

Chair's report

Numeracy and Vulnerability

Welcome to the Chair's report made for ALM's second virtual AGM.

Firstly, can I say thank you to the University of Hamburg and especially to Lisanne Heilmaan for all of her hard work organising this virtual conference. The event covers many time zones and includes inspirational keynotes, fascinating workshops and presentations from members, as well as some fun events. All organised through spreadsheets! Well done, Lisanne.

What a year we have all had and how we have all changed the way we live and work! This year, for the first time ALM held seven inspiring and well attended virtual seminars. Further information on the topics, including recordings of the seminars are available at <https://alm-online.net/alm-2020-virtual-seminar-series/>

The work of the Trustees

The virtual Seminar Series, as members will be aware, is a major first for ALM. It was instigated by the cancelation of **ALM 27**. Judy Larsen (our trustee from Canada) had organised the conference and an impressive list of keynote speakers who contributed to the virtual seminar series. Holding virtual seminars was new to the Trustees but with Judy worked with Charlotte Arkenback-Sundstrom (from Sweden) who hosted the events and trained us all to deliver polished and professional events, while Catherine Byrne (from Ireland) and Marc Jorgenson (from the USA) helped plan and manage the actual events. Kees Hoogland (from the Netherlands), has helped develop the ALM website to manage the events and enable members to register while Linda Jarlskog (from Sweden) keeps the information on the webpages up to date.

ALM also continues to communicate virtually with members, through regular bulletins edited by Diane Dalby (trustee from the UK), and distributed electronically by Linda Jarlskog (trustee from Sweden). This bulletin is fast becoming one of our main sources of communication with members and we welcome more contributions from members and colleagues across the globe.

The peer reviewed international Journal team continues its work and includes: Linda Galligan (member from Australia), Jeff Evans (trustee from the UK), Lynda Ginsburg (trustee from USA), Graham Griffiths (member from the UK) and Javier Díez-Palomar (Editor in Chief from Spain) for their contributions to this work.

Separate reports are available from John Keogh (trustee from Ireland) on growing Membership and Diane Dalby on her first year as Treasurer.

Retiring Trustees

We also have a few changes in the Board of Trustees as some will be standing down after many years of service. I would like to thank John Keogh for his many years of service as a Trustee and for his work as membership secretary. Marc Jorgenson is

also standing down from the role of Secretary and as a trustee. We thank him for his service to ALM and welcome Catherine Byrne who has taken over the mantle as secretary. Last but not least, I thank Jeff Evans for all of his contributions to the work of the Board, the International Journal and through many ALM Conference Committees. Jeff, Marc and John have brought their expertise, knowledge and experience to the work of the Board and for that we thank them.

Looking to the future

Well, this year has been an eventful and busy year for ALM, but the growing membership and the work of the Trustees continues to recognise and support the important work within the international adults learning mathematics community.

Building on the success of the virtual seminars and the increasing membership ALM is developing a global reach which I would like to see develop further. This could be achieved by continuing our virtual seminars but also linking to other organisations who work with adults in different countries. Both Trustees and members have suggested this could be an important way to share our knowledge and expertise. We also need to recognise those who have already made significant contributions to our field of research and practice, some thing else for the Trustees to consider next year.

Finally, I am delighted to have the opportunity to work with such creative and supportive colleagues worldwide and look forward to more exciting events we can share together next year and perhaps even a meeting in person, at a face-to-face conference in 2022. Now wouldn't that be something.

Dr Beth Kelly