

# Meeting Summary for Wikipedia Women in Religion Monthly Business Mtg

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**Attendees:** CM, WW, JO, HWS, CH, JE, RH

## Quick recap

The group discussed budget cuts at universities and their impact on humanities disciplines, while also addressing technical difficulties at the start of the meeting. They reviewed plans for using AI-generated meeting transcripts and Wikipedia editing sessions, including a discussion about changing the name of an upcoming event to better reflect collaborative work. The team also covered updates on various projects including an African Circle Wikipedia hub, challenges with Wikimedia Foundation grants, and the progress of Volume 4 editing, while concluding with personal matters including Broadway tickets and conference attendance plans.

## Next steps

- HWS to edit names in the AI transcripts for May and June meetings.
- CH to edit AI transcripts for content in July.
- RH to send HWS both the transcript and summary of the meeting by tomorrow.
- HWS to post edited AI transcripts to the Wikipedia page.
  - CH to send out a message to schedule the next AI project meeting in June.
  - CH to contact her children for advice on purchasing Broadway tickets.
  - CH to send JO the list of potential people for biographical chapters.
  - JO to consider writing additional biographical chapters for Volume 5.
  - JE to provide an update in a month regarding writing a chapter on Emily Culpepper.
  - CH to continue building Volume 5 and aim for completion by early July.
  - JE to submit a draft of the introductory theoretical chapter for Volume 4 by mid to end of July.
  - CH and HWS to learn the mechanics of publishing on Amazon for the project.

## Summary

### University Budget Cuts Discussion

The group discusses budget cuts at universities, with JO mentioning a 10% cut at his institution. Participants express concern about the impact on humanities disciplines. The meeting begins with some technical difficulties, but everyone eventually connects. HWS joins late and agrees to take notes, while CM reminds the group about the AI transcription service available through RH.

### AI Transcripts Wikipedia Editing Plan

The group discussed using AI-generated meeting transcripts, deciding to post them to their Wikipedia page and have members edit them to make them more accessible. CH and HWS

agreed to alternate responsibilities for editing the transcripts, with CH taking over in July after HW handles May and June. RH committed to sending HWS both the transcript and summary of a recent meeting the following day. The group also briefly touched on their upcoming editing session scheduled for June 9th.

### **Wikipedia Editing and Collaboration Updates**

The group discussed changing the name of an upcoming event to "Editing Working Session" to better reflect the collaborative nature of Wikipedia work, including copy editing and research. RH provided an update on the African Circle project, which received \$5,000 to create a Wikipedia hub at the University of Nairobi graduate school. They discussed plans for an edit-a-thon in New York, with CH and RH planning to conduct an edit session in Nairobi when they visit.

### **Exploring Wikimedia Grant Opportunities**

The group discussed challenges in securing Wikimedia Foundation grants, particularly for their project supporting women in religion in Kenya. They identified that the foundation primarily offers project grants rather than operational funding, which limits their ability to support basic infrastructure needs like computers and meeting spaces. RH and CH agreed to research which grants were funded at the \$100,000-500,000 level and explore ways to engage with the Grants Committee. The group also discussed bringing additional computers to Kenya to support the project, with CH suggesting raising funds for a \$900 computer to be transported in someone's suitcase. HWS suggested via chat: Maybe this is a funding bucket that we could try to tap:

[https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Future\\_Audiences](https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Future_Audiences)

### **Volume 4 Editing and Timeline**

CH and HWS discussed the progress and challenges of editing Volume 4, focusing on reorganizing content, checking sources, and adhering to new CMOS 18th edition guidelines. HWS added to the chat:

[https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html)

Colleen outlined a timeline for Volume 5, aiming for a panel gathering at the American Academy of Religion and setting deadlines for drafts and submissions. She also sought JE's involvement in writing additional chapters, while JE expressed interest but noted scheduling constraints. CH emphasized the importance of gathering authors for a collaborative meeting and ensuring biographical chapters are completed before moving on to Wikipedia publishing. The conversation ended with JE declining Colleen's request to cover Emily's role, citing uncertainty about his availability in the near future.

### **Parliament Publishing and AI Project**

The team discussed the status of their publishing project with Parliament, confirming that while Parliament remains the publisher, HWS and CH, along with the women's task force, will need to learn the mechanics and work independently as their own "worker bees" rather than receiving staff help from Parliament in putting the volume into the appropriate software for publication. CH reported being about a week behind schedule on organizing the next meeting for their AI project, which involves developing an AI tool to generate Wikipedia stubs based on a predefined pattern. The team also discussed their proposal for the Wiki Conference North America, noting

that there are currently 29 proposals submitted, with history suggesting that most submitted will be accepted.

### **Broadway Plans and Conference Discussions**

CM discussed her plans to see a Broadway play on her birthday, October 17th, and sought advice from the group about purchasing tickets. CH suggested waiting to buy tickets until closer to the date, as prices might be lower in July. The group also discussed the upcoming Wiki Conference North America, with HWS considering attending but concerned about accommodations. CH offered to host conference attendees at her home, but HWS preferred staying in a hotel for privacy.