Webinar Committee

Names of Members Present: Joshua Gurtler, Angela Anandappa, Alvin Lee, Kaitlin Casuli.

Board/Staff Present: Dina Siedenburg.

Visitors: Grace Danao.

Number of Attendees: 6.

Meeting Called to Order: Sunday, July 27, 2025, 10:30 A.M.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Angela Anandappa.

Old Business: The Committee reviewed past webinar performance and initiatives, and approved the previous year's meeting minutes. The importance of using *IAFP Connect* for promoting webinars was discussed in previous sessions and reiterated during this meeting.

New Business: The committee held a detailed discussion on optimizing webinar experiences, content, and global engagement. Dina Siedenburg led a conversation on whether latecomers should join webinars at the beginning or at the current time of joining. The group favored allowing real-time joining to encourage participation in live discussions, polls, and other interactive elements. Kaitlin Casuli suggested keeping the meeting open for 24 hours, requiring latecomers to dock at the start of the webinar. The group is exploring if this is technically feasible and useful for data tracking.

The committee addressed a request from the PDG and Program Committees to explore AI-generated content in webinars. They discussed the potential role of this committee in reviewing AI checker systems. Alvin noted Elsevier may assist with technical checks. A recommendation was drafted for the board regarding AI use declarations and the importance of confirming originality and non-infringement of copyrights for webinar content.

Alvin also recommended using *IAFP Connect* to archive and promote webinars, making them more accessible and searchable for Members. The committee discussed leveraging podcasts as a promotional tool and featuring webinar speakers to extend outreach.

The need for increased international engagement was emphasized. Currently, webinar timing and content skew U.S.-centric. The committee encourages participation from international affiliates and plans to adjust scheduling to accommodate global time zones.

Financial concerns were discussed. The Program Committee raised the issue of funding webinars through the Foundation. The committee questioned whether the Board would consider sponsorship or other monetization options.

Webinar goals were set: target 30 webinars per year, with at least 20% being organized by international or regional affiliates.

Kaitlin will develop a webinar on "How to Create an Effective Webinar" along with formal guidelines. The Program Committee was encouraged to produce an updated webinar on "How to Submit a Proposal."

The committee also covered several ideas under the Communications section:

1. Encourage PDG leaders to submit stronger webinar proposals.

2. Alvin proposed adding "Virtual Roundtables" as a new webinar format to foster dynamic discussions on any topic.

3. Suggest a brief 2-minute "State of the Association" in webinar format to boost Foundation contributions, and dedicate a webinar to cover the IAFP business meeting.

4. Support position papers from IAFP with webinar-based roundtable discussions.

5. Work with PDGs that have not proposed webinars before, especially those with new leadership, to support development and planning.

6. Propose webinars on soft skills, such as leadership, for students and new professionals. This could include highlighting top student research and thesis projects.

7. Collaborate with the DEI Committee to produce a webinar on color and print accessibility.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. The Committee the appointment of Angela Anandappa for Vice Chair.

2. Support the committee's request to explore AI content-checking systems and their application to webinars. Request board guidance on policy for AI use declarations and originality sign-offs.

3. Approve the development of a webinar and official guidelines for creating effective webinars, led by Kaitlin Casuli.

4. Explore options for monetizing webinars, including sponsorships, to offset Foundation funding concerns.

5. Endorse use of *IAFP Connect* for webinar storage, promotion, and discoverability.

6. Encourage international participation in webinar planning and scheduling.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, July 26, 2026, New Orleans, LA.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:00 P.M.

Chairperson Name: Joshua Gurtler.