# AFINet AGM, Minutes of the Meeting

**Date and time:** 3:30 – 4:30 PM (UK time)

**Location:** Teams

**Participants:** Alicia Ventura, Anja Bischof, Candice Groenewald, Cassandra Borges Bortolon, Chris Kemble, Daniela Capitanucci, Ed Sipler, Eileen Farrar, Emmi Kauppila, Florence Wamahiga Githuthu, Gallus Bischof, Genevieve Ankomah, Joël Tremblay, Lorna Templeton, Louise Marryat, Marcela Tiburcio, Mélissa Côté, Nabila Boudjema Tiburcio, Natalie Bossi, Nilesh Gujar, Noreen Burke, Oriana Baker, Paul Rompani, Robert Campbell, Zod Walid, Zeliha Yaman (26)

## Previous AGM Minutes

Attendees approved the minutes of the previous year's AGM.

## Chair of Trustees Report

Overview of key activities since the last AGM:

* Successful Rotterdam Conference; continued commitment to bi-annual conferences.
* Announced a 2024 virtual conference and a 2025 face-to-face conference in Quebec.

Website Repository

* AFINet website repository hosts conference presentation recordings, research papers and other resources.

Communication Group

* Seeking volunteers for AFINet's outreach efforts; contact Eileen if you are interested.
* July's AFINet Newsletter released, with design updates.
* Addressed issues some members faced with newsletter receipt. In the future, members will be notified when the newsletter is available on the website.
* Invited members to contribute to the newsletter.

Research Group

* Discussed the Research Group's focus on promoting research, especially related to the 5-step method

The Handbook Project

* Provided an update on the progress of the Handbook project, aiming to submit final versions to Springer by year-end and exploring options for open access funding

Webinars

* Continued bi-monthly webinars with information on the website.
* Contact Richard Velleman for presenting opportunities.

Acknowledgments

* Special thanks to Richard and Gill Velleman, Eileen Farrar, Emmi Kauppila and Sari Jurvansuu Doreen van Namen as well as to Trustees who are standing down this year: Jim Orford, Doreen van Namen and Gill Velleman

## Treasurers report

* Income sources breakdown: 5-step trainings, webinar donations, and conference revenue.
* Success of the Rotterdam conference and planned travel bursaries for the Quebec conference.
* Main expenditures: website maintenance, membership application processing, and newsletter distribution.
* Positive financial outlook.

## Selection of New Trustees

* Fourteen nominees: five new and nine re-election candidates.
* Natalie Bossi volunteered to organize the nomination process.
* Unanimous selection of nine re-election nominees and four new candidates.

## On-Going Plans

Virtual conference's future:

* open format or specific themes; member presentations encouraged.
* Addressed time constraints for presentations and the need for depth vs. volume.
* Exploring various event formats and inviting member input.

Promoting AFINet-related projects and seeking members' contributions.

Discussion on the future of the virtual conference

* Whether it should remain open or focus on specificthemes.
* Emphasized the opportunity for AFINet members to present their work at the conference.
* Addressed concerns about the limited time available for presentations, highlighting the need for a balance between volume and in-depth discussions.
* Explored the possibility of offering different event formats to accommodate diverse needs.
* Invited members to share ideas for improvement.

Encouraged the promotion of AFINet-related projects

* Welcomed ideas from members on how AFINet can contribute to their work and emphasized the organization as a valuable resource.

## Open Discussion

Extended gratitude to Gallus, Gill, Richard, and other trustees for their behind-the-scenes efforts.

Mentioned the possibility of scheduling the Quebec Conference for early September.

Announced plans for a welcoming meeting for new trustees before the next AGM.