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

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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.