

Minutes AGM WG Feminist Approaches to Ethnology and Folklore

General Meeting – Thursday, June 5

MacRobert Building MR613

13:00 – 14:00 BST

There are about 20 people in the room and 2 people online.

1. Welcome – Introduction of Board

JoAnn Conrad welcomes everyone to the meeting and introduces the board members:

Chairs:

JoAnn Conrad, Diablo Valley College, USA. [jac5353\(at\)aol.com](mailto:jac5353@aol.com)

Niina Hämäläinen, Kalevala Society, Helsinki,
Finland. [niina.hamalainen\(at\)kalevalaseura.fi](mailto:niina.hamalainen@kalevalaseura.fi)

Secretary:

Rozemarijn Van de Wal, Dutch Centre for Intangible Cultural
Heritage. [r.vandewal\(at\)immaterieelerfgoed.nl](mailto:r.vandewal@immaterieelerfgoed.nl)

Board:

Yuliia Andriichuk, Department of Anthropology and Ethnology, Univ. of Poznań,
Poland. [yuliia.andriichuk\(at\)amu.edu.pl](mailto:yuliia.andriichuk@amu.edu.pl)

2. Report on year's activities

The working group was founded at the SIEF conference in Brno in 2023. The past two years we have focused on building and expanding our WG and membership base. To that end, we have organized a variety of activities including:

- An interim meeting in Holmavik (see also the [report](#) on our website)

- A 6-month follow up meeting after the workshop in Holmavik. During this meeting, several participants presented a reworked version of their working paper and got an additional round of feedback
- We have organized bi-monthly zoom-meetings discussing key text on feminist theory and methodology
- Continued work on our collaborative annotated bibliography

In practice, we had organized some kind of meetings once every two months. The fact that we have 2 co-sponsored panels and one individual panel and a roundtable at the conference in Aberdeen is testament that our work paid off.

3. FAEF logo, poster & flyer

Thanks to our board member and graphic designer Yuliia we now have an official logo for our working group. She also designed our wonderful WG poster and the flyer for the roundtable.

4. Working group goals

JoAnn gives a short explanation of the WG's goals, why it was founded and what we are trying to accomplish. We then do a round of introductions where everyone present shortly introduces themselves and explains their interest in feminist approaches.

5. Elections

Dagrún Ósk Jónsdóttir, who has been involved with the WG since the very beginning and was also the WG's secretary has decided to leave the board. Rozemarijn van de Wal is the only candidate for the position of secretary and was elected during the meeting by a show of hands.

We also have a vacancy for a general board member. The board nominates Colleen Deatherage (University of Alberta) and as there are no other candidates, we move that Colleen is nominated unanimously.

There are no further changes to the board. Yuliia is staying on as student liaison and Niina and JoAnn are staying on as co-chairs although they are planning to start phasing out after the interim meeting in Helsinki next year.

6. Plans for the future

In 2026 we will have an interim meeting in Helsinki on 13-14 August. The theme of the workshop will be 'revisiting embodiment'. A preliminary outline of the theme and programme will become available on our website soon. There will be a CFP around February 2026. This workshop will be the culmination of our WG zoom discussion meetings through 2025 and 2026, which will be directed to specific readings on the concept of embodiment. We anticipate that the work from the interim workshop should lead directly to our panels for SIEF 2027 (Bolzano, It), and we plan to collect papers from this panel to compile a special edition for the SIEF special book series.

7. A.O.B.

JoAnn explains that ISFNR has approached the WG to submit a panel of feminist approaches for their conference in June next year. It is decided that Niina will take lead on organizing a panel and that other WG members are welcome to join her.

Rozemarijn promises to make a general welcome e-mail for all new members introducing them to all different aspects of the WG with links to useful resources.

Kay Turner asks whether we are going to try to offer funding options for scholars to come to Helsinki who may otherwise not be able to afford this. We are going to try to get as much funding as possible but can't say yet whether we are going to be able to offer this.

Norma Cantu emphasizes how important the interim meeting in Iceland was, and the work that we did the last two years. The WG is only just starting, but we are doing well.

We end the meeting on a festive note with a list of many new members.