

# Minutes

## The 37th IWWF Steering Committee Meeting

Naxos, Italy, April 11, 2022

**Participants:** Harry Bingham, Yonghwan Kim, Alessandro Iafrati, Giuseppina Colicchio, Xinshu Zhang, Masoud Hayatdavoodi, Bob Beck, Kevin Maki, Richard Porter, Jun Zang, Sime Malenica, John Grue, Alexander Korobkin, Tatyana Khabakhpasheva, Xiaobo Chen, Mike Meylan, Rodney Eatock-Taylor, David Evans, Yves-Marie Scolan, Nick Newman, Peter Wellens

- 1. Summary of the 37<sup>th</sup> IWWF by Alessandro Iafrati and Giuseppina Colicchio**  
Giuseppina reported that there are 75 participants this year, 37 in person and 38 online. 19 countries are represented, 13 online and 16 in person. The weather has been fine and should hold through Wednesday. There were some problems with visas, especially for Chinese people living in the UK, also one last minute cancellations due to covid infection. Nearly all physical registrants did it early, and there were a lot of students, but the fees + BV support has pretty much covered the costs. Alessandro noted that it has become very paperwork-intensive to apply for ONR support, and it needs to be done well in advance. Their application was delayed until February, which did not leave enough time for them to deliver the money before the start of the workshop. Future hosts need to be aware of this challenge and apply in good time.
- 2. Status of preparations for the 38<sup>th</sup> IWWF in Shanghai, China by Xinshu Zhang.**  
Important dates for 2023: Easter, April 9, Orthodox Easter, April 16.  
Xinshu reported on his preparations for holding the workshop at the JW Marriott hotel, centrally located near Tomorrow Square. This is very easy to get to from both airports and all train stations. He has secured good support from sponsors and proposes to hold it either April 2-5, or 23-26. However, due to the zero-covid policy imposed by the government, the hotel is not accepting bookings before the end of the year, and it seems very unlikely that a physical meeting can be held in China next year, so it would most likely have to be online. Harry reported on internal discussions between the co-chairmen, Xinshu, and Masoud, on the possibility of switching Shanghai and Dundee. After consideration though, this option was dropped as being too much of a burden for Masoud, and in light of the general uncertainties of the pandemic and the war in Ukraine that make predicting the future very difficult. A long discussion followed, where John noted that it has become very difficult for him to travel on University funds. It seems likely that similar policies will be adopted more widely as Universities encourage less travel and

more online meetings. The idea of formally making the workshop hybrid was discussed, but it was agreed that this decision should be left to the local hosts. Alessandro stressed the need to have enough physical participants to support the meeting. Bob and Kevin then offered to host in 2023, pushing Shanghai to 2025. A vote was taken, and the Michigan team was unanimously accepted as a confirmed host. Xinshu considered the offer overnight, and accepted with gratitude the next morning. The 38<sup>th</sup> workshop will therefore be organized by Bob and Kevin, most likely in mid-May of 2023, but the final dates and venue will not be confirmed until early Summer.

### 3. **Status of preparations for the 39<sup>th</sup> workshop in Scotland by Masoud Hayatdavoodi**

Important dates for 2024: Easter, April 1, Orthodox Easter, May 5.

Masoud reported that he is considering four hotels in the Scottish countryside. They are all easily accessible from the major airports in Edinburgh or Glasgow with good train connections and possibly a bus. Prices are relatively high in Scotland, but he is working to secure funding to keep the fee at the normal level. The dates will be April 14-17, 2024.

### 4. **Future Workshops. Outstanding/new bids:**

- The 40<sup>th</sup> Workshop will be hosted by Xinshu Zhang in Shanghai.
- Sime Malenica (Balkans, Europe) confirmed his interest in hosting.
- Peter Wellens, from Deft University expressed his interest in hosting the workshop. He noted Holland's abundance of water and vicinity to the coast, with easy access from the Amsterdam airport. Jo Pinkster will also be involved in the organization.

### 5. **IWWWFB website and other organizational issues (Yonghwan Kim and Harry):**

- Status of the RWWWFB
  - **Background:** Events 1 (Newman & Evans) and 2 (Grue & Korobkin) were held on 02/12/2021 & 25/03/2022, with great success. Event 3 (Faltinsen & Molin) is scheduled for late May. Based on email discussions between a core group of the steering committee, it has been suggested to have one established and one younger speaker at each event starting with the 4<sup>th</sup>. Speakers should be chosen from workshop participants by a small Committee.
  - **Establishment of the RWWWFB Selection Committee.**  
Harry suggested that Yonghwan should be the Chairman, and that the current IWWWFB abstract selection committee should make up the other members. David and Diki expressed some concern that this option would be too 'calcified', and that new (younger, more diverse) blood is perhaps required. David also suggested that we should try to broaden the scientific scope, include more women, and work to include more young people.

- Establishment of the RWWFBB young speaker nomination process. There was some discussion on how to define a 'young' speaker, 20 years or less from the PhD was suggested. It was noted that allowance should be made for career breaks, in particular for women who take time to have children.

After some further discussion, it was agreed that we will continue this discussion online and agree on both a committee and the selection process over the next few months.

**6. AOB:** There was no other business.