last year.

6. statement from the Vice-President, Research (Guédon) – All the activities listed by the President entail quite a bit of primary research, including presenting the Network on Culture, editing *Matrix*, the video, etc. We have been very busy on the research front, almost full-time. We are about to launch the Off Grid Faculty Club in order to provide an opportunity for scholars in the humanities and social sciences to socialize and talk with

each other about climate change. We need to have a dedicated meeting for this Club before CASCA.

7. approval of 2022 financial statements (Gaston) – see Item 4, above.
8. appoint a public accountant (Sumegi) – see Item 4, above.
9. By-Laws – no changes suggested to our by-laws.
10. Confirming Directors and Officers (Arana-Beobide) – All will continue in the positions they occupied in 2023.
11. Other
 1. Funding, expansion, & growth (Arana-Beobide) – Idoia opened a conversation about funding and growth, as she was approached by MyCharity, a charity group which acts as a platform for fundraising. They provide free templates for various things (charge for changes to customised formats), \$ 49/month and \$ 600 annually. Idoia is willing to look into this further; Unceded and the Indigenous Waldorf Schhol are looking into fundraising as well, so she will share learning. We talk about other charitable supports, like the Ottawa Community Foundation and Canada Helps. Linnéa asks everyone to find one organization which may fund one of our projects.
 2. Sale of prints by De Laguna at CASCA 2024 (Guédon) – postponed until April meeting.
 3. Northern Books – role of Marie-Françoise (all) – postponed until April meeting.

Meeting closed at 15h00 EST.

Next NoC meeting at 14h00 EST on Thursday, 18 April 2024.

Net MatNet meeting at 14h00 EST on Thursday, 11 April 2024.

President's Report

Network on Culture

8 March 2024

Linnéa Rowlatt

2023 was the fourth full year of the Network on Culture's operations. It was also a year where official recognition of the Covid-19 pandemic diminished even while the impact of the disease continued to spread among the Canadian and global population. As an organisation, we seem to be escaping relatively unscathed from this epizootic attack, and well done, us!

Our flagship project, the online, open-access and peer reviewed scholarly journal *Matrix: A Journal of Matricultural Studies*, continues to publish from the heuristic of matriculture. We published a superb fourth issue in 2023 with the special theme of Mythmaking and Storytelling Among Matricultures and are about to publish issue five with the special theme of Warfare and Peacemaking Among Matricultures.

The journal is now listed with Feminist Periodicals, an open access repository of digitized contents pages of over 125 academic journals and culture magazines in the fields of Feminism, Gender and Women's Studies, Sexuality Studies, and LGBTQIA+ studies. We continue to announce our Calls for Papers and new issues with H-Net, the global independent, non-profit scholarly association that offers a wide array of moderated networks for scholars in the humanities and social sciences. *Matrix* was invited to submit an application to join Coalition Publi.ca, a Canada-based global distribution network for online open-access journals and we will submit that application shortly. Also this year, we plan to submit an application to the Directory of Open Access Journals. With the two networks in which we already participate, once we have joined the two new repositories and distribution networks, our journal will have greater reach than ever before.

Undergirding *Matrix* technically continues to be an excellent relationship with Aritz Beobide-Cardinal from Norstone Tech. With Aritz' assistance and the support of the Public Knowledge Project at Simon Fraser University, *Matrix* is about to publish our first issue using the Open Journal System. OJS is the world's most widely used journal management and publishing software. It's a bit of a learning curve for the Managing Editor, but OJS promises to streamline publication of *Matrix* in the future.

Armed with the significantly greater reach we have achieved for *Matrix* and our technical upgrades with the Open Journal System, the Editorial Collective of *Matrix* will apply to SSHRC for funding for scholarly journals this year.

Other activities include a strong presence at the joint AAA / CASCA conference in Toronto in November. Our two panels were very well received and at least four panelists and audience members are now looking to engage more actively with the Network on Culture. Dr. Dawn Ambler continues to edit *Taklweidi's Daughter* and I will, this year, approach the AAA for funding for Northern Books to publish the manuscript. As individual scholars, our Secretary, Pauline MacKenzie Aucoin, recently accepted a full position with the University of Ottawa and our student members – despite some health challenges – continue to work towards completing their doctoral research project; both their projects focus on societies with strong matricultures. Angela and I both completed editorial work for monographs: Angela for the second edition of *Dream Worlds of*

Shamanism and Tibetan Buddhism: The Third Place and myself for the new monograph
Weathering the Reformation: Climate and Religion in Early Sixteenth-Century Strasbourg.

In the context of all our other commitments, it is not a surprise that the Network on Culture is not yet a wealthy organisation. Nevertheless, we must devote some attention to finding funds for our activities. I hope that our conversation later in the meeting will bring promising leads.

Despite a lack of material support, our contributions to scholarship, both individually and collectively, are outstanding and I am very proud to be associated with all of you individually and with the Network on Culture as an organisation.

Treasurer's Report

Network on Culture AGM

Friday March 8, 2024

Once again, we are happy to report that our Managing Editor has made the long trip from Whitehorse to Ottawa to host our annual AGM in person.

- Membership fees for 2023 from 6 people amounted to \$410. Although we have many scholars and others interested in our work, it is perhaps time to discuss strategies to increase membership.
- We began the year with a balance of \$2,271.36 and a very generous donation of \$10,000 from the Ottawa Community Foundation brought our revenues to \$10,485. Project and administration expenses of \$242.99 leaves us with a healthy balance at year end of \$12,300.95
- As of now, we have not received money from public funds, so we are a nonsoliciting organization and are not required to file finance statements with Corporations Canada.
- With an operating budget of less than \$250,000, we do not have to register for a GST/HST account with CRA.
- Tony Gaston was unable to attend the meeting but has kindly agreed to remain our public accountant for another year.

Respectfully submitted by
Angela Sumegi

Annual Secretary's Report

Submitted to the International Network for Training, Education and Training on Culture

Prepared for the Annual General Meeting on 8 March 2024

Submitted by Pauline McKenzie Aucoin, Ph.D., Ottawa, Canada

Please accept the following Secretary's Report, submitted to the Board of the Network on Culture.

Administration

The 2023 Annual Return for Not-for-Profit Status of InterC that is required by Corporations Canada was completed in October 2023, and the fee for online submission was paid.

The Financial Statement (CRA Form T3010, and Form T1235 – Directors' Worksheet) was completed in August 2023 with the Treasurer Angela Sumegi for the Annual Information Return for a not-for-profit- charity, required by Canada Revenue Agency (and delivered to: 105-275 Pope Road, Summerside, Pei, C1N 6E8).

The Administration of the Network on Culture has gone smoothly over the past year. The business of the Network has been facilitated through Zoom meetings, and face-to-face (including the AGM). Dr. Linnéa Rowlett provides typed minutes of meetings over the past year.

Membership

Membership information (names and contact information) was updated in June 2023 with the Canada Revenue Agency, through submission of their Charity Information Return - Form T1235/T3010 Directors / Trustees and Like Officials.

The **Directors and Officers** include the following members:

President: Linnéa Rowlett

Chairperson: Idoia Arana-Beobide (student member)

Treasurer: Angela Sumegi

Secretary: Pauline McKenzie Aucoin

Vice-President (Research): Marie-François Guédon

Director, Bookkeeper: Kierra Beaumont (student member)

Dr. Anthony J. Gaston continued to serve the Network on Culture as Public Auditor during 2023.