Minutes

Present: Munekazu Ejiri, Alison Gallaway, George Hatfield (President Elect), Clare Hermans (Secretary), Johan Hermans, Dennis Kao, William Riley (President), Yin-Tung Wang

Guests: Ahby Tseng (part), Niggy Lee & Susanna Liu from TOGA

Absent: Chen-Chung Chen, Kiat Tan, John Varigos (Treasurer)

Meeting: Called to order at 7:56 AM dEST (US)

Standing Reports:

1. President’s Report
   a. The Minutes of August 24, 2022, were unanimously approved.
   b. Will reported he had received an approach from Thailand about hosting a WOC.

2. Treasurer’s Report
   a. The current monthly statement was circulated with the agenda.
   b. Clare confirmed she now had access to the account.

3. WOC Committee Report - Taiwan 23rd WOC update
   Susanna submitted a progress report:
   a. The announcement of the call for speakers and posters has been released to the Facebook of WOC and TOGA and emailed to previous registrants.
   b. Registration and manuscript submission systems is being planned.
   c. The WOC website has been updated with the simple version and the new website of 23rd WOC is being planned.
   d. The Facebook of 23rd WOC has been relaunched. Any new news will be posted on Facebook at present.
   e. The minister of the Council of Agriculture announced that the WOC in 2024 will be held in Tainan
   f. We need everyone’s assistance to spread the WOC news widely, such as the call for speakers and posters.

The team agreed to update and circulate their updated personalized Checklist for Hosting a WOC before each meeting. In addition, a link to the 23rd WOC website would be sent to members to disseminate. It was confirmed the WOC would be held at the new Tainan Convention Centre. Dennis offered to work with the team to help promote the 23rd WOC on social media. George mentioned he thought that there the English translation of the 23rd WOC Facebook page was unclear.
4. Reports from Committees
   a. Scientific & Education
   b. Conservation
   c. Horticulture

No reports were tabled. Will requested the Committee Chairs contribute text for the relevant pages on the website.

Current Activity:

1. Sponsor Information for website – Will reminded Dennis the APOC one still needed submitting. Dennis confirmed there was no date yet for the 2023 Singapore APOC.
2. Guidelines For Prospective Hosts and Organizers of WOC - Will reported they were nearly ready for circulation and comment and would be on the agenda for the next meeting.
3. Checklist for Hosting a WOC – Will reported it was nearly ready. Alison offered to make some amendments following the discussion at the meeting.
4. Website – Will reported there were an increasing number of hits on the website.
5. Press Release – Will reported it had now been circulated.
6. WOC Trophies – George confirmed that there had been no meeting of the working group.
7. Social Media – There was discussion about George’s suggestion of raising general funds for the WOC Trust, for example by crowd funding for endowments etc. It was agreed that fund raising to sponsor student(s) to attend a WOC was a good place to start. There was also discussion about another suggestion he made to use Open-source or You Tube for all the conference lectures and papers thus making them more widely available. It was decided that issues such as world-wide (principally United States and Europe) copyright regulations, acceptance by speakers and consent/release statements needed further investigation. It was agreed it was best for an individual WOC to explore the idea before the WOC Trust became involved. Therefore, it was decided Yin-Tung with the 23rd WOC organisers, Alison and George would put a proposal together.
8. Miscellaneous Items
   a. The proposal by Malaysia to hold a WOC would be on the agenda for the next meeting, although it needed updating as it was submitted November 2021.
   b. TOGA will be sending official invitations to members to attend TIOS Show March 3 – 13, 2023 and the Board will meet in Tainan.
   c. Our next date will be Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022, at 8:00 AM daylight Eastern Standard Time US.
9. As there was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:31 AM.

Future Activity:

1. Documents Under Study (no action required)
   a. Future of Proceedings: published hard copy vs. online open source
   b. Donor policy
   c. Memo of Understanding (Host Contract)

Clare Hermans