Joint Section Committee Meeting Minutes

July 29, 2026

Members:

George Symeonidis (IACA) — Chair
Ed Pudlowski (IAAHS)
Pedro Pacheco (IAALS)
Raffaello Marcelloni (PBSS) — left early

Observers:

Jean-François Bégin (AFIR-ERM)
Brian Fannin (ASTIN)
Mike Lombardi (substituting for Bozenna Hinton, IAA Officer)
Christian Levac (Secretary)
Teboho Mabeba

Agenda

- No additional items were added to the agenda.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from May 11, 2026 were previously circulated and approved by email.

Section Promotional / Representation Fund

- George asked which sections had discussed the proposed fund at board level. Reports by section:
- **ASTIN:** board voted against a travel reimbursement fund (~60/40), citing optics and fee implications rather than opposition to representation itself; general marketing (no financial commitment) is likelier to gain support.
- **AFIR-ERM:** briefly discussed, no quorum for a vote; general support, with questions on fund size and use.
- **IAAHS:** no real opposition, but lack of clarity on qualifying events/timing made it hard to commit; more planning detail would help.
- **PBSS:** discussed in June; main concern is measuring the value of participation rather than cost; feels sections still act independently rather than jointly; will revisit at end-of-August board meeting with budget.
- **IAALS:** supportive in principle, but wants spending targeted to growth regions (Asia, Japan, Southeast Asia, Latin America, Africa) given cost/staff time.
- Ed added the section's concern is ensuring selected events have adequate healthcare-practitioner representation, given many regions' nationalized systems have few health actuaries.
- George noted continued board-level hesitation and suggested chairs share the draft Fund document and Ljubljana event list for specific input, noting event presence isn't always reducible to direct ROI.
- Brian proposed continuing the Google Sheet tracking events with section/board members present, with boards offering statements of support — a lower-risk, no-cost step.
- Agreed: chairs to gather further board input over the coming month and revisit.

Action Items:

- **All:** continue populating the Google Sheet of events and encourage ASTIN board statements of support.
- **George:** share the draft Fund document and event list with boards for input.
- **Section chairs:** review the draft fund document and event list with their boards and report back.

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ASTIN Bulletin & Management Board

- Christian and George recapped their post-Ljubljana discussion with Editor-in-Chief Mario Wüthrich. The Management Board (ASTIN, AFIR-ERM, IAALS, PBSS) oversees editor-in-chief succession and publisher decisions.
- Conference-location decisions currently rest with the editorial team; closer consultation with the Management Board was raised to avoid overlap with other IAA events (the January 2027 Naples conference sits close to JoCo Luxembourg on the calendar and continent).
- Reminder of section liaisons to the Board (AFIR-ERM: Lukasz; ASTIN: Bernard; PBSS: Jennifer; IAALS: Séverine); chairs encouraged to engage them and plan for successors when they leave the board.
- George noted the Management Board page and a sections link are not yet on the ASTIN Bulletin website.

Action Items:

- **Christian:** ask Cambridge to add the Management Board page and a sections link to the ASTIN Bulletin website.
- **Section chairs:** introduce their board's ASTIN Bulletin liaison and confirm continuity as terms expire.

AFRIC Conferences & Scheduling

- Christian noted sections have received AFRIC 2027 sponsorship requests, and flagged a 2029 scheduling conflict between AFRIC Namibia and ICA 2029 Nairobi (both targeting June); he and the Kenyan organizing committee plan to meet with AFRIC organizers to coordinate.
- Jean-François sees the proximity as a potential win-win for combined travel if dates don't directly overlap; George was more skeptical it drives added JoCo attendance (~10 days apart) and reiterated JoCo should remain the sections' primary event, while still valuing relationship-building with events in new markets.
- **Sponsorship positions:** ASTIN voted against sponsoring (proximity to JoCo). PBSS leaning against (proximity, uncertain return, smallest budget/only section within reserve target). AFIR-ERM supportive, as a growth-market investment, proposing actuview session recordings. Health has not yet presented to its board and wants more session-content detail.
- Mike noted no fixed IAA-Officer strategy beyond promoting the IAA and serving members; managing such scheduling conflicts is part of why the JSC exists.

Session Recordings — JoCo 2027 Luxembourg

- IAALS (Life) is arranging to record its own sessions, and JoCo organizers are sourcing an AV vendor/quotation.
- Other sections interested in recording should notify Christian by end of August for planning/budget purposes.

Action Items:

- **Christian:** circulate the Luxembourg recording quotation once received.
- **Section chairs:** confirm by end of August whether they wish to record sessions in Luxembourg.

JoCo 2027 Luxembourg — Colloquium Update

- Abstract submissions remain under 10 but typically rise closer to the deadline; reminder emails are paused over summer and resume in September/October.
- The event website is in development, expected to launch in August; section liaisons have provided feedback.

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JoCo 2028 Montreal — CIA Collaboration Agreement

- Christian shared the revised CIA agreement reflecting Mike's earlier feedback: CIA attempted to follow the section hosting protocol as closely as possible; full-sponsorship model with CIA bearing any surplus/deficit; non-member fee set at least $100 above the member rate; CIA required to explain if it forgoes cancellation/event insurance; and new attendee-refund language.
- Ed requested more specific marketing/branding commitments from hosts (e.g., a defined number of social posts, use of section materials) in place of the current general "actively facilitate" language, plus formal recognition of sections/chairs at opening and closing events (citing Brazil as an example where branding fell short), reflected in both the agreement and the general colloquium protocol.
- Ed also asked for clearer allocation of staff time spent specifically on colloquia, separate from general section management.. Christian confirmed the Secretariat now tracks time by JoCo/section-events category; as contracted staff, Teboho's time will be estimated quarterly (per Mike's suggestion) rather than logged weekly.
- Mike noted that under the FMA arrangement sections remain revenue/cost-neutral, and this exercise is about cost transparency rather than new IAA funding — which Ed confirmed was also his intent.
- Christian asked for any final feedback by the next day, ahead of his holiday, so the agreement can be returned to the CIA.

Action Items:

- **Christian:** implement a quarterly process for Teboho to estimate and report time spent on JoCo events.
- **Section chairs:** send any final comments on the CIA agreement to Christian as soon as possible.

Secretarial Note: *We were advised on August 31, 2026 that the CIA would be withdraw from hosting JoCo 2028 due to a competing event (Actuarial Research Conference at the University of Waterloo) taking place several weeks after the proposed JoCo dates.*

Governance Documents — Protocol for Section Colloquia & Role of Section Treasurers

- Christian shared a revised (clean) Protocol for Section Colloquia (last updated 5–6 years ago); formal approval was deferred to allow further review.
- Christian also shared a revised Role of Section Treasurers document (previously ~10 years old, part of the IAA's role-paper suite), now including guidance on reviewing reserve ratios and financial oversight.
- Ed reported positive treasurer feedback, noting a marked improvement in reporting timeliness — now covering Q2 results for the 2027 budget versus only prior-year Q4 before — credited to Caroline's work in the Secretariat.

Action Items:

- **Section chairs:** review both documents and share with boards/treasurers for feedback.
- **Christian:** incorporate further feedback ahead of formal approval at a future meeting.

Next Meeting

- The next Joint Section Chairs meeting is planned for mid-September 2026, consistent with the bi-monthly cadence.

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