



GAMEO Management Board

May 2025

AGM documents

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Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online

<http://gameo.org> is a joint project of
Institute for the Study of Global Anabaptism
Mennonite Historical Society of Canada
Mennonite Brethren Historical Commission
Mennonite Church USA
Mennonite Central Committee
Mennonite World Conference
D. F. Plett Historical Research Foundation

DRAFT Agenda
GAMEO Management Board
Annual General Meeting (via ZOOM)
Friday, May 9, 2025, 1–3 p.m. Eastern time

Management Board

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1. Opening and introductions: Aileen
2. Review of agenda and Chair's report: Aileen
 - Review of minutes of 2024 meeting: Alf
 - https://gameo.org/images/3/31/GAMEO_Management_Board_2024_May_25.pdf
 - Items arising from minutes
3. Reports:
 - General editor: Elizabeth
 - Statistical report: Laureen (or Laureen stand-in)
 - Website and Admin report: Alf
 - Financial report FY2024
 - Member updates: what can you report concerning the tasks you agreed to do?
4. Technical issues
 - Items?
5. GAMEO priorities for 2025: Aileen
 - What are the tasks for this year? Who will take the lead on specific ones?
 - Review of current practices and review of Plett Foundation approach
 -
6. Promotion:
 - News release: Elizabeth
 - Other?
7. Finances and budget FY2025
 - Items?
8. Other business
9. Date of next meeting: May 2026?
 - Could it be an in-person meeting in Winnipeg or Kitchener-Waterloo?
10. Adjournment

GAMEO Chair Report for AGM, 9 May 2025

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

Welcome to each of you on the Zoom call today! Thank you for your part in making GAMEO "a reliable source of information on Anabaptist-related history and theology."

In particular, I acknowledge Carina Gallardo, records and archives technician at the Centre for Mennonite Brethren Studies, who replaces Jon Isaak as representative for CMBS. And welcome Richard Thiessen back to the GAMEO management committee.

As you know, GAMEO is a long-term project, largely dependent on volunteers like you and on generous donors, both institutions and individuals. It is a project that grows bit by bit each year. Over time, the growth has amounted to something quite impressive. Special mention goes to Bert Friesen and Alf Redekopp for their long and dedicated service to the encyclopedia project.

This year we meet by Zoom in the emerging rotation. Hopefully, next year we can meet in person at Winnipeg or Kitchener-Waterloo.

Reviewing the reports (financial, editorial, and statistical), you can see that this has been another solid and productive year for GAMEO.

My report sets up three items that will be processed in the meeting, as noted in the agenda.

- Content: At the last meeting there was a discussion about developing a strategy for more regularly identifying articles in need of update and revision work. Since then, Laureen prepared a list of most consulted articles to help guide priorities. Jon volunteered to update some articles and submitted an update for the MWC article, which demonstrates his proposal to add an "Editors' updates" section to articles for routine updates; the pattern of adding dated, signed updates for major updates would be continued. I will propose an alternate approach, which does not visibly identify updates, in line with the practice of other "living encyclopedias."
- Technology: Last meeting we discussed translation. Are there specific issues to discuss?
- Organization: Over the past few years, we have started a transition in leadership with several retirements. Do we need to rethink any issues related to organization?

Respectfully submitted,

Aileen Friesen, D. F. Plett Historical Research Foundation, GAMEO chair

GAMEO Management Board
Goshen College Administration Building
2024 May 24 – 9:00-12:00

Present (in person): Jon Isaak (Chair; Mennonite Brethren Historical Commission), Elizabeth Miller (General Editor; Institute for the Study of Global Anabaptism), Roberta Miller Yoder (Mennonite Church USA), Olivia Krall (Mennonite Church USA), Laureen Harder-Gissing (Mennonite Historical Society of Canada), Aileen Friesen (D. F. Plett Historical Research Foundation), Alf Redekopp (Associate Editor), and Bert Friesen (Associate Editor).

Present (virtually via Zoom): Ken Sensenig (Mennonite Central Committee) and Anicka Fast (Mennonite World Conference).

1) Opening and introductions

Jon Isaak began the meeting by inviting each person to introduce themselves, say who they were representing at the meeting, and say what would be happening today if they were at home. Jon concluded the opening with a Shabbat Prayer -- a blessing on our meeting and deliberations for the day.

2) Review of Chair's Report and Agenda

Jon Isaak noted his written report. He noted that this would be his last meeting – retiring as chair of GAMEO and retiring from his role with the MB Historical Commission at the end of the current year. Choosing a new chair for the GAMEO board would be an important agenda item. Other agenda items would center around the use of multiple languages and greater accessibility.

Consensus 1: to accept the agenda and report as circulated.

3) Minutes of May 12 2023

Alf reviewed the minutes of 12 May 2023.

Consensus 2: to accept minutes as circulated.

Items & reports arising:

Laureen reported that she had checked with Peaceworks, and Elizabeth Miller had checked with Goshen College, about what might happen if one or the other ceased to exist. It was felt that Peaceworks had a well thought out plan in case of such an event. The conclusion was to continue our relationship with Peaceworks.

Jon: reported that he worked on the B. H. Unruh article by adding an editorial note that was now posted.

Alf: reported that new user profiles had been set up for Aileen Friesen and Jeremy Wiebe.

Aileen: reported that she has started a list of geographic place names which include German, Russian, and Ukrainian forms of the names.

Laureen: reported that she had flagged several articles with an Indigenous element that were situated in Pennsylvania, and sent these to Ken Sensenig for further consultation or referral. Also, that she has not worked on combining the 2 general articles on Indigenous groups and ministries.

Anicka: reported that she has continued to edit and translate biographies; and she contacted and arranged for Michèle Sigg to attend part of the day's meeting. She also reported that MWC has approved a Global Anabaptist-Mennonite History Series (successor to the previous Global Mennonite History Series) focused on biography. A first volume will focus on Congolese leaders. She expects that biographies in this series will be able to feed into GAMEO eventually.

Olivia: reported that she acquired the Michiana Anabaptist Historians list from Jason Kaufman.

Ken: commented that John Ruth could be consulted regarding Indigenous-related articles.

4) **Reports circulated before the meeting**

a) General Editor (Elizabeth Miller)

Elizabeth highlighted work that she had done with students from Latin American and Ethiopia. She identified the main issues for the meeting as: a) multilingual content, b) improving accessibility to content, and c) working at a strategy for regularly updating outdated content.

b) Statistical report (Laureen Harder-Gissing): Highlighted aspects of the Google Analytics Report.

c) Website and Admin report (Alf Redekopp): Highlighted aspects of his written reported, particularly aspects that related to the use of languages other than English.

d) Financial Report FY 2023 (Bert Friesen): Noted that the management fee charged by MWC has increased by 200% without explanation.

Consensus 3: AGREED that service fee be discussed with the MWC treasurer, seeking an explanation and a satisfactory resolution. (ex. Ask not to pay next year; see the service as a gift in kind, other.)

[Meeting break for 45 minutes to have a tour of the Mennonite Historical Library.]

5) **Conversation about multilingual encyclopedia experience**

Michèle Sigg, executive director, *Dictionary of African Christian Biography* joined us by Zoom and shared her experiences with their on-line project which currently has an interface that supports four languages: English, French, Portuguese and Kiswahili. Some of their decisions were based on an approach that would be accessible to users who primarily have smart phones and possibly very light band width, cost, and available expertise. The choice of open source software with the multilingual capability, allowed the creation of indexes in each language in a more automated way, than the earlier html webpage design approaches.

Some **Question and Answers** followed the presentation.

[Lunch break occurred and the meeting resumed in the afternoon at Mennonite Church USA Archives in Elkhart]

6) Technical Issues

There was reflection on the presentation by Michèle Sigg and discussion about what we might do as we face the request for posting articles in additional languages. It was reported that our site uses a Google translation widget which allows the user to translate the site interface into any language, although the site content itself is not translated.

Consensus 4:

- a) that Elizabeth would consult with Peaceworks about what it would take to extend the Google translation widget to all content,
- b) that GAMEO is willing to accept content in any language and will work at posting the content in that language,
- c) that Alf will set up "Language Categories" for the non-English articles and place the "available in other language" note at the top of the articles, instead of the bottom, and,
- d) Because increasingly users are accessing content via Smartphone devices, that Elizabeth and Alf explore with Peaceworks a redesign of the home page that will make it more Smartphone friendly / accessible, making it easier for users to submit comments and corrections, for example, having a submit button on every page.

7) Administrative Restructuring

Aileen Friesen volunteered to take on the role of chair of the GAMEO Management Board.

Consensus 5: to accept and affirm Aileen as chair of the GAMEO Management Board.

Jon Isaak offered to assist with the fundraising letters/invoices to the institutions.

Bert Friesen announced that he was retiring from his role as finance liaison with MWC for GAMEO.

Consensus 6: that Aileen would be the GAMEO finance contact with MWC, submitting the budget and requesting an annual financial report.

8) GAMEO priorities for 2024

There was a discussion about developing a strategy for more regularly identifying articles in need of update and revision work.

Consensus 7:

- a) that we remind congregations and institutions of their role in submitting updates for articles relating to their church or organization
- b) that Laureen would consult Google Analytics for most consulted articles and identify articles that need updating
- c) that Alf would explore if there are ways to isolate articles by the type of articles (i.e. template types).
- d) that Alf will explore how the date of publication field might be used to identify the articles most in need of updating.

Additional strategies were discussed for creating lists or flagging articles in need of updating, Jon Isaak volunteered to update 5 articles once identified.

- e) if the above prioritization options are inaccessible, that we as board members each take one letter of the alphabet to review on GAMEO and manually identify article to prioritize updating

9) Promotion

Consensus 7: that Olivia Krall write a news release about the 2024 GAMEO Board meeting.

10) Finances and Budget FY2024

Consensus 8: that \$5000 be allocated for web updating in addition to the site maintenance costs; and the \$2000 be allocated for meeting and travel expenses.

11) Other Business

Aileen identified Rudy Friesen's *Building on the Past* as an excellent source for geographical entries for current Ukraine.

12) Date of Next Meeting

Consensus 9: that we meet virtually (via ZOOM) on Friday 9 May 2025 at 9 a.m. EST

Elizabeth Miller thanked Jon Isaak and Bert Friesen for their leadership in GAMEO.

13) Adjournment at 4:00 p.m.

Recorded by Alf Redekopp

GAMEO General Editor Report

Elizabeth Miller

April 29, 2025

Press Release: After our May meeting in 2024, Olivia Krall wrote a [press release](#) that was first published by Mennonite Church USA, before being [republished](#) by Mennonite World Conference and other Anabaptist-related publications.

Website Updates: Following our meeting, I worked with Alf to update the information feature on GAMEO's landing page, so that it is less wordy. Peaceworks also carried out an update, at our request, to make the main menu structure more mobile friendly. Now when you visit GAMEO articles from a smartphone, both they and the main menu are now formatted for mobile use. I also had extensive conversation with Peaceworks about the possibility of installing a language translation feature on the GAMEO site. After looking at multiple plug-ins and considering the rapid development of AI language translation options available in browsers, we decided not to pursue a language plug-in for GAMEO. By creating language categories and making those visible on the GAMEO site, we are making our multilingual content more visible and accessible. Thanks to Alf for his good work with all of the above updates.

New Articles: Through the Institute for the Study of Global Anabaptism, we were able to get two biographies added to GAMEO this year. The [biography of Alemu Checole](#) was written by Workineh Yami, a result of his internship with the ISGA, in fulfillment of requirements for his master's degree at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Goshen College history major Emily Strzelecki submitted a [biography of Eli Hochstedler](#).

Numerous individuals approached us this year who were interested in writing new articles or submitting updates for articles on GAMEO. Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests, Swamp Mennonite Church (Pa.), and an independent researcher of Mennonite hymn books all contacted us with inquiries; Olivia Krall has helped to facilitate two of these conversations. We responded to each inquiry with instructions, contacts, and some suggestions regarding sources. Unfortunately, in all cases, nothing has yet been submitted. The templates are a wonderful tool, but my experiences this past year lead me to wonder if a more hands-on approach is needed in working with authors.

Article Updates: Soon after our 2024 meeting, Laureen Harder-Gissing created a file of the most-frequently consulted articles on GAMEO. We intend to use this list to help us prioritize needed updates in the collection. Jon Isaak volunteered to write five article updates as a volunteer and recently completed an update for Mennonite World Conference. This update was timely, as it aligns with MWC's 100th anniversary. We are grateful to Jon for his willingness to continue supporting GAMEO in this way.

In the process of updating this article, however, we encountered a challenge. Should significant updates result in an entirely new article that integrates historical and new information into one cohesive whole? Or is it best to add updates in a way that allows the reader to track the article's development across time? Jon's update to the MWC article is included under the subsection heading "Editors' Updates," but Aileen Friesen has noted that this is inconsistent with the guidelines observed by the Plett Foundation with their updates. Aileen and I consulted GAMEO's existing set of policies, but we were not able to find clear guidelines for how GAMEO approaches updates. We would like to bring this conversation to the board for consideration. At the same time, we would also like to develop a plan for inviting specialists and scholars to help us prioritize and write updates for existing articles.

Gratitude and repentance: My deep thanks to all of you for your work and contributions to GAMEO this year, and I look forward to gathering on Zoom together in May. Especially as the US exhibits increased aggression towards Canada, I am especially grateful for work that is shared across those national boundaries. I do not take that collaboration for granted. To the Canadian members of GAMEO, I am sorry for the ways that the US has instigated political and economic upheaval in Canada and between our two countries in recent months. I hope that our work can model a different kind of international cooperation. At the same time, I invite you to be forthright with the ways that our work may need to change or adapt in response to the broader political climate.

GAMEO "Admin" Report – 2025

Following up on the GAMEO Management Meeting of May 2024, I created Language categories for use with the French and Spanish articles, and placed the link to these groups of articles at the top of the Home Page. The Home page was also edited based on work that Elizabeth Miller provided.

Jon Isaak submitted revisions and updates for the Mennonite World Conference entry which included a suggestion for a possible way to approach future revisions of other articles of this type which have an original 1950s, a 1990s update, and subsequent editorial updates. Should we use this article as a model in future updates?

Several additional people were issued "editor" accounts this past year: Eric Bradley (Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen, who replaced Joe Springer), Gerald Ens (working with Aileen Friesen and Jeremy Wiebe at the Centre for Transnational Mennonite Studies in Winnipeg), and Ian Kleinsasser (who is working with Bert Friesen on editing and adding Hutterite content). While having more editors allows GAMEO to expand and update content, there is a greater challenge of managing consistency in style and format. What is the best way to manage that? Is there a need for training?

Possible changes for editing manual:

a) (G. Ens suggestion) Under footnotes, the guide dictates that the "Notes" section should be designated with two equals signs, that is: ==Notes==. This makes the "Notes" section a second order rather than first order heading. The most unfortunate consequence of doing this is that it introduces a distortion into articles with a table of contents, making "Notes" a sub-heading to whatever previous heading is in the article. (Example below)

Editing Doerksen, Abraham (1852-1929)

Preview

Remember that this is only a preview. Your changes have not yet been saved! → [Go to editing area](#)

Abraham Doerksen was the first ~~Altester~~ of the Sommerfelder Mennonites. In 1922 he led part of his congregation to Mexico where they founded the Santa Clara Colony. Doerksen served the church as an ~~Altester~~ for over 35 years.

Contents (hide)

- 1 Early Life
- 2 Formation of the Sommerfelder Church
- 3 ~~Altester~~ of the Sommerfelder
- 4 Migration to Mexico
- 5 Views and Approach to Leadership
 - 5.1 Notes
- 6 Bibliography
- 7 Cite This Article

This only becomes an issue when articles have sub-headings. Should we change the manual to say that the "Notes" section be a heading on equal footing with other headings within an article? Or should we discourage use of sub-headings in biographical articles?

b) G. Ens also wrote: I see that a "See Also" section for related articles is uncommon in GAMEO. I didn't find any instruction or style guide on the matter so I used my own discretion, following a format common on Wikipedia. I would, however, be happy to conform to the general GAMEO practice if you prefer; just let me know. The benefits, as I see it, of doing it this way include: tidier look, easier navigation for longer articles, and better visibility.
(See [Zacharias, Johann \(1868-1954\)](#)).

c) GAMEO Management approved the experimental use of Footnotes in May 2021. See "[GAMEO Style Sheet](#)". How long do we continue to experiment?

I continue to receive and respond to e-mails sent to adminATgameo.org. The e-mails range from small editorial changes and updates to information that requires the creation of new entries such as 5 "new" Mennonite settlements in Belize, or a submission from a student who wanted their work published (example: Brubacher House (Watlerloo) article).

The most active editors recently have been Sam Steiner, Richard Thiessen, Gerald Ens, Aileen Friesen, Richard Loughheed, Bert Friesen and Ian Kleinsasser.

Alf Redekopp
GAMEO Associate Editor
April 25, 2025

Most-consulted GAMEO articles

June 3, 2021, to June 6, 2024

Article	Views	Users	Views per user	Average engagement time	Event count
World Mennonite Membership Distribution -	6489	6040	1.07	106.90	24252
Anabaptism -	3438	2716	1.27	86.46	8686
Names (Mennonite) -	3083	2612	1.18	68.83	11624
Martyrs' Mirror -	1782	1216	1.47	84.78	5272
Divorce and Remarriage -	1693	1423	1.19	81.36	5661
Dress -	1667	1384	1.20	104.41	5446
Calvinism and Mennonitism (Netherlands) -	1565	1372	1.14	73.93	5775
Mennonite Encyclopedia, The -	1530	1052	1.45	41.95	4844
Nonresistance -	1398	1032	1.35	107.38	4497
Fraktur (Typeface and Handwriting) -	1223	914	1.34	36.45	4215
Migrations -	855	680	1.26	124.33	2823
Headcovering -	811	705	1.15	64.91	2823
Christian Calendar -	758	661	1.15	40.90	2770
Communion -	754	619	1.22	99.28	2419
Froschauer Bibles and Testaments -	725	540	1.34	76.39	2556
Indigenization -	722	550	1.31	73.13	2509
Education, Mennonite -	656	545	1.20	65.21	2199
Pietism -	636	490	1.30	129.19	1822
Gender Roles -	628	504	1.25	73.07	2191
Ban -	617	485	1.27	103.55	1873
Intermarriage -	615	560	1.10	66.30	2213
Original Sin -	607	419	1.45	134.17	1916
Hymnology of the North American Mennonites -	604	448	1.35	102.05	1976
Ausbund -	598	457	1.31	63.29	1853
Genealogy -	561	410	1.37	98.21	1655
Kiss, Holy -	555	459	1.21	111.07	1768
Plattdeutsch -	550	430	1.28	92.60	1845
Theology, Mennonite -	543	429	1.27	110.84	1744
Burial customs -	542	454	1.19	75.99	1824
Ordinances -	542	406	1.33	90.51	1642
Marriage -	540	426	1.27	110.73	1738
Sexuality -	536	462	1.16	70.26	1892
Apocalypticism -	522	345	1.51	127.83	1444
Christology -	509	352	1.45	103.52	1361
Gelassenheit -	505	377	1.34	90.90	1612
Women -	499	363	1.37	76.08	1565
Baptism -	495	351	1.41	151.96	1383
Dialect Literature and Speech, Low German -	484	400	1.21	80.84	1574
Theological Education by Extension -	483	378	1.28	68.45	1753
Secret Societies -	475	403	1.18	87.83	1609
Plain Coat -	473	371	1.27	61.87	1674
Architecture -	472	332	1.42	107.16	1567
Courtship Customs -	467	398	1.17	82.46	1620
Avoidance (1953) -	455	355	1.28	78.56	1173
Ziffersystem (Numerical Musical Notation) -	453	354	1.28	37.58	1692
Salvation -	452	343	1.32	133.94	1508

Confessions, Doctrinal -	439	303	1.45	289.25	1384
Oath -	434	196	2.21	125.36	1034
Church-State Relations -	423	269	1.57	113.54	1307
Motion Pictures and Amish, Hutterites, and Men	413	339	1.22	61.53	1428
Discipleship -	399	232	1.72	164.23	1126
Excommunication -	398	303	1.31	100.96	1304
Theologies from the Two-Thirds World -	397	294	1.35	60.71	1359
Catechism -	396	309	1.28	92.22	1361
Prayer Veil -	396	327	1.21	98.62	1193
Marriage, Hutterite Practices -	384	353	1.09	89.31	1374
The Anabaptist Vision -	380	298	1.28	48.20	1298
Baptists -	379	317	1.20	111.16	1183
Hutterite Chronicles -	376	267	1.41	67.24	1031
Immersion -	375	288	1.30	109.42	1196
Arminianism -	370	306	1.21	92.86	1236
Peasants' War, 1524-1525 -	369	283	1.30	76.34	1063
Beard -	366	281	1.30	108.51	1191
Faspa (word) -	361	272	1.33	34.66	1259
Antitrinitarianism -	358	304	1.18	75.65	1103
Alcohol (1958) -	352	288	1.22	137.24	1139
Eternal Security -	351	286	1.23	135.39	1222
Farming Among Mennonites in North America -	351	293	1.20	70.06	1283
Business among the Mennonites in North America -	346	306	1.13	50.43	1262
Folk Medicine, Amish and Swiss-Pennsylvania C	346	279	1.24	51.13	1252
Menno Monument (Witmarsum, Friesland, Nethe	345	286	1.21	35.87	1217
Feetwashing -	343	275	1.25	92.88	1004
Bishop -	342	291	1.18	82.62	1135
Mennonite (The Name) -	340	207	1.64	97.51	947
Art (1955) -	338	218	1.55	112.08	1059
Nonconformity -	337	253	1.33	115.30	989
Martyrs -	336	248	1.35	143.50	1051
Privileges (Privilegia) -	329	216	1.52	71.52	968
Amish Aid Plans -	327	274	1.19	37.48	1362
Charismatic Movement -	324	234	1.38	82.12	952
Dance -	323	253	1.28	47.86	1109
Ecclesiology -	321	237	1.35	74.54	1039
Sermon on the Mount -	319	247	1.29	93.82	1102
Musical Instruments -	318	250	1.27	57.40	1047
Suspenders (Amish) -	314	295	1.06	37.13	1261
Elder (Ältester) -	313	267	1.17	72.64	1006
Medicine Among the Hutterites -	309	249	1.24	72.76	1131
Birth Control -	298	256	1.16	52.10	1119
Emblems -	296	219	1.35	46.26	1036
Spiritualism -	296	210	1.41	99.90	935
Biblical Interpretation -	293	213	1.38	67.22	896
Ordination -	292	233	1.25	89.80	903
Exorcism -	285	244	1.17	79.45	996
Devotional Literature -	283	222	1.27	40.32	949
Brauche -	282	242	1.17	42.90	1086
Bundling -	281	257	1.09	35.15	1061
Baptism, Age at -	275	224	1.23	58.81	922
Radical Reformation -	275	223	1.23	73.10	959

Death and Dying -	272	180	1.51	118.64	884
Dispensationalism -	270	214	1.26	96.73	901
Farming Among Mennonites in West Prussia and	268	197	1.36	168.46	896
Alcohol Among the Mennonites of Northeast Ge	263	185	1.42	82.71	876
Russian Revolution and Civil War -	263	199	1.32	107.76	678
Community of Goods -	262	206	1.27	109.87	666
Tobacco -	261	219	1.19	86.86	894
Biestkens Bible -	259	207	1.25	57.93	846
Socinianism -	249	209	1.19	66.80	684
Thirty Years' War (1618-1648) -	249	194	1.28	70.02	739
God (Trinity), Doctrine of -	247	178	1.39	136.98	737
Conscientious Objection -	245	179	1.37	139.69	697
Symbols -	244	205	1.19	40.47	899
Bible Colleges and Institutes -	242	217	1.12	50.12	872
Ethnicity -	241	205	1.18	72.73	830
Dialect Literature and Speech, Pennsylvania Ge	239	220	1.09	16.67	940
Anointing with Oil -	238	180	1.32	78.86	779
Hymnology of the Mennonites of West and East	236	173	1.36	113.69	724
Atonement, Anabaptist Theology of -	235	186	1.26	111.04	763
Discipline, Church -	235	171	1.37	89.15	686
Refugees -	233	152	1.53	115.07	699
Folklore -	228	190	1.20	45.53	802
Clocks -	227	119	1.91	86.28	652
Indian Ministries, North America -	224	133	1.68	136.42	706
Ceramics -	222	185	1.20	55.15	692
Punishment of the Anabaptists in the Low Coun	221	198	1.12	97.58	814
Work Ethic -	219	186	1.18	56.73	762
Lot -	216	167	1.29	114.13	712
Villages (Holländerdörfer) -	215	178	1.21	105.77	606
Dedication of Infants -	213	156	1.37	84.99	678
Liberalism in the Dutch Mennonite Church -	212	181	1.17	44.62	752
Martyrs' Synod -	211	149	1.42	103.21	628
Sacramentists -	207	144	1.44	69.61	579
Melchiorites -	206	176	1.17	37.89	646
Nicknames, Mennonite -	205	189	1.08	42.34	764
Historic Peace Churches -	202	155	1.30	43.35	693
Revivalism -	202	160	1.26	127.38	631
Catabaptist -	201	170	1.18	64.29	694
Weddings -	200	184	1.09	72.73	703
Evangelicalism -	194	174	1.11	87.86	661
Folk Arts -	194	165	1.18	71.82	702
Hymnology of the Anabaptists -	193	156	1.24	84.83	626
Believers Church -	191	160	1.19	50.43	660
Peace -	190	147	1.29	110.20	606
Free Will -	189	158	1.20	99.12	645
Holy Spirit -	189	127	1.49	117.06	590
Furniture and Woodworking -	188	164	1.15	52.58	706
Fraktur (Illuminated Drawing) -	187	151	1.24	61.83	633
Mennonitisches Lexikon -	186	144	1.29	57.47	530
Anabaptist Coinage and Commemorative Medal	184	109	1.69	56.50	580
Law, Theology of -	184	146	1.26	72.88	623
Apocrypha -	182	151	1.21	105.34	639

Fraktur (Typeface and Handwriting) –	182	136	1.34	24.43	628
Revival Meetings -	182	153	1.19	50.99	613
Singing, Old Colony Mennonite -	182	139	1.31	76.34	633
Lawsuits -	178	153	1.16	69.84	643
Legalism -	178	137	1.30	67.88	628
Puritanism -	178	146	1.22	43.31	622
Fundamentalism -	174	125	1.39	115.33	480
Neckties -	174	149	1.17	54.20	641
Occupations -	174	149	1.17	74.77	604
Family -	173	135	1.28	125.46	545
Hooks and Eyes -	172	152	1.13	30.91	724
Camps and Retreat Centers -	171	144	1.19	61.16	657
Infant Baptism -	171	133	1.29	208.95	445
Covenant Theology -	170	122	1.39	126.73	554
Priesthood of All Believers -	170	146	1.16	90.62	613
Cemeteries -	169	150	1.13	41.62	504
Education Among the Mennonites in Russia -	166	120	1.38	177.72	496
Military Participation -	164	146	1.12	72.99	589
Church Membership -	162	142	1.14	77.92	555
Deaconess -	162	122	1.33	65.39	470
Flag -	161	140	1.15	35.16	601
Hispanic Mennonites -	161	109	1.48	51.94	530
Voluntary Service -	160	126	1.27	97.13	494
Insurance -	159	145	1.10	50.34	547
Persecution -	159	134	1.19	82.92	514
Colleges and Universities, Mennonite -	156	137	1.14	62.54	561
Industry Among Mennonites in Russia (and Prus	152	109	1.39	85.10	477
Unitarianism -	150	130	1.15	54.03	454
Mutual Aid -	145	100	1.45	188.16	420
Orphanages -	145	114	1.27	47.35	471
Apostolic Succession -	144	112	1.29	140.97	458
Schisms -	144	110	1.31	170.40	482
Scripture, Anabaptist Understandings of -	144	105	1.37	118.19	466
Singing -	142	109	1.30	132.80	453
Economics -	140	113	1.24	103.22	479
Sermons, Hutterite -	140	106	1.32	170.53	520
Historiography: Anabaptist -	138	118	1.17	101.28	410
Mission (Missiology) -	137	93	1.47	158.66	402
Oberschulze -	136	117	1.16	53.97	394
Bible -	135	107	1.26	84.87	342
Mysticism -	135	115	1.17	64.89	438
Counsel Meeting -	134	87	1.54	135.92	428
Deacon -	134	115	1.17	87.70	485
Estate Owners -	134	91	1.47	115.25	400
Stundism -	133	118	1.13	70.93	462
Disabilities -	131	102	1.28	108.53	434
Indians, North America -	131	84	1.56	44.20	359
Holiness Movement -	127	115	1.10	108.92	457
Hymnology (1989) -	127	103	1.23	63.28	357
Mass Media -	122	106	1.15	22.88	438
Restitutionism -	122	106	1.15	94.38	363
Sunday school -	122	103	1.18	91.12	406

Business -	121	100	1.21	88.92	395
Jesuits (1957) -	119	69	1.72	93.86	320
Sanctification -	118	99	1.19	156.75	370
Sociopolitical Activism -	118	87	1.36	47.89	393
Literature, Russo-German Mennonite (To 1950s)	116	94	1.23	52.78	367
Old Testament -	116	90	1.29	72.26	354
Pacifism -	116	100	1.16	36.63	307
Authority -	115	90	1.28	143.20	310
Worship, Public -	115	92	1.25	117.70	369
Disputations -	114	81	1.41	159.60	347
Labor Unions -	114	94	1.21	102.99	402
Anabaptism -	112	92	1.22	63.89	251
House Churches -	112	73	1.53	93.29	369
Music, Church (1956) -	111	84	1.32	126.15	334
Church Records -	110	88	1.25	62.25	301
Ordnung (Order) -	110	89	1.24	53.31	312
Conscientious objection -	109	82	1.33	113.04	363
Cookery, Mennonite (American) -	108	87	1.24	77.16	353
Augsburg Confession (1530) -	107	82	1.30	57.72	324
Historic peace churches -	105	88	1.19	67.17	385
Apostles' Creed -	104	84	1.24	49.82	331
Bonnet (1953) -	104	90	1.16	65.41	331
Postage Stamps -	103	78	1.32	35.74	329
Frock Coat -	102	90	1.13	41.70	291
Baptismal Theology -	101	87	1.16	87.61	295
Fasting -	101	86	1.17	55.58	370
Grace -	100	84	1.19	80.63	307
Justification -	100	77	1.30	78.56	297
Polity -	100	92	1.09	91.07	364

GAMEO statistics, 2025

Generally, statistics were very similar to previous years.

- About 82% of new users found GAMEO through an organic search (eg. “googling it.”). Just over 13% found GAMEO through a direct search (eg. typing the URL into a browser). This proportion is the same as last year.
- The highest percentage of active users were from the United States (46%) followed by Canada (39%) and then in descending order at 2% or less: Germany, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Australia, India, Ireland, China and France. Other than China replacing Poland, this list the the same as last year. The top 10 regions producing active users were: Alberta, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Illinois, Texas, California. These are the same top 10 regions as last year; the only difference is a slight change in order among the final four.
- Here are the titles of article pages receiving over a thousand views in 2025 (in descending order): Dariusleut, Hutterian Brethren, Molotschna Mennonite Settlement, Mennonite Confession of Faith 1963, Church of God in Christ Mennonite, Dordrecht Confession of Faith, Chortitza Mennonite Settlement, Nationwide Fellowship Churches, East Fairview Mennonite Church, Names (Mennonite), Scotford Hutterite Colony, Lehrerleut, Schmiedeleut, Beachy Amish Mennonite Fellowship, Menno Simons, Anabaptism, McMinnville Old Order Amish Settlement, Old Colony Mennonites, Schwertler, Pine Meadows Hutterite Colony, Midwest Mennonite Fellowship, Hnidy Farms Hutterite Colony, Conrad Grebel, Heinrich Heinrich Unruh, Forest River Hutterite Colony, Spring Prairie Hutterite Colony, Mid-Atlantic Mennonite Fellowship, Shropshire Hills Mennonite Church, Jakob Ammann.
- 386,000 “active users” engaged with the site from May 2024-April 2025. This is down slightly from the 394,000 such users in 2024.
- As per last year, the overwhelming majority of active users were English-speaking (91%). Other languages in the top ten were (in descending order): Chinese, German, Dutch, Spanish, French, Russian, Polish, Portuguese, and Italian.
- This past year, I also created a spreadsheet of “[GAMEO topical articles](#)” which was shared from my Google drive. The second tab – “Topical – views over 100” indicates the most viewed “topical” articles, some of which may be in need of revision.

Report compiled by Laureen Harder-Gissing, 2025

Mennonite World Conference
Statement of Restricted Funds
for the year ended December 31, 2024
PRELIMINARY

	2024 Actual	2024 Actual to 2023 Actual	2024 Actual to Budget	Variance 2024 Actual to 2023 Actual	Variance 2024 Actual to Budget	2024 Budget	2023 Actual
045 - GAMEO							
INCOME							
Member Churches	521			521	521		
Congregations, Foundations, Agencies, Businesses, Individuals	6,038	83%	80%	(1,261)	(1,464)	7,500	7,297
Other Revenue	133	77%		(41)	133		174
Total Revenue	6,691	90%	89%	(780)	(809)	7,500	7,471
EXPENSES							
Staff Costs	-			-	-	-	-
Travel Costs	1,303			(1,303)	(1,303)		
Office Costs	533	20%	20%	2,118	2,167	2,700	2,650
Meeting Costs	-			-	-	-	-
Administration Costs	3,235			(3,235)	(3,235)	-	-
Total expenses	5,071	191%	188%	(2,420)	(2,371)	2,700	2,650
Exchange gain/(loss)	-			-	-	-	-
Net Fund Activity	1,620			(3,200)	(3,180)	4,800	4,821
Beginning Balance	25,767					25,767	22,085
Management Fees	(1,004)	90%	89%			(1,125)	(1,118)
Carbon Offset	(62)					-	-
Ending Balance	26,322					29,442	25,767
Contributions:							
Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches	221						
Mennonite Church USA Inc.	300						
D. F. Platt Historical Research Foundation Inc.	219						
Canadian Mennonite University	221						
Mennonite Historical Society of Canada	218						
Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society	218						
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary	300						
Bethel College	300						
Bluffton University	300						
Elisabethtown College	300						
Fresno Pacific University	300						
Goshen College	600						
Huron College	300						
Mennonite Life - Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society	300						
Mennonite Central Committee	300						
Rosedale Bible College	300						
Anicka Ruth Fast	366						
Sam Steiner	323						
Marjorie Wall Huffer	150						
Conrad Grebel University College	221						
Eastern Mennonite University	300						
Kenneth L. Sensenig	100						
	6,358						

Plett Foundation GAMEO article update proposal

We propose that when existing articles are updated, all updates, whether minor or major, should be incorporated into the natural flow and structure of the article text. This would abandon the practice of appending major updates as separate dated sections (e.g., s.v. "Revivalism," which contains sections "1959 Article" and "1990 Update").

This proposal would result in a more straightforward presentation of information on an article subject, rather than offering multiple perspectives. It is consistent with the approach taken by other "living encyclopedias," such as *Wikipedia*, *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, and *The Canadian Encyclopedia*.

If the Management Board considers it important to make available the text of the original *Mennonite Encyclopedia* articles, this could be accomplished placing a link in the article to the scanned books, which are accessible at the Internet Archive (archive.org). The "View history" tab of each article also makes available its complete edit history.

This proposal would support the rewriting of an existing article containing an "Update" section (or sections) to produce a unitary, cohesive presentation.