

MMIRA presidential report 2020-2021 – August 25, 2021

Judith Schoonenboom

In the presidential year 2020-2021, the Board of the Mixed Methods Research Association consisted of the following people: President: Judith Schoonenboom; Past president: Kathy Collins; President-elect: Michelle Nichols; Secretary: Debra O'Neill; Treasurer: Leesa Taylor, Member at Large: Taichi Hatta, José dos Santos; Student member: Silke Thiem; Conference chair: Peter Rawlins; MOOC chairs: Peggy Shannon-Baker and Leia Cain; Webinar chair: Tim Guetterman; Governance chair: Ros Cameron; Membership chair: Delyth Wyndham; Marketing chair: Chihiro Tajima. An election was conducted in May 2021. The elected Board members for the year 2021-2022 are: President-Elect: Vanessa Scherman, Student Member At Large: Silke Thiem. MMIRA is currently in a transition process, in which our executive director Jeff Anderson is stepping back and his successor Lisa Foster is taking over.

Due to a change of costs associated with webinars and other savings, MMIRA made a surplus in 2020. In addition, this surplus reflects the unfortunate situation that, due to the pandemic, the 2020 global conference did not take place, whereas, again due to the pandemic, our preparations for the 2022 global webinar, have not lead to substantial expenses until now. The MMIRA board approved the budget for 2021 with estimated expenses of \$17,000.

A review of the MMIRA ByLaws and associated Policies and Procedures was commenced in late 2020 and work on an updated governance framework has started. Various administrative and technical issues have been solved. There has been a shift toward using the MMIRA website for registering our activities, including the MOOC and webinars, with the aim to maintain a MMIRA contact database and to attract registrants to our website. Our social media presence increased over the past one year (e.g., Twitter follower increased from 1100 to 1700, and Facebook follower increased from 1100 to 1300).

In the presidential year 2020-2021, 210 new members joined MMIRA. 233 old members became lapsed, suspended, or archived. Of those old members, around 100 became lapsed in the past year, whereas the remaining 133 were archived in the past year as part of a large membership database clean-up. Since November 2020, MMIRA members have access to the International Journal of Multiple Research Approaches at a greatly reduced rate. The number of MMIRA chapters expanded during the year as we welcomed the China Chapter. On December 17, 2020, the Caribbean Chapter organized an online symposium with the theme "Connecting the mixed methods community virtually during the pandemic".

From August 2020-July 2021, the MMIRA MOOC finished Seasons 2 and 3 and began Season 4. Between these three seasons, we offered 27 unique modules from a wide range of disciplines, including one module in Japanese. To date, these seasons hosted 253 enrollees, and attracted 93 new MMIRA members. In the 2020-2021 season, we held 8 webinars on mixed methods topics. The most well attended webinar drew over 150 attendees. A call for applications for the MMIRA Dissertation Award was sent to the MMIRA membership. As of the submission of this report, the majority of reviews have been received and final efforts are underway to complete the outstanding reviews and select the Dissertation Award winner. The MMIRA board has decided to run an online only global conference in 2022 without a host institution. Plans are currently underway for the conference and a conference committee has been convened.