

Women in Religion – Wikipedia User group meeting Minutes—June 27, 2024

Members participating: WW, CM, HWS, CH, JO, CA, EM, CS, EU.

1. WiR editing session – (Second Monday) July 8, 4 pm CST

Should happen as scheduled.

2. AAR panel report (June 26, 2024)

It was well attended, went well and involved CS, CH, RH, CA, CR and TM. CH thinks we should get a video of the presentation and post it on the Wikiproject Women in Religion website. If it can't be obtained from the AAR, it should be recreated and recorded. She will ask RH to pursue this.

3. African Circle group update

CH reported that the person hired with the Wikigrant to keep the group organized has been doing a great job and that the African Circle has 2 – 4 sandboxes, each under the name of one of the Circle's members, that they use communally. They are working on biographies of four matriarchs to post on Wikipedia and each member has an individual assignment. CM has offered editorial suggestions to get the drafts ready to post. The grant has had a big impact despite a small dollar amount. The group is so excited to learn and regularly expresses great joy and enthusiasm, so CH hopes that they can get another larger grant. CM hopes that they can get funding to attend the WCNA meeting.

4. 2nd PoWR volume update

CH thinks the call for proposals is in good shape and thanked those who helped to edit the draft. She is still seeking names of women to include on a list of suggested subjects. Please email her with suggestions. Perhaps we can get the names of some women from India who would be appropriate subjects. CM recommended a Shaker woman but she already has a Wikipedia entry.

CH has been working with a trustee of the PoWR who will be added to the list of suggested subjects and whom CH believes will be circulating the proposal in the next PoWR newsletter. CS offered to put CH in touch with the head of African Studies at Georgetown. CH will send CS the proposal so that she can forward it to that person and encouraged CS to consider writing a chapter.

5. AI project

CA appreciated being part of the panel. The AI working group set a date of July 9th 4 pm CDT for the next meeting. They are working on different parts and have moved to LlamIndex. He hopes to pull together an A-Z report. The improved context for cues to the large language model and the retrieval of relevant data has gone well. The next step is fine-tuning the output layers of the large language model—using tools to show what good stubs or Wikipedia articles look like. He would like to put together a corpus of good models. For the July 9 meeting, bring sources for subjects you want to write about. EU has agreed to be a model. CM will create a folder on Google Drive where everybody can put sources.

CH asked whether the PoWR volume 2 should include a chapter co-authored with AI (and clearly labeled as such). Or perhaps a theoretical chapter that reflects on the AI project and the challenges of writing and editing. CA suggested looking for a woman who has done significant work with religion and technology.

Someone recommended *Co-Intelligence: Living and Working with AI* by Ethan Mollick.

CA has an article forthcoming with Center for Theological Inquiry on “Texting with Jesus.” [See <https://textwith.app/jesus/>.] He wrote about it and then had ChatGPT suggest edits.

6. WCNA (Indianapolis, October 3-6, 2024)

JO has heard that the proposal was received well but has heard nothing definitive. The conference is happening close to his office and some of his staff are very involved in planning the program. CH, CM, HWS all hope to go if the proposal is accepted.

7. Go round/check-in (2-3 minutes)

HWS was glad that the monthly editing meetings have shifted to allow the group to spend much of the hour editing their own projects. That’s the only time she has spent recently working on a new page for a woman in religion (Sr. Mary Collins, OSB). She has made a few edits on other topics, such as adding to the pages of Ann Patchett and Cristina Hernandez the literary awards they just received from the Chicago Public Library Foundation.

CM has been working on the page for St. Clotilde, a late 4th/early 5th century saint and queen of the Franks. Some elements of her life are in contention. She also recently watched a documentary on Netflix called “Descendant” about the last slave ship entering America and called Clotilda. She has revamped the project page for the figureskating group on Wikipedia and has set up an A Class assessment. She needs a 3rd reviewer of her Yuna Kim page.

CH has been spending a lot of time on our project page. It's classified as B Class. She wonders how we change that, since she thinks it is now built out well. She is currently on the East coast and went to a production of *Suffs* on Broadway. The questions it raised about activism echoed questions she heard in response to the AAR presentation. CM noted that her great-grandmother was a suffragette.

JO spent a lot of time in June working on Pride Month editathons in Indianapolis and is sorry to have missed meetings of this group.

WW finished her Wikipedia entry on Toni Ann Palermo, the baseball player who joined the School Sisters of St. Francis. She agrees that the African group is working hard and enthusiastically. She suggests Aruna Gnanadason of the World Council of Churches in India as a potential subject for the book.

EU loved the book proposal CH sent. She's interested in writing about Mara Keller who died in late 2023. CH referred her to someone else who had started a chapter on Mara Keller for the last volume but had to drop out.

CA said that his new job as the director of the divinity library at Yale is going well. There is a Yale/Edinburgh conference underway now and he will be alert for potential subjects for the book. He also alerted the group to

https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikimedia+Libraries_International_Convention_2025

Which will be in January in Mexico. Call for papers coming approx. July 1.

8. Next meeting will be July 25, 4 pm CST