

COUNTER Annual General Meeting

Minutes: May 2024

Meeting details

Date and Time: Thursday 16 May 2024, 15.25 BST

Location: Online

Presented by

Chair: Anne C. Osterman, VIVA and George Mason University

Executive Director: Tasha Mellins-Cohen, COUNTER Metrics

Members with representatives present

Adam Matthew Digital	IntechOpen
AIP Publishing / American Institute of Physics	IREL
American Association for the Advancement of Science	James Madison University
American Chemical Society	Jisc
American Physical Society	Karolinska Institutet
Audit Bureau of Circulations Ltd	Kentucky Virtual Library
Big Dig Data (CELUS)	King's College London
Binghamton University (SUNY)	KISTI
Bloomsbury Publishing	Kungliga biblioteket - National Library of Sweden
BMJ Publishing Group	LibLynx
California Digital Library	Lunds University
Cambridge University Library	Manchester Metropolitan University
Canadian Research Knowledge Network Consortium	Mary Immaculate College
Cardiff Metropolitan University	National Information Standards Organization (NISO)
Cardiff University	Niedersachsen Konsortium
Coventry University	OA eBook Usage Data Trust
DataCite	OhioLINK
Elsevier	Pennsylvania College of Technology
FCT FCCN (b-on consortium)	Purdue University Libraries
Finnish Library Association	Qatar National Library
Forschungszentrum Juelich	Research 4 Life
Freiburg University Library	Royal Society of Chemistry
Gale Cengage	Scholarly iQ
Georgetown University Library	Silverchair
Gothenburg University Library	Smith College Libraries
IEEE	Springer Nature Limited
Inria	Stanford Libraries
Institute of Scientific and Technical Information	Taylor & Francis
	The Open University
	The University of Edinburgh

Thieme Gruppe
University of Central Florida
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Exeter
University of Kent
University of Kentucky Libraries
University of Liverpool
University of Michigan Libraries
University of North Texas

University of Nottingham
University of Oslo Library
University of St Andrews
University of Sussex
University of Westminster
University of York
US Supreme Court Library
Wiley
Wolters Kluwer

Meeting minutes

Anne Osterman welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting. She explained that members would be able to vote on motions using the raise hands function in Zoom.

Minutes of the last meeting

Members were asked to review the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held in May 2023.

Members voted unanimously to accept the minutes as an accurate record of the last meeting.

2023 Directors' Report

Tasha Mellins-Cohen presented the Directors' Report, which had been made available online through the AGM registration page a week prior to the AGM.

She noted that in 2023 COUNTER had undertaken a comprehensive review resulting in a completely revised strategy, made available in full at <https://www.countermetrics.org/about/strategy/>. The review also resulted in a decision to rebrand from Project COUNTER to COUNTER Metrics, which was begun during 2023 and completed during 2024.

Against COUNTER's three objectives:

- We will maintain, develop and extend the COUNTER Code of Practice as a foundation for normalised, community-defined usage metrics:
 - Release 5.1 of the Code of Practice was published.
- We will foster and grow an engaged community to increase adoption and use of COUNTER metrics worldwide:
 - New education materials were developed to complement R5.1.
 - Webinars, seminars and training sessions were delivered.
 - Enhancements were made to the Registry to better serve community needs.
- We will ensure COUNTER is operationally resilient and financially sustainable:
 - Further updates were made to COUNTER's infrastructure.
 - The Board appointed new accountants.

Members voted unanimously to accept the Directors' Report.

2023 Accounts for COUNTER Online Metrics

COUNTER was reported to be in a healthy financial state, with reserves standing at £224,869 at 31 December 2023. Turnover for 2022 was £132,292 (slightly up on 2022), mostly due to sponsorship received for translating the R5.1 Friendly Guides. Expenditure was also up on 2022 at £120,117. Members were reminded that full financial reports for COUNTER are available through Companies House.

Members voted unanimously to accept the accounts.

Confirmation of Appointment of Accountants/Auditors

Members were informed that the Board had appointed Duncan and Toplis as COUNTER's new accountants, and that they would act as our auditors if required.

Members voted unanimously to accept the appointment.

Appointment of Directors

Tasha Mellins-Cohen explained that two Directors, Anne Osterman and John McDonald, had reached the ends of their terms of office and that two new Directors were required to replace them. Following a call for expressions of interest, the Board recommended the appointment of Gary Van Overborg and Monica Westin, with a further recommendation that Jo Lambert be appointed as the new Chair of the Board.

Members voted unanimously to accept the appointments.

AOB

No other formal business being raised, the AGM closed at 15.40.