

International Systemic Functional Linguistics Association
Annual General Meeting
ZOOM meeting 20 Nov 2020

Agenda

Present: Tom Bartlett, Helen Caple, TaufEEK Dalamu, Yaegan Doran, Ola Douro-Bello, Shooshi Dreyfus, Lise Fontaine, Gail Forey, Carlos Gouveia, Derek Irwin, Pauline Jones, Rodrigo Lima Lopez, Ariana Mairorani, Nick Moore, Kimberley Mouvet, Estella Moyano, Stella Neumann, Mick O'Donnell, Gerard O'Grady, Teresa Oteíza, Alex Peng, Kumaran Rajandran, Makoto Sasaki, Jamie Williams.

- 1 Apologies for absence: Geoff Williams, Jose David Herazo (Rodrigo Lopes representing Latin America), Rosemary Huisman
- 2 In Memorium:
Margaret Berry, delivered by Lise Fontaine
Elsa Ghio, delivered by Estella Moyano
Giovanni Parodi Sweis, delivered by Teresa Oteíza
- 3 Minutes of the 2019 AGM: The minutes were passed as an accurate reflection of the meeting.
- 4 Matters arising: no immediate matters were raised.
- 5 Chair's Report, by Teresa Oteíza
The Chair apprised the AGM on the changes to upcoming congresses from discussions with the Executive Committee and upcoming conferences convenors, outlined in the next item.
In particular, these changes as well as the decision to hold this first virtual AGM were decided at the ISFLA Executive Committee meeting, September 4, 2020 (via Zoom)
A crucial follow-up to the AGM in Santiago, Chile at the July 2019 ISFC46 regarded basic criteria to upcoming ISFCs that it would be positive to encourage, namely:
 - Consideration of **gender parity, language** and ISFLA **regional representation** of plenary speakers (i.e., we should be doing our best to promote the use of local languages other than English in the international congresses, and make all reasonable efforts to provide translations if languages other than English are spoken, though final decisions are up to the international congress' organizers.
 - Consideration of **online or partially online modalities** to reach a wider audience and make the ISFC as inclusive as possible, as well as for sustainability reasons (item to be discussed under item 7, below).
 - These matters are part of an ongoing conversation/ negotiation in our community.
- 6 Report on the Changes to upcoming congresses:

2022. Shenzhen, China.

Alex Peng explained some of the difficulty; everything was launched and prepared, but the epidemic led to the necessary delay.

- 2023. Tunisia (to be held in March)
- 2024. NSW, Australia.
- 2025. Cardiff, UK (Lise Fontaine indicated that this may not be possible; ESFLA will discuss the matter at their January 2021 Committee Meeting and bring their suggestions to the ISFLA Committee).
- 2026. North America.
- 2027. Asia.
- 2028. Latin America.
- 2029. Australia.
- 2030. Europe.

7 Proposals:

- 7.1 Any future ISFCs should make all reasonable efforts to include an online component
- Shooshi Dreyfus requested a better definition of what this might mean in practical terms.
 - Nick Moore pointed out that there were 3 options for conference organizers given his experience trying to organize the ESFLC this past year: attempts at live conferences, moving online, or else a blended model as this seems to suggest; however, the blended model can mean essentially putting on two conferences.
 - Arianna Maiorani brought up the financial issues on both ends: institutionally there are factors affecting online elements, but also travel is a significant burden.
 - Lise Fontaine explained the proposal as meant as an attempt at reasonable measures, not a requirement. Some implementation of online offering could also be used to address regional language issue (using subtitles/auto-translate). There are a whole range of possibilities.
- Yaegan Doran pointed out that the wording can be interpreted as a command, and suggested changing the wording to “encourage” instead of “should.”
- The group agreed that more discussion is needed on the topic.

8 Nominations for new ISFLA Committee and continued positions:

New Executive:

Chair: Derek Irwin (search committee led by former Chair Rosemary Huisman)

Deputy Chair: Shoshana Dreyfus

Australia Treasurer: Yaegan Doran

Membership Secretary: Marta Filipe Alexandre

Recording Secretary: Pauline Jones

Continuing Executive

Europe Treasurer: Carlos Gouveia

North American Treasurer: Bernie Mohan

International Committee:

Helen Caple (Australia)

Peng Xuanwei (China)

Gail Forey (Europe)

Makoto Sasaki (Japan)

José David Herazo (Latin America)

Bernie Mohan (North America)

Ex-Officio Members:

Past Chair: Teresa Oteiza
Past Conference Convenor: Teresa Oteiza
Upcoming Conference Convenor: (Alex) Xuanwei Peng and Geoff Williams
Moderator of Syfling: Lise Fontaine
ISFLA Web manager: Mick O'Donnell

9 ISFLA Treasurers' reports (no change from 2019)

9.1 Carlos Gouveia (Europe):

ISFLA (EUROPE) TREASURER'S REPORT 2018-19

Summary of the ISFLA (Europe) account with the Co-operative Bank

10,088.60 GBP carried forward from last report

11,297.45 EURO

13,219.53 USD

9.2 Bernie Mohan (North America): TBC

9.3 Honglin Chen (Australia): Balance as at June 1 2019: \$17,277.46 (AUD)

10 *Regional news and welcomes:*

10.1 *Dr Vinh To, University of Tasmania and Coordinator of the SFL Interest Group, is organizing the First international online SFLIG Conference in Nov 16-19 2021.*

11 *Any other business*

Shooshi asked about ISFLA meetings and that they are being held over email for the most part.

Gail Forey shared that ESFLA is going to launch some workshops to honour Margaret Berry's work, in the spirit of the Nottingham Circle.

Nick Moore pointed out that there should be some sort of ESFLA congress in autumn 2021

Teresa added that the Latin American SFL congress was requesting support for travel expenses.