**Minutes of the AGM of the British Academy of Management Research Methodology Special Interest Group, held Thursday 28th October 2021 17:30 via Zoom Meeting**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Co-chair Sophie Mills welcomed delegates and thanked them for coming. Sophie introduced Amanda Lee, as continuing Co-Chair, Yan Wang continuing as Treasurer, Juliet Kele as continuing SIG secretary and Mark Saunders as Returning Officer. SM thanked everyone for their contributions this past year.

AGM attendees: Shehla Arifeen, Carole Cooper, Fariba Darabi, Juliet Kele, Foteini Kravariti, Amanda Lee, Sandy MacDonald, Sophie Mills, Salisha Mohammed, Padmi Nagirikandalage, Kenneth N, Mark Saunders, Jim Stewart, Yan Wang.

**2. Apologies for absence**

No apologies received.

**3. Minutes and matters arising**

Main action points from 2020 AGM minutes: 1) MS asked for financial information for event which took place at end of 2019 (financial report started in Jan 2020: SIG does not receive nominal accounts from end of previous year: **2020 action point: request figures from BAM**). 2) Both Co-Chairs, AM and SM positions scheduled for re-election in Dec 2022. SM to speak to this later to ensure smooth transition. 3) Suggestion on running event on how Covid-19 has changed research methods: request sent out at end of 2020, some suggestions but no specific event held. AM: covered in joint SIG event: researching in Covid times. 4) Last AGM: lack of opportunities for synchronous presentation of Conference papers at last conference and opportunity to receive feedback. Feedback shared with BAM at Conference Track Chairs meeting: significant changes made to running of this years’ conference, much more positive feedback from delegates this year.

**4. Financial report**

YM said the SIG had run 3 online events since last AGM. Sharing Our Struggles (SoS) ‘*What difference does your paradigm make*?’ was in January 2021. Raised income of £50, no expenditure. The online ‘Methods that Matter: *The role of translation and interpretation in qualitative research’* was on 27th April 2021 ‘. Income was £25, no expenditure. The final online event, in June 2021, ‘*The value of peer mentoring through doctoral studies’*, raised £125.

YM reiterated that the SIG derives money from BAM central funds, allocated on SIG membership. Total current membership is 577, an increase from last year (512). The SIG is still one of the largest SIGs and current financial position is healthy: £4582, but this is capped at £3000, as in previous years.

AL added that numbers of attendees were high: 30, 78 and 85 respectively, probably due to the workshops being held online. SM stated these events were free to BAM members.

**5. Review of the past year**

SM thanked YM and offered more detail on the events that took place last year:

1. Online ‘Sharing our Struggles’ event, held on 21st January, organised by Phil Rensaw (Cranfield University) and Jenny Robinson, (University of Reading). Duplication of session run in Birmingham in 2018.
2. On 27th April, ‘*The role of translation and interpretation in qualitative research’* was a popular event, and included the following speakers: Dr Maria Mouratidou, (University of Cumbria), Dr Mark Crowder (Manchester Metropolitan University), Dr Carole Couper (University of Sheffield) and Prof Rebecca Piekkari (Aalto University). AL said that she chaired the event and said that there was **scope for follow-up** given the relevance of these topics, use of language, international doctoral students and translation use.
3. The final online event, ‘*The value of peer mentoring through doctoral studies’*, hosted by Nottingham University Business School, on 30th June 2021, included speakers: Dr Scott Foster (Liverpool John Moores University), Dr Phil Renshaw (Cranfield University) and Jenny Robinson (University of Reading). The highlight was *The Lord of The Rings version of the Journey through the PhD*, presented by Prof Mark Saunders (University of Birmingham). There was a lively panel session which included doctoral students from Nottingham, Cranfield and Liverpool John Moores. Delegate numbers were 30, lower than anticipated. However, the SIG is working with Prof Emma Parry to develop an **international peer mentoring network**, which is being funded by BAM. Currently 27 delegates interested in being involved. More news to follow.
4. The originally scheduled December 2021 event, ‘*Impactful Academics Problematising Impact’* hosted by Dr Paul Ellwood (University of Liverpool) and Prof Claire Rigg (University of Suffolk Business School) is postponed until Summer 2022 as the REF results need to be released. The organisers are also keen for this to take place face-to-face.

**6. Plans and proposals for 2021/2022**

1. Sharing our Struggles Series (annual event) – looking to include ‘*Impactful Academics Problematising Impact’,* to be held in summer 2022
2. Teaching Research Methods Workshop (annual) – not yet been secured. **Opportunity open.**

MS queried whether any suggestions / hosts put forward. SM said one suggestion has been around encouraging students to think about how to make an impact, but nothing had come to fruition. MS suggested a re-run of a well-attended event (50) Emma Parry ran at Cranfield previously about planning your research career for early-to-mid career, looking at how you get known for something. **SM called for expressions of interest, so please send ideas to Co-Chairs.**

SM said another face-to-face event at De Monfort for PhD students and early-career researchers scheduled for 9th March on ‘*The driver and compulsion to achieve 3\* and 4\* papers: emergent new research approaches and convention transformation’,* including innovation, fads and future trends. Peter Stokes at De Montfort is interested in hosting this.

CC asked about the event format for next year: whether they will all be face-to-face, online or hybrid and the maximum number of events the SIG can hold over the year. SM reiterated BAM guidance in being able to hold events face-to-face. The SIG would also be looking to hold online events as they worked well, hybrid events not so much. There is no limit as to the number of events.

**7. Conference update**

SM confirmed the RM SIG received 21 submissions initially and 17 presentations at the conference – 12 full papers and 5 developmental papers.

SM said the SIG delivered 2 well-attended events and worked jointly and successfully with SIGs:

* Joint with Identity SIG: *The experiences of researchers through Covid-19*
* Joint with Sustainable and Responsible Business SIG and the Entrepreneurship SIG: *How to research and publish for impact.*

MS said he was watching the chat and noted comments about whether the SIG can formally decide here about whether to put on face-to-face or online events or mixture of both. People on chat advocating for mixture of both. Both AL and SM preferred both online and face-to-face, not hybrid. SM asked for opinions. Following a discussion with attendees, **the SIG recognises the value of both ways of holding events, both online and face-to-face, and will endeavour to use both methods appropriately for the workshop (topic-dependent) but will attempt to ensure that there is at least one type of each event every year. We will not be holding bi-modal (hybrid) events.**

AL added that the SIG will try to continue collaborating with other SIGs. BAM took on feedback from the disappointing 2020 conference and this year, the platform was better, the synchronous paper sessions and it was more successful and enjoyable, with about 700 delegates. AL fed back to BAM that the online conference fee was too high. MS said that this is important, to help cross-subsidise what we do in the SIG and spend money wisely to put on events which are useful to attendees.

**Thanks and awards**

* Best Developmental paper: *Conducting research after the trauma of the COVID 19 pandemic: Towards the development of guidance for qualitative researchers* – Megane Miralles, Bill Lee & Marc Stierand
* Best Full paper: *The Forgotten Role of Time in Qualitative Theorizing for International Business Research* – Bareerah Hafeez Hoorani, Emmanuella Plakoyiannaki & Michael Gibbert
* Best Reviewer: Kim Coogan, Maynooth University, Ireland.

**8. AOB**

* **Arrangement of elections**

SM said that both Co-Chairs have the same finishing date. SM has decided to leave a year early and her term will finish in at end of 2021. Elections for new Co-Chair will be held in Dec 2021. SM also noted that JK will complete her second term as Secretary so her position will be open also. SM and AL thanked JK for her hard work over last 6 years. **SM keen to gain expressions of interest for these positions.** MK said that wishes to stand down from sending out election communications. SM said that she will take on this role.

* **Conference 2022:**

Scheduled to take place at University of Manchester, Alliance Manchester Business School, on 31-August-2 September 2022.

JS thanked SM and JK for all their work. AL thanked both SM and JK for all the work they have done, it had been a pleasure working on the Committee and sorry to see you go. YW said it had been a pleasure working with both SM and JK and wished them all the best.

AL noted that the RM SIG is the second largest SIG and Co-Chairs works well. AL asked attendees to **think about whether the SIG should introduce Co-Track Chairs positions for the Conference**. MS said this was an excellent opportunity to show their involvement, it would be useful to support people for their careers and it was also fun. Fotini agreed and asked whether this position would be possible for someone who is located abroad, not in the UK. **SM to check this with BAM.** AL thought that this should not be a problem, as most of the work occurs before the Conference. From University Forum Conferences, JS added that Track-Chairs have been located overseas, with no problems.

MS asked whether the RM SIG events were planning to be virtual or both over the next year. SM raised this for the SoS event where speakers would raise sensitive topics. As such, organisers were not comfortable with this being a virtual event, so is currently on hold. View of SM and AL for the SIG is to take advantage of the current climate: how the pandemic has affected research methods. SM states that the SIG needs to put on online events that members wish to attend and called for suggestions. **SM and AL to review suggestions in chat box and share them with Steering Committee.**

FK said from her experience, there is demand from industry for delivering quantitative methodology seminars – perhaps an idea to offer this at BAM. SM said if FK had an idea for this workshop, depending on its success, there is scope for developing a series of workshops.

FK concluded by saying what a wonderful SIG the RM SIG was and thank you for the opportunities to participate. JK collated comments made in chat box.

**Social media SIG links:** [**RM SIG Facebook page**](https://www.facebook.com/groups/BAMresearchmethodology/)

[**RM SIG LinkedIn page**](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5163308/)

**Comments from chat box**

**From Mark NK Saunders (he/him) to Everyone 05:53 PM**

The PoP culture. Maximum number is 365!

**From Shehla Arifeen to Everyone 05:56 PM**

Hello. I would like to suggest online events. I am sitting in Pakistan,  a BAM member and the only way I can keep up with what is happening in the community is through the virtual medium

**From Sandy MacDonald to Everyone 05:56 PM**

Online does fit in with the issues around travel and sustainability

**From Salisha Mohammed to Everyone 05:57 PM**

First conference, online. Convenient with my work schedule.

**From Sandy MacDonald to Everyone 05:58 PM**

I have been to a number of hybrid events which worked very well. If that is impossible then online is much more accessible for me. I have actually done research during Covid with people I met on line and have never met!

**From Jim Stewart to Everyone 05:59 PM**

Agree with Carole

**From Kenneth N to Everyone 06:00 PM**

I think online method would enable members attendance because of distance

**From Foteini Kravariti to Everyone 06:06 PM**

Thank you Sophie and Juliet!

**From Mark NK Saunders (he/him) to Everyone 06:07 PM**

Thank you Juliet and Sophie 🙂

**From Kenneth N to Everyone 06:07 PM**

Thank you Juliet and Sophie. well done

**From Padmi Nagirikandalage to Everyone 06:07 PM**

Thank you Sophie and Juliet!

**From Carole Couper to Everyone 06:08 PM**

Thank you both! Had the best SIG social ever at the 2019 Conference thanks to Sophie :)

**From Fariba Darabi (she/her) to Everyone 06:08 PM**

Thank you Sophie and Juliet for your great contributions