



# Life Section Board Zoom-meeting

July 12<sup>th</sup> 2024 07:00 (EST) / 13:00 (Paris)

## AGENDA

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 0. Agenda of the meetings and notes                    | Thomas         |
| 1. Minutes of last Board meeting for approval          | Thomas         |
| 2. Q1 2024 Financials                                  | Bill           |
| 3. Research / Scientific committee                     | Fred           |
| 4. Organization of seminars and colloquia update       |                |
| - 2024 JoCo Brussels                                   | Rosalind/Ana   |
| - 2025 Online Colloquium                               | Martin & Ernst |
| - 2025 Colloquium Brazil                               | Pedro & Bill   |
| - 2026 Congress Tokyo                                  | Takuro         |
| 5. Webinars  | Pedro          |
| 6. Expansion and Value proposition of the Life section |                |
| - Interview series with climate practitioners          | Martin/Simone  |
| - Japanese membership                                  | Pedro/Takuro   |
| - Initiative for quarterly informal virtual gatherings | Rosalind       |
| - Ideas from Ambassador's task force                   | Pedro          |
| 7. Pandemic/mortality conclusions                      | Pedro          |
| 8. 2024 AGM  | Thomas         |
| - Elections/ Call for nominations                      |                |
| 9. Any other business                                  |                |



#### Board members

- Thomas Behar (France) – Chair
- Pedro Pacheco Villagrán (Mexico) – Vice-Chair
- Bill Sayre (United States) – Treasurer
- Ana Bojanic (Serbia) – Secretary
- Ernst Visser (The Netherlands)
- Mike Lombardi (Canada)
- Rosalind Rossouw (United Kingdom)
- Martin Oymanns (Germany)
- Fred Rowley (Australia)
- Takuro Sorihashi (Japan)

#### IAA Director

- Christian Levac

#### IAA Section representative

- Teboho Mabeba

#### IAA Delegates

- Gunn Albertsen

#### Absent Board Members

- David Kirk (South Africa)
- Simone Brathwaite (Barbados)

## MINUTES

### 0. Agenda of the meeting and notes

The agenda for today's meeting was adopted without any changes.

### 1. Minutes of last Board meeting for approval

Minutes of the June Board meeting were approved, with thanks to Rosalind for composing these due to Ana's absence.

## 2. Research / Scientific committee

Fred updated that this month we've seen one of the researchers (from Denmark) decline the offer since the conditions for the transfer of intellectual property with the university, along with the administration, was too burdensome.

The other applicant (from Switzerland) is proceeding, and Christian is working on the administrative details; this is going well (this applicant is also working with the university). From Fred's point of view, the IAALS is looking for research that can be attributed to the IAALS and that the worth if intellectual property is an issue, is diminished.

The Board discussed whether the IAALS should take into consideration a different applicant instead of the rejected one, since it would behoove us to have more research, and particularly since we have space for it financially. The Board agreed to launch a new call for research in the Fall. Fred pointed out he would be hard to reach in September, particularly since he will be in Brussels then, and the Board agreed that Brussels would be ideal for the new launch, including marketing. Rosalind suggested adding this to the AGM slides or in the slides between sessions. The Board discussed the medium for this slide that would be most noticeable; Christian suggested for it to be **in the placeholder slide in the room where IAALS sessions are. Christian and Tebo will take care of this.**

The research committee is also tasked with selection of the best paper prize for JoCo 2024 in Brussels (more under JoCo Brussels).

## 3. Organization of seminars and colloquia update

- **2024 JoCo Brussels** (September 22-25 2024)  
In addition to the Ragnar prize which will be awarded at the JoCo, the IAALS is also tasked with selecting a Best Paper amongst those that will be presented; Mike is involved in this. The financial award for this award is in the IAALS budget; Christian will check the amount but it is around \$1,500. Christian also clarified that we are only tasked with reviewing the Life papers (not papers from all sections). When selecting presenters for the JoCo, the research committee had already gone through the proposals, but some of them were in the form of abstracts or presentations (not actual papers), so these need to be looked at again (only actual papers are considered for the prize). The research committee is working on this selection.

In terms of the recording of the IAALS sections, Martin updated that since the last meeting, he had received an updated quote which is significantly higher than the original estimate - €7,500 (including tax) for three days for the plenary hall, with livestreaming to a zoom seminar (speaker's face + PPT) and delivery of recordings from livestreaming as mp4 files; with an additional €790/room/day for recordings of the parallel sessions (without livestreaming).

Pedro mentioned that so far the number of registrations were so far pretty low (around 350 so far); the goal was 400-500 so this is still reachable.



The Board also discussed further marketing of the IAALS sessions to section members. Martin reminded that until closer to the actual in-person event, we would not want to advertise virtual attendance yet.

**The Board voted to approve the €7,500+790= €8,300 (including tax) for the livestreaming of the plenary session & recording of the IAALS parallel session room.**

In terms of IAALS Board members who will be attending the JoCo in-person, it was clarified that members are paying the registration fees at their own expense, with confirmation from most Board members that they will be attending.

- **2025 IAALS Online Colloquium** (September/October 2025 1-day online event)  
No update since the last meeting (discussion from June meeting included below for reference).

Martin circulated the slides ahead of the meeting. Martin had a meeting after the last section Board with Thomas, Simone, David, Bill, Takuro and Ernst. Not much was changed in terms of format – 1 day full virtual event in Sep / Oct 2025, after the Morocco meetings. Martin confirmed the overall topic long-term risks and talked about an initial presentation idea. A draft program schedule was circulated which included a keynote followed by 3 technical sessions on topics for practitioners or exciting research / academia areas. On the one side it will be tested as a format – so a discussion format of closed groups of around 20 people with a Board member as moderator, aligned to their expertise, and then rather than an open discussion than a presentation format. This will be done in the morning and the afternoon to serve as many time zones as possible, and it will be recorded and put on Actuvier afterwards. There would also be a keynote panel in the afternoon. So in total, 6 technical sessions, 2 discussion forums and 2 plenary / keynote sessions. Martin also shared a project plan – the website would be set up in 2024 to communicate the save the date, and then in Feb 2025 we can consider speakers to include in the program, and publish this in May 2025, as well as the promotion ahead of September / early October 2025. We are trying to say that it's open and free or charge for life section members, so you can become a section member for 60 CAD and you can take part in the event free of charge, which will also help secure Life Section membership for 2024/2025. JoCo is in May 2025 in Brazil – Pedro asked to check the alignment of dates. The goal is 300 participants. There are no sponsors so all costs will be covered from our budget. Ros commented members will appreciate the free registration and will encourage new members to the section. Christian confirmed no clash with the Morocco meetings.

- **2025 Colloquium Brazil** (May 18-21 2025)  
Bill updated that the request for abstracts has been released earlier this week; the deadline for abstract submission is November 8 20024. Christian also noted that the list of sponsors is currently being worked on; **he will forward the sponsorship brochure** (it has been posted to the website but not sent out yet);



new sponsors are needed. Pedro also noted that the title/theme has been released: 'Actuaries in Sustainability'.

- **2026 Congress Tokyo** (November 8-13 2026)  
Takuro updated that they are forming the Subject Committee under the Program Committee; they will be asking for help from the IAALS Board for the Subject Committee, particularly in regards to the best paper selection. Three people from Japan will be in the Life Section Subcommittee and working with us on this.

The call for papers will be tentatively be released in March 2025, with submission deadline September 2025. Afterwards, the plan is to review & select abstracts by November 2025.

#### 4. 2024 Q1 Financials

Bill presented the 2024 Q1 Financials. We're continuing to rise our net assets (which has been the case for most quarters), mostly due to positive gains. Expenses are in line with budget, revenues are up because of the market. In terms of membership history, the top 12 associations are the same; we are down 59 members, but this is usually a false number in the first quarter due to late reporting (particularly for SOA & France; not sure for South Africa). Of note is that IFoA going up 27 members, which is a pretty robust gain. In terms of expenses, for research all we have so far this year is the payment for last year's research project. For marketing, Christian explained that the costs of the exhibition booth in Sydney were all billed to the IAA instead of split between the sections; this might be corrected this year.

Financials are generally taking longer to arrive due to audit and information splitting between the 2 companies; this will likely speed up. Hopefully we'll be receiving Q2 financials soon, which will be helpful in composing the budget in August.

#### 5. Webinars

Pedro updated that he has good news to report; we have scheduled two new webinars: one on **August 13<sup>th</sup>**, with Severine's support; the topic is the Association between environmental variables, variables, and short-term mortality and evidence from Europe (speaker from the University of Leuven in Belgium); the second one will be on **September 4<sup>th</sup>**; the topic is how to use ethics to govern artificial intelligence (speaker from Spanish National Scientific Council in Barcelona).

Thomas commented that it would also be a good idea perhaps **to include Severine in a future webinar.**

#### 6. Expansion and Value Proposition of the Life Section

- **Interview Series with climate practitioners**  
Martin updated that the third interview's recording has been finished and is currently being post-edited & will be published soon. A 4<sup>th</sup> one is already organized but not scheduled yet; but this will be in the next couple of weeks. Once all four recordings



are done as planned, the next question will be (after the summer) of further valuable topics. At the last meeting we discussed regulation, but this can be picked up in September.

- **Japanese membership**

Thomas inquired with Takuro regarding progress of increased efforts for Japanese membership in IAALS (45 members in 2023; 39 as of Q1 2024); he is working on this. Thomas reminded of the idea for Board members to contribute to specific webinars for Japanese actuaries. Pedro updated that he is working on this and is talking to a speaker from Japan for an upcoming webinar.

- **Quarterly informal virtual IAALS gathering**

At the June meeting, the Board had taken an action to provide Rosalind with potential dates for the gathering via email. She did not hear back from anybody, so the July window has been missed (and end-of-September isn't possible due to the JoCo). Rosalind's alternate idea is instead to advertise this in Brussels in September and have the first gathering in October. Her proposal is for her to settle on a date in late October and email the Board to confirm & commit to setting that date aside. If we work out a date, we will have plenty of time to work out the details.

As a reminder, from previous meetings, it was agreed that the topic for the first gathering would be the role of AI, and to have have two sessions – one for each side of the world. The invitation will be open to non-members for the first two virtual gatherings – if anyone who is not a member would like to attend more than two gatherings, they will be encouraged to register as an IAALS section member.

- **Ideas from Ambassador's task force**

Pedro updated that he had an opportunity to talk to Abraham in Seoul; the major topic is still how to increase participation in the sections. There were no meetings since the last Board meeting, but the next meeting will be in September.

## 7. 2024 AGM

In terms of the meetings in Brussels, Christian clarified that the meeting on Sunday (September 22<sup>nd</sup>) will be a 'regular' Board meeting, while the meeting on Wednesday (September 25<sup>th</sup>) will be the AGM (which includes all Section members who wish to participate).

In terms of the nominations for new Board members, Thomas will check with David whether he is planning on continuing (due to numerous absences).

Gunn repeated her encouragement for Board members to contact their networks on LinkedIn or any other way to get more candidates to nominate themselves for Board members. Currently we have only 1 nomination; we will need more. Rosalind has a contact but is waiting for FMA approval. Fred clarified that FMA approval isn't required. Thomas is working on the Kenyans list. Christian has sent Fred a list of Australian members but Fred has not been able to do much with this; he will see about contacting the Institute for recommendations.



The second election, which will be among just the Board members, will be to elect the new Chair, which will need to happen after the AGM (once we have the final list of Board members, who all need to vote). Gunn will co-ordinate this election.

## 8. Other topics

Regarding Thomas' idea from the June meeting – another member from another association could present to another association, and they have organized for 2 people to contact the other with an e-mail name – it's a random contact. It's just to interact with one another, similar to the concept of a club, to share experience, questions etc. Rosalind thinks it is a fabulous idea, but we just need people's consent (for GDPR reasons). Pedro agreed. Martin asked for some recommendations to encourage conversations. – Thomas reported that he circulated the example (albeit in French) as agreed.

**The next meeting will take place on August 9<sup>th</sup>.**

(Tebo will send a recurring meeting invitation; for the second Friday of each month.)