

COUNTER Annual General Meeting

Minutes: May 2023

Meeting details

Date and Time: Thursday 11 May 2023, 15.00 BST
 Location: Online

Present

Anne Osterman, Virtual Library of Virginia (Chair)
 Tasha Mellins-Cohen, COUNTER

Aaron Binchy, IReL
 Alexandra Winzeler, OCLC
 Alison Brock, The Open University
 Allison Loveridge, Canadian Research Knowledge Network Consortium
 Andrew Key, Leeds Beckett University
 Anna Siltanen, Helsinki
 Athena Hoepfner, University of Central Florida
 Beda Kosata, Big Dig Data
 Bernd Oberknapp, Freiburg University Library
 Bettina Fischer de Vasquez, Springer Nature
 Beverley Hughes, University of Exeter
 Carmen Krenz, Georg Thieme Verlag KG
 Colby Chambers, Uchicago
 Cristina Ashby, CABl
 David Chaplin, Jisc
 David Sommer, Kudos
 Dorothea Mayer, Max Planck Digital Library
 Eleanor Craig, University of Sussex
 Esra Coskun,
 Grace O'Brien, Maynooth University
 Grace Lilyerd, University of Minnesota Libraries
 Heather Loehr, Hanover College
 Ilona Burdette, Kentucky Virtual Library, Council on Postsecondary Education
 Irene Barbers, Forschungszentrum Juelich
 Jack Ochs, American Chemical Society
 Jacqueline Gillet, Inria
 Jeff Woods,
 Jenny Thompson, BMJ
 Jenny Jordan, Jisc
 Jessica Harris, University of Chicago
 Jo Lambert, Jisc
 John McDonald, EBSCO Information Services

Justin North, IGI Global
 Karen Harker, University of North Texas, Denton
 Karl Isaksson, National Library of Sweden
 Kathryn Hodgkinson, Audit Bureau of Circulations
 Keondra Bailey, National Information Standards Organization (NISO)
 Kirsten Davis, University of Central Oklahoma
 Kirsten Fuoti, Silverchair
 Krystie Wilfong, Bates College
 Laura Wong, Jisc
 Lisa Gonzalez, Private Academic Library Network of Indiana
 Magaly Bascones, Gale
 Marta Godziewska, Springer Nature
 Maryam Phillips, HSLC
 Michael Sisolak, SAGE Publications
 Monica Trimmer, U.S. Supreme Court Library
 Nora Buchanan, SANLlC
 Oliver Pesch, EBSCO Information Services
 Paul Needham, Cranfield University
 Rikki Gracia, IEEE, Inc.
 Sabina Pagotto, Scholars Portal
 Sabine Guerry, Cloud Publish
 Simon Daly, University of Liverpool
 Simone Zacarias, Fundacao para a Ciencia e a Tecnologia
 Stephanie Hess, Binghamton University (SUNY)
 Stuart Maxwell, Scholarly iQ
 Thomas Connertz, Thieme
 Tim Lloyd, LibLynx
 Tom Brumfit, University of Bath
 Youngim Jung, KISTI

Meeting minutes

Anne Osterman welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting. She explained that members would be able to propose, second, and vote on motions by speaking or via the chat box.

Minutes of the last meeting

Members were asked to review the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held in April 2022. Jo Lambert proposed and Paul Needham seconded that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record. Members voted unanimously to accept the minutes as an accurate record of the last meeting.

2022 Directors' Report

Tasha Mellins-Cohen presented the Directors' Report, which had been made available online at <https://www.projectcounter.org/annual-general-meeting-2023/> and through the AGM registration page a week prior to the AGM.

She noted that in 2022:

- The most significant effort was on the preliminary work, community consultation and then implementation work for Release 5.1 of the Code of Practice.
- COUNTER saw major operational improvements internally, including the new member database.
- Two of our most valued services underwent upgrades, namely the COUNTER Media Library (<https://medialibrary.projectcounter.org/>), which holds our video classes, webinar recordings and guides; and the Registry (<https://registry.projectcounter.org/>), which details the audit status, available reports and SUSHI information for COUNTER-compliant report providers
- Community engagement through digital and in-person events continued to be a focus.

2023 plans included going live with Release 5.1 and associated new educational materials, a strategy review, and continuing representation at events.

Jo Lambert proposed and Athena Hoepfner seconded that the Directors' Report be accepted. Members voted unanimously to accept the Directors' Report.

2022 Accounts for COUNTER Online Metrics

COUNTER was reported to be in a healthy financial state, with reserves standing at £212,694 at 31 December 2022. Turnover for 2022 was £126,654 (slightly up on 2021), while expenditure was £96,070 (slightly down on 2021). Members were reminded that full financial reports for COUNTER are available through Companies House.

Paul Needham proposed and Athena Hoepfner seconded that the accounts be accepted. Members voted unanimously to accept the accounts.

Appointment of Auditors

Tasha Mellins-Cohen informed members that she was investigating potential alternative accountants for 2023, but that we still needed to appoint auditors for 2022.

Sabine Guerry queried whether auditors are required given COUNTER's size; Tasha Mellins-Cohen explained that the advice we have been given is that they are required, though we are not obliged to be audited.

Jo Lambert proposed and Paul Needham seconded that AJ Carter be appointed auditors. Members voted unanimously to accept the appointment.

Re-appointment of Directors

Tasha Mellins-Cohen introduced the three Directors each standing for re-appointment to a second three-year term.

Athena Hoepfner proposed and Paul Needham seconded that Irene Barbers, Jo Lambert and Heather Loehr be re-appointed for three years. Members voted unanimously to accept the re-appointments.

AOB

No other formal business being raised, the AGM closed at 15.20. Members were invited to remain online to listen to a brief presentation about Release 5.1 of the COUNTER Code of Practice and to ask questions of the Directors.