

Meeting minutes of the WJEC planning committee

August 9, 2017. 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

prepared by Dr. Elanie Steyn

Joe Foote welcomes the group and sets out the purpose of the meeting.

Those present introduce themselves. Attending by Skype Verica Rupar from New Zealand and Kaarle Nordenstreng from Finland. List of participants is attached (Appendix 1).

Membership

Heather Birks reports on the WJEC member contacts. She discussed the list of member organizations. Discuss how to go about with the member organizations we have now. Heather will do more work on this but she also invites people who have information to provide her with that. Heather also asks that we come up with a timeframe to look at the member organizations and representatives.

Pascal requested to add CEJ, Conférence des Écoles de Journalisme (French Conference of Journalism Schools) to the list of member organizations. Their representative will be its president Herve DEMAILLY, head of the Journalism School of Paris Sorbonne (CELSA). They will be working with him and his organization to host the conference. Joe welcomes this organization as new members of WJEC. Mentions that we will always add new members to the organization.

Global Journalism education Book

Joe congratulated Robyn and Elanie on the book.

Robyn talks about the book and how it came about, when it was published and how they promoted it at the ISOJ conference. She talked about the collaboration between different partners. The book is currently being translated into Spanish.

She talks about the sales of the book and where people can get a copy at the conference price. Also talk about the sections of the book and who contributed to the book.

Joe talks about how the book is relevant in light of the charter we will discuss today. He talks about the book and how it has helped WJEC and the world of journalism education as an individual initiative. Risk of formalizing the organization too much has the potential to be detrimental to the organization. Talks about the volunteers around the table and how those volunteers contribute to the success of the organization.

Paper Competition Process

Joe talks about the role of the paper competition to help people get to the WJEC conferences across the world.

Elanie gives feedback about the Auckland paper competition and numbers, process, etc.

Discussed the submission deadline, whether people can submit in French and English and how translation, etc. would work.

Think about an earlier paper submission deadline to beat ICA, for instance, to the announcement. Maybe have a September/October deadline for submissions. Have paper results out by early January at the latest.

Syndicates

Robyn explains the nature of the syndicates and how it works. She discusses the outflow of the syndicates and how we are seeing people collaborate on research projects after the conference even.

She talks about an upcoming article about the syndicates and that the full report will be online. The reports are available online.

Invites people to participate in syndicates and gives the past hot topics discussed. Invites people to present topics for the upcoming 2019 conference.

Bill Silcock mentions the option of an organic syndicate and also an open syndicate slot where you wait until the last minute to decide on the topic. "Breaking news" and the unconference approach.

Paris 2019

Pascal talks about the upcoming 2019 conference in Paris and what he has been doing with his team to set everything in motion.

He informs that July 8 will be available for pre-WJEC events and July 9-11 will be the conference date. The venue of the conference has the capacity to hold about 2100 participants although we are expecting to draw about 300 people.

Pascal talks about the promotion of the conference. All the latest information is available at www.wjec.paris site which is online and he distribute a leaflet to with information among the participants and asked their cooperation to spread the word.

He also informs that a SharePoint drive is in the process to be created to exchange information among different role-players of the conference.

Joe says he will be visiting Paris later this year for a conference site visit.

Participants discuss that Asia and South America will be challenging territory in terms of members participation, that needs to be addressed.

Pascal asks that all of WJEC member organizations and individuals associated with it should help promote the event.

Regarding conference preparation, Pascal reports that he started skype meeting with Elanie and Marc-Francois about paper competition and working to send out a call for paper.

He also confirms that he is working with Robyn for the syndicate and will meet her again during AEJMC to talk more about it.

Jennifer Greer talked about doing the paper competition early than usual so that people know and have more time to prepare for the conference travel. She also talks about how the membership has decided to have WJEC as the international vehicle for the organization.

Heather Birks talks about the Ignite sessions: fast-paced best practices sessions for teaching journalism. Will do that again in Paris. Peer-review process and have judges look at those, people present, etc. International aspect of it had been remarkable. Best practices from around the world.

Verica report on Auckland meeting

Highly successful, rich collection of people. What we haven't achieved was the geographic diversity. 43 countries but some underrepresented.

Two challenges: how to bring people to the conference based on where they are and how to secure funding. Online survey showed that people found the conference successful and benefited from it.

80% of participants of the conference have been involved with different aspects of the conference.

Charter

The participants discussed, amended and approved the WJEC chartered to be in effect from the date of this date. Final draft is attached (Appendix 2).