

MINUTES OF THE

Moot Alumni Association ("MAA")

Annual General Meeting

Sunday, 26 April 2020 at 12pm (CEST)

In light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") was held electronically via video conference.

Members Present:

26 members (of which 5 were proxies).

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| – Adrian König | – Sabine Neuhaus |
| – Ana Coimbra Trigo | – Sherlin Tung |
| – Antoinette Narciso | – Stephen Ojo |
| – Benedetta Meloni | – Velislava Hristova |
| – Chris Campbell | – Wendy Gonzales, |
| – Divyesh Doshi, | – Yuri Leite |
| – Gustavo Becker | |
| – Innhwa Kwon | |
| – Ipek Ince, | |
| – Isabela Deveza, | |
| – Julia Richter | |
| – Laureline Decottignies, | |
| – Leonardo Oliveira, | |
| – Mariya Davis | |
| – Matthew Suen, | |

Proxies:

- Areej Bahashwan (proxy to Wendy Gonzales)
- Emma Genovese (proxy to Sherlin Tung)
- Friedrich Blasé (proxy to Sherlin Tung)
- Karim Zein (proxy to Wendy Gonzales)
- Ulrich Schroeter (proxy to Sherlin Tung)

1. Welcome

Ms. Sherlin Tung, President of the MAA ("**Ms. Tung**"), welcomed the attendees at 12:04 pm CEST and officially opened the 2020 MAA AGM.

Ms. Tung noted the presence of 21 members online (excluding proxies) and confirmed that a quorum was established.

2. Recording of Proxies

A total of 5 proxies (set out in detail in the attendee list) were issued for the 2020 AGM.

3. Appointment of AGM Chairman and AGM Secretary

Pursuant to Article 9(9) of the MAA's Articles of Association ("**AoA**"), Ms. Tung, acted as Chairperson for the AGM. Ms. Tung nominated Ms. Mariya Davis (**Ms. Davis**) to act as Secretary of the AGM to take the Minutes of the meeting pursuant to Article 9(10) of the AoA.

Resolution: To elect Ms. Davis to act as Secretary to the 2020 AGM.

Vote: The resolution was passed with 25 votes in favor with 1 abstention.

4. Assessment of final agenda

Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the original 2020 AGM had to be rescheduled and changed from an in person meeting to an electronic meeting. Ms. Tung noted that in spite of this change, the original 2020 AGM notice and agenda were circulated to the Members in accordance with the requirements of the AoA. Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that the revised notice merely changed the date of the AGM and included a link for members to participate electronically. Nevertheless, in light of the revised 2020 AGM Notice, for good order, Ms. Tung submitted to the Members a resolution to confirm the validity of the 2020 AGM.

Resolution: Confirmation that the 2020 AGM Notice and Agenda were validly circulated and that the 2020 AGM was to take place in accordance with the circulated agenda.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously.

5. Endorsement of 2019 Annual General Meeting Minutes (minutes published by e-mail on 20 February 2020)

Ms. Tung referred to the Minutes of the 2019 AGM circulated with the 2020 AGM Notice and Agenda invited comments, if any, from the Members. As no comments were received, Ms. Tung proposed that the 2019 AGM Minutes be endorsed.

Resolution: Confirmation of the 2019 AGM Minutes and endorsement of the 2019 AGM.

Vote: The resolution was passed unanimously.

6. Report by 2019/2020 Executive Board

Ms. Tung noted that a number of new initiatives were kicked off for the 2019/2020 MAA Term and thanked the Board (Mmes. Isabela Deveza, Sabine Neuhaus, and Wendy Gonzales) for their support for the 2019/2020 MAA Term.

Ms. Tung invited the Executive Board to give their reports for the 2019/2020 MAA Term.

MAA Board

Ms. Wendy Gonzales ("**Ms. Gonzales**") provided a brief recap of the year including an update on the MAA's website, the issues with the revised AoA, the MAA's email plug-in, and the MAA's webinars and conferences. Ms. Gonzales also noted that the Executive Board had on average 2-3 calls per month and that all documents and project information were recorded and archived on a shared drive.

Ms. Sabine Neuhaus ("**Ms. Neuhaus**") thanked Ms. Gonzales for her role as Secretary and commented that 2019/2020 was one of busiest years for the MAA due to various technical issues, new projects, and an increase in media followers as already mentioned by Ms. Gonzales.

Ms. Isabela Deveza ("**Ms. Deveza**") echoed the comments made and also thanked Ms. Gonzales for her role as Secretary. Ms. Deveza also thanked all the coaches, teams, and the organizers of the Vis Moots given the difficult year.

7. Reports by the Core Team

Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that the MAA Core Team was a newly established initiative by the MAA Board and provided an overview of the MAA Core Team, setting out the various projects and main Core Team members in charge:

- The Vindobona Journal (Ms. Innhwa Kwon, Mr. Leonardo Oliveira, Ms. Emma Genovese, Ms. Antoinette Narciso);
- The Mentor/Mentee program (Ms. Cristen Bauer, Mr. Gustavo Becker, and Ms. Gonzales)
- Regional Representatives Group (Mr. Yuri Leite and Ms. Davis);
- The MAA Website Team (Mr. Gustavo Becker);
- The Communications Team (Ms Ipek Ince, Mr Chris Campbell, Ms Deveza);
 - With the Vis moots going online this year, the MAA created the #maavirtualmootchallenge as well as the #memechallenge (the latter in collaboration with the Latvia Vis Moot Team);
 - Mr. Chris Campbell is putting together a Global Map;
- The International Liaison Team (UNCITRAL working sessions) (Mr. Dmytro Galagan and Ms. Benedetta Meloni);
 - All in-person sessions are cancelled for all of 2020;
 - The goal is to publish reports from previous and future attendees.

- The Conferences team
 - o Due to the Vis Moots going virtual, the MAA converted the conferences to a Webinar Series
- The Compliance Team;
- The Translation Project is on hold.

Regional Representatives

Mr. Yuri Leite ("**Mr. Leite**") reported that there were currently 17 members in the Regional Representatives Group. For the 2019/2020 MAA Term, the Regional representatives engaged in identifying opportunities to represent and showcase the MAA (e.g. pre-moots, international arbitration conferences, local student organizations, etc.) as well as developed projects with a goal to improve the MAA brand.

Mr. Leite further reported that he and Ms. Davis, the co-chairs, ran into certain difficulties such as how to manage the two sets of activities performed by the Regional Representatives and, at times, inefficient responses from within the group and completion of GDPR forms.

Mr. Leite informed the Meeting that the Regional Representatives have implemented a template for business cards; established a regional representative email address, and developed key contacts. Moving forward, Mr. Leite indicated that he and Ms. Davis would have a more hands-on approach during implementation stage of projects.

Ms. Tung thanked Mr. Leite and Ms. Davis for their efforts, along with the active Regional Representatives. Ms. Tung stated that Mr. Leite and Ms. David would have the support of the Board in deciding which members of the team should continue to be a part of the group for the 2020/2021 MAA Term.

Mmes. Neuhaus, Gonzales, and Tung also provided input on issues faced by members based on their geographic locations, mainly PR China.

Mentor/Mentee Program

Ms. Tung noted that the 2019/2020 MAA Term boasted the inaugural MAA Mentor-Mentee Program spearheaded by the Chair, Ms. Cristen Bauer. Ms. Tung invited Ms. Gonzales to provide the Meeting with a report.

Ms. Gonzales reported on the MAA's inaugural mentor-mentee program. Ms. Gonzales informed the Meeting that the team received 98 mentee applications, a large number of which were from India.

The first cohort of the Mentor-Mentee Program consisted of:

- Mentee Applications consisting of:
 - o 66% students and 44% young professionals;
 - o 66% males and 54% females;
- 20 mentors (and corresponding mentees).

For the upcoming year, the Mentor-Mentee Committee will reach out to the existing mentors to see whether they wish to continue acting as a mentor for the next term.

Mr. Gustavo Becker noted that going forward the team would improve the selection process to be more efficient and will take on two new MAA Core Members: Areej A. Bahashwan and Jane-Frances.

Liaison Team, UNCITRAL sessions

Ms. Benedetta Meloni reported that they have received many applications and are currently reviewing reports from the last UNCITRAL working session.

Compliance Team

Ms. Velislava Hristova reported that the team has prepared MAA's data protection documentation.

Communications Team

Ms. Ipek Ince (**Ms. Ince**) reported on the Communications Team's activities on social media including: Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter as well as the MAA's email activity. Ms. Ince informed the Meeting that the goal for 2020 was to reach 2000 followers on Instagram.

Vienna Conferences

Ms. Innhwa Kwon (**Ms. Kwon**) reported that this year's conference was converted to a webinar series and was quite successful. Zeiler.partners and the other sponsors have decided to continue their support for next year.

Ms. Kwon proposed that a going forward, a speakers' dinner could be organized either the evening before or the evening after the conference.

Hong Kong Conferences

Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that in light of the Vis East's decision to try and hold an in-person Vis East in Q4 2020, the Hong Kong Conferences Team decided to push back the date of the GIA to see if it could be held in person.

8. Financial status report and discussion and determination of any necessary decisions

Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that the MAA was looking for a new bank for the MAA bank account because of Bank Austria's complex onboarding procedure for new signatories, high monthly fees and e-banking solution.

Ms. Tung stated that such complicated procedures did not fit an international organization where the majority base, including the Executive Board and Members, are not based in Austria. Ms. Tung welcomed

any suggestions from the Members.

9. Report by the 2018/2019 financial year Cash Auditors

The Board noted that the Cash Auditors' report was not ready for the Meeting to approve and would be presented to the Members at the 2021 AGM.

10. Exoneration of the 2018/2019 financial year Cash Auditors

In light of the postponement of the 2018/2019 cash auditor's report, the exoneration would also be postponed to 2021 AGM.

11. Election of 2020/2021 Cash Auditors

Ms. Tung noted that the MAA would need to elect two new cash auditors for 2020/2021 and invited volunteers from the Members. Mmes. Velislava Hristova and Mariya Davis volunteered.

Resolution: To elect Mmes. Velislava Hristova and Mariya Davis to act as Cash Auditors for the 2020/2021 MAA Term.

Vote: The resolution was passed with 24 votes in favor with 2 abstentions.

12. Discussion on the revision of the MAA Articles of Association and determination of any necessary decisions

Ms. Tung referred back to the 2019 AGM whereby the Members approved the revised AoA as proposed by the Board with comments from the Members. Ms. Tung noted that Ms. Gonzales briefly touched upon the issue that the revised AoA had to be re-submitted to the Members at the AGM of approval and went into more detail.

Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that the proposed changes to paragraph 7(2) and paragraph 9(2)(b) of the revised AoA did not meet the requirements of Austrian law. Specifically, the two provisions related to the lowering the threshold the number of members needed to call an emergency meeting to 25 members. The Austrian registry officials informed the MAA that this contradicted Austrian law. In light of the requirements of Austrian law, the provisions reverted back to the original proposals in the previous version of the AoA.

Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that the Austrian officials also took issue with the last sentence of paragraph 3(2), which was already in the previous AoA. While the Austrian registry officials did not raise this issue in the past, as they have reviewed the revised AoA in detail and raised this also as a concern, the Board suggested to make the suggested amended as set out in the proposed mark-up.

Ms. Tung invited comments from the Meeting. As there were no comments, Ms. Tung proposed that the Members pass a resolution approving the two revised clauses and re-submit the revised AoA to the Austrian Authorities for approval.

Resolution: To approve the two revised clauses to the AoA and re-submit the revised AoA (as amended per this Meeting) to the Austrian Authorities for approval.

Vote: The resolution was unanimously approved.

13. Report on the MAA Website and determination of any necessary decisions

Mr. Gustavo Becker (**Mr. Becker**) reported to the Meeting that the new website was 97% complete. Mr. Becker noted that the remainder of the website was the migration of the membership information from the old to the new website. Mr. Becker noted that the next step would be to learn how to update and make changes on the new website without requiring the web designers' assistance.

Ms. Tung noted how wonderful the design team the MAA used to create the new website was. Mmes. Neuhaus and Gonzales noted that several proposals and design firms were considered before making a choice to go forward with the current design team.

14. Report and review of the Vindobona Journal ("VJ") and determination of any necessary decisions.

Ms. Kwon informed the Meeting that the 25th anniversary of the VJ was coming up and that she and her team were considering a 25th anniversary conference and potentially, to have a special 25th edition of the VJ.

Ms. Kwon reminded the Members that currently, the VJ offers an annual subscription of EUR 105 for two hard copy editions a year. Some questions have been raised about whether to increase the cost of the subscription. Ms. Kwon commented that increasing the price did not make sense at this time. Ms. Kwon also asked that the language on the MAA website and promotion materials be edited to clarify that the paid membership access to the VJ is strictly online.

Ms. Kwon further proposed the creation of an excel chart to include information regarding subscribers and invoices, which would assist the Board and the VJ team in following up on subscriptions that need to be updated, renewed or paid.

Ms. Kwon also informed the Meeting that two online databases (EBSCO and Journal Index) have asked the VJ to join. These services provide subscriptions and indexes to various journals. The VJ will likely get a nominal fee based on what subscribers to these databases searched for and selected. Ms. Kwon advised that this would help the VJ reach a greater audience. This proposal has been submitted to the Board for approval.

Ms. Kwon informed the Meeting that Ms. Emma Genovese, Administrative Editor, has stepped down for the next term. She asked that a call for applications be included in the next MAA email and also invited those present to apply if interested.

Regarding the VJ website, Ms. Kwon informed the Meeting that the team is currently working on creating a separate VJ website and is expected to finalize the text by the end of May 2020. Ms. Kwon will update the Board with the final version.

Mr. Leonardo Oliveira (**Mr. Oliveira**) presented a proposal that VJ articles that are 15 years and older be made available for open access. He explained that currently, all VJ manuscripts are only available on Westlaw and the current contract with Westlaw does not prevent sharing of the older articles on Westlaw. Ms. Kwon proposed that as a gesture and a courtesy, the VJ team to discuss the matter with Westlaw before taking any action. Prof. Ulrich Schroeter (**Prof. Schroeter**), Advisory Member to the MAA and the VJ, suggested that no advance notice be given in order to avoid unnecessary issues.

Ms. Kwon and Ms. Neuhaus discussed the possible perception of the VJ by Westlaw and whether such a request would harm the relationship between the two entities. Prof. Schroeter commented that in the past, VJ articles were published on the PACE website and it was never an issue with Westlaw. Additionally, Prof. Schroeter noted that access to older articles would likely not be an issue anymore as they were, in a sense, off the market. It was agreed to take this issue for discussion offline.

Mr. Oliveira also proposed that future editions' tables of contents be publicized in an email the MAA members and also published on the VJ LinkedIn page. Ms. Neuhaus also suggested that the tables of contents can be published on the news page of the website.

15. Discussion on the MAA Membership and determination of any necessary decisions.

Ms. Tung reminded the Meeting that the current MAA Membership provides two tiers of membership: Free Membership and EUR 20 Membership. Ms. Tung invited comments from the Members on whether Paid Membership should be increased.

Ms. Gonzales suggested that the fee should remain at EUR 20 but instead, the MAA should consider adding more value to the paid membership in order to encourage an increase in paid members.

Mr. Christopher Campbell suggested a webinar related to the VJ publications such as a short talk with the authors of the upcoming journal edition released at the time of publication of the edition.

Mr. Adrian König raised some technical issues with converting free to paid membership on the MAA website. Ms. Tung thanked Mr. König for raising this issue and noted that the Board and Mr. Becker were aware of the issue and was working with the designer on resolving such issue.

16. Exoneration of the 2019/2020 Executive Board

Ms. Tung noted that as the 2019/2020 Cash Auditors were not yet exonerated, the 2019/2020 Board also could not be exonerated until the Cash Auditors' Report was approved.

17. Election of the 2020/2021 Executive Board

Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that she was honored to serve as MAA President for 2019/2020 and would be honored to have the fortune again to serve for 2020/2021.

Ms. Tung informed the Meeting that the current Executive Board had the intention to run for re-election for the 2020/2021 MAA Term: Ms. Tung for President, Mmes. Deveza and Neuhaus as Vice Presidents and Ms. Gonzales as Secretary.

Ms. Tung opened the floor up for submissions from teams who wished to run for the 2020/2021 MAA Term in accordance with the current AoA.

No other proposals for elections were submitted.

Ms. Tung thereafter invited the Meeting to vote on whether to re-elect the 2019/2020 Executive Board for the 2020/2021 MAA Term.

Resolution: That the MAA Executive Board be elected with Ms. Tung as President, Ms. Deveza as Vice-President, Ms. Neuhaus as Vice-President, and Ms. Gonzales as Secretary.

Vote: The resolution was passed with 22 votes in favor with 4 abstentions.

18. Election of Honorary Members and Advisory Board Members

Ms. Tung invited comments and/or proposals from the Members for the election of honorary members and/or advisory board members. No comments and/or proposals were made.

As there was no further business, Ms. Tung thanked all the participants for their time and taking part in the 2020 AGM. Ms. Tung noted that the AGM was the most well attended AGM since she became a part of the MAA Core Team.

Ms. Tung closed the 2020 AGM at 14:45 pm CEST.



Sherlin Tung, AGM Chairman

/s/ Mariya Davis

Mariya Davis, AGM Secretary