

A news update for the SIEF Working Group on Feminist Approaches to Ethnology and Folklore
June 2023

Greetings!

It's been a big year for our Working Group.

We are officially a working group of SIEF, we had a great inaugural panel, and in our WG meeting we elected our first board and talked about who we wanted to be as a group, and what we wanted to accomplish.

At our first meeting, we held elections, which produced a few changes to the interim board: I've stayed on as co-chair and am now joined by Niina Hämäläinen. Dagrún Ósk Jónsdóttir will stay on as secretary, and we are also joined by 2 new board members -- Rozemarijn van de Wal and Yuliia Andriichuk. Our bios and photos will soon be on the WG web page linked to the SIEF main page.

We also added around 20 new members, so our group is growing.

We're in the process of adding to the Web Page as well, where there will soon be a link to our new Facebook page, which we envision as being an informal place to post important notices -- upcoming conferences, publications, etc. Here's the link, please join:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/994660545029962/>

From the beginning of the planning for the WG, we'd always envisioned we'd have an annotated bibliography of relevant and important articles and books, with descriptions so that we could all avail ourselves of information not otherwise readily available. We have begun to build this, but we wanted this to be collaborative, since we all bring knowledge to the group. To that end there will also be a link to instructions on how to participate in building this important resource on our Web page.

All are in agreement that we would like to establish a group zoom meeting that meets on a regular basis (we had thought every 2 months) in which we could meet up to discuss various issues. It could be a forum for discussing our current work, or for floating out new ideas, and we also thought that occasionally we could treat our meeting as a seminar in which to discuss a particular reading. The board is working on this and will have more on this in August, after summer.

Finally, in our meeting we discussed our interim (2024) working group meeting. We're in the process of shaping our theme and the logistics, but for now, we're planning on meeting up in Holmavik, Iceland, most likely the third weekend in August. We'll be sending out a CFP later this summer.

We really hope the WG is a collaborative effort and welcome all suggestions.

JoAnn Conrad