

Oxford Scandinavian Society Annual General Meeting 2021

Meeting started at: 21:06 (19:06 UK time)

Bianca elected as chair of the meeting

Meri Miettinen elected as secretary of the meeting

Theodora Thoroddsen and Marieke van Beest elected as vote-counters.

Voting will happen anonymously via zoom poll, everyone agrees.

Determination of members/voters who are present:

- **Meri Miettinen**
- **Robin von Bonsdorff**
- **Elias Tenhula**
- **Theodora Thoroddsen**
- **Caroline Lundqvist**
- **Bianca Rasmussen**
- **Erik Eldh**
- **Rosma Salomaa**
- **Alexander Gilså Hansen**
- **Marieke van Beest**
- **Sarah Fengler**
- **Otto Ernst**
- **Oscar Clivio**

The members agree that the organization and summoning of the meeting has been conducted according to the charter.

The agenda is determined and agreed on.

Erik presents the Treasurer's report:

- 2020-2021 has been different from an economic standpoint. In Hilary last year we had two sittings and a drinks event and the ambassadors' dinner (organized by the previous committee). In Trinity there were no events, and in Michaelmas there was one walk event with very little expenses
- Overall profit is £956.73, which is very big. However, the Ambassadors' Dinner, which the next committee will organise next year, will have £730 budgeted for that, which will come straight from this year's profit. Last year's committee had expected in their budgeting for the event to have been organised by this committee, but instead the next committee will organize it next year.
- Committee members have been Bianca, Erik, Elias, Rosma, Meri, Robin, Theodora and Alex. We have met online regularly on Sundays. Has been nice.
- Budget: for 2020 it was not met for obvious reasons. We made income in activities (as they were all low-cost for us) and have made profit in memberships and sponsorships.

- We sold 600 pounds of sweaters (24pcs). Very happy about this - last time we sold stash it sold a lot less, but now we made £400 of profit on them.
- We did not have sponsorships this year.
- The website was slightly cheaper this year than expected.
- For next year's budget: lots of uncertainty. Hopefully a sitting in Michaelmas or an outdoor sitting in Trinity, and we've budgeted some money for that. We've budgeted more money for next year, as we made lots of profit this year. Also, some money is budgeted for songbooks, but no for sponsorships or sweaters planned for at this point. £250 for the website and £50 for other things. Overall, a £650 loss for 2021-2022, which should be accounted for by this year's immense profit.

Q: Why are the events next year more expensive for Scansoc?

- Erik: We want to make up for people having bought so many memberships with basically no real events this past year. So, when events are held next year, the committee should put effort and money into them. Also, since we made so much profit now, we can afford having more expensive events next year to remain non-profit.

Marieke presents the Auditors report:

- As auditor, my responsibility is to review the committee's year and finances. I found that finances have been handled responsibly and have no inconsistencies or errors to them. There is consistent agreement between accounts and treasurer's reports, the accounting is detailed and well-structured, and the treasurer has been very open and accommodating in helping me do my work. I recommend that the general meeting accepts the treasurer's report and grants freedom of liability for the committee.
- COVID-19 note: this past year it has not been possible to organize usual events, but the Society has continued to organise its activity well despite the past year's situations. The pandemic is expected to continue to affect the society's events, which the treasurer's report has accounted for.

The meeting grants the freedom of liability for the 2020-2021 committee.

Motions for the board:

- No motions have been received by the committee ahead of the two-week time period.

Elections

President

Elias runs as the only candidate.

- It's been great being part of the committee, even though the situation has not been ideal. We have pulled through well in person and online. We managed to organise one in-person sitting as the committee, and hopefully next year will be big for Scansoc with sittings and especially the Ambassadors' Dinner. This is a good time to lead

Scansoc: there are big things to come. I'd love to be part of putting these events together. Hope you'll vote for me!

Voting happens with a raise of hands. Elias is elected president unanimously.

Vice-president

Rosma

- Hello! I'm Rosma. 2nd year chemist at St Anne's College: I'm Finnish but also international. I've been in charge of the email and helping with the Instagram account. I've run and planned events. Thank you for committee, it's been a fantastic year. When I was thinking about what to say, I thought of last year's AGM. I was new to Finland again but Scansoc then changed my confidence in being part of the Scandinavian community. The past year has been unexpected, but the important thing is that we have our community and our Scandinavian traditions. Going into the next year, I'd like to bring the games from the past year to the next year. Also, the access work that we've recently started doing is very important to me, as the fees for European students now are massive. This is a perfect opportunity for Scansoc to be at the front of access work towards Scandinavian students, who might feel less inclined to apply to Oxford. I'm reliable and dependable: I was the house captain and prefect in sixth form and acting now as a student ambassador and in the chemistry society. I will give my all for this committee: last week I was in Switzerland but I still joined the committee meeting: I'm committed! ;) Vote for me!

Robin

- That was a great speech Rosma, hard to follow. I'm a 2nd year medic at Somerville. I'm a Swedish-speaking Finn. I'd like to thank Bianca for the leadership and the whole committee - it's been a great and active year - I'm very proud. I've been a passive member this year with no specific responsibilities. Was supposed to be in charge of Ambassadors' dinner. I'm running now to be more active and at the heart of events. This is the only society I'm invested in, so I can do a lot for the society. Reasons why I'm running: we've had challenges, but also have new challenges. we haven't had a proper sitting for the new members who don't know the traditions yet: we have to get people hooked on Scansoc. Our last online events are mainly old members and committee members. We need to smash the next year. I don't have exams in Trinity, I will be completely free to work with Scansoc. I was a military officer, I have leadership training, I've had previous roles of responsibility in societies. Also, Brexit will reduce the amount of scandis, who are the core of our members. we need to make Scansoc more attractive to Brits. I will be here for 4 years, as an active, committed member, I would like to have the responsibility now to be as a great help as possible.

Q: Sponsorship deals? How would you approach this?

Robin: We can network in events to find new opportunities.

Rosma: Echo - after we get events going, we can begin to accumulate contacts. In my internship I've already asked about this but have yet to hear back. In the access thing, we can find sponsors through that.

Q: Alcohol? Should we focus on alcoholic or nonalcoholic events?

Robin: We can't be too boozy - have to take it easier. Sittnings and drinks events have alcohol, but we'll have to see what people like and what people want to do and plan accordingly.

Q: Are you ready to work and not just drink at events?

Robin: I can drink on my own time, but Scansoc is for business.

Rosma: I can't wait to get back to work in events and not drink but work.

Robin is elected as vice-president

Treasurer

Erik runs as the only candidate.

- I've been treasurer for a year, last year I ran on the basis of making scansoc a pyramid scheme. Now, my plan is to take payment as only songbooks. but I will consult the committee before making decisions on that.

Q: Do you propose paying V&A with songbooks for sittning rent?

- If they are up for it, yes. We can also develop a Scansoc bitcoin.

Erik is elected as treasurer unanimously.

General committee members (5)

Sarah, Caroline, Alex, Meri, Rosma are the 5 candidates for 5 spots, meaning they all run uncontested.

Caroline

- 2nd year historian from Somerville, Swedish. Scansoc is the most fun I've had in events and at home. I would really like to help out. I was in my college's freshers committee, I know the struggles with organising events and I know trinity will be difficult. But i want to bring back drinks and sittnings and cafes, and maybe even keep doing walks after the pandemic is over.

Sarah

- German and a huge scanfan. 1st year DPHIL in Modern Languages at Jesus. I know the cinnamon buns and am part of committees already. I studied Norwegian and Danish poetry in Germany, and studied a semester in Bergen. So I'm a huge scanfan, read a lot of scan-literature, and part of my DPhil is Danish drama. I can bring scanfans to Scansoc. I'm also a member of German and Russian societies, but scansoc is really the best one. The welcome walk was the best event I had all year and I met many fun people. I would like to start a small Scandinavian book club, as there is no faculty of Scandi studies or much of Scandinavian literature/fiction.

Alex

- HELLO! My platform is 'no new things'. no new developments - and that's directed at Erik: no money laundering or tax havens!! yeah. my qualification is I drank a whole bottle of (unintelligible) in one night.

Meri

- 2nd year historian from St Peter's, I'm the brunch officer and secretary. I've typed way too much for these meeting notes, which really proves how committed I am. Picnic Sittning!!

Rosma

- Hello! you already heard me! Congrats Robin!

Q: Meri, WHY did you not write about pranking me in the online sittning in last week's meeting minutes???

- Meri: I'm a faithful follower of my president, who told to keep it a secret.

Q: Sarah, have you asked other members about the book club?

- I haven't due to covid! But I'm open to modern or old literature, but I expect many people are open and welcoming to the idea!

The members pass the vote unanimously

Election of auditor for 2021-2022

Bianca

- Ex-president of scansoc, and I want to run for auditor because I still care about the society and I can still be of use. I've been a bookkeeper previously, so I have experience with bookkeeping which is somehow similar to auditing?

Q: You're graduating this year - are you still available to work with the society?

- Luckily, I have a hard time of letting go! I will be turning up to events, I still want to be relevant!!

Bianca passes as auditor unanimously.

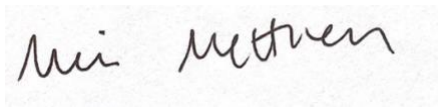
Any questions? No.

Bianca thanks everyone for participating and working with Scansoc.

Elias thanks Bianca, and says that next term we'll all get together and Have fun. Erik already made a FB group chat for the new committee.

Closing of the meeting at 8:14 pm.

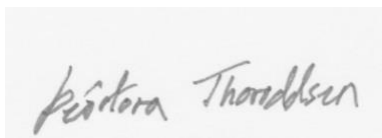
Minutes officially ratified by Secretary, Chair and Vote-Counters of the meeting:

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Meri Miettinen".

Meri Miettinen

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Bianca Rasmussen".

Bianca Rasmussen

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Theodora Thoroddsen".

Theodora Thoroddsen

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Marieke van Beest".

Marieke van Beest

8.4.2021