

International Systemic Functional Linguistics Association
Annual General Meeting
ZOOM meeting 22 July 2021

Agenda

Present: Derek Irwin (chair), Shooshi Dreyfus, Makoto Sasaki, Alex Peng, Mick O'Donnell, Jorge Hita, Akiko Nagao, Helen Caple, Bilyana Todorova, Izaskun Elorza, Marta Alexandre, Ruben Mazzei, Kumaran Rajandran, Akila Sellami, Wendy Bowcher, Gail Forey, Carlos Gouveia, Isaac Mwinlaaru, Esmat Babaii, Sundara Raj K, Azita, Kieran, Len¹, Pauline Jones (minutes)

Apologies: Yaegan Doran, Jamie Williams

1. *Minutes of the 2020 AGM* – were passed with as an accurate reflection of the meeting.
2. *Matters arising* - no immediate matters were raised.
3. *Chair's Report* - Derek pointed out that 2021/22 was a quiet time because of COVID-related travel restrictions.

Most pressing issue is ISFC 2022. Meeting is scheduled to be held in Shenzhen, but international travel will still be limited. Virtual modes seem to be more practical for an international conference, particularly a hybrid conference. The following issues arise:

- Time zones are a major consideration for online conferences
- Fees are also an issue – should reflect differences in cost of delivery. Online conferences are cheaper to host, and fees should reflect this
- The importance of the social aspect of conferences cannot be underestimated.

Discussion returned to issue later in the meeting.

4. *Report on the Changes to upcoming congresses:*

2022 Shenzhen, China
2023 Tunisia (to be held in March)
2024 NSW, Australia.
2025 Glasgow, UK (Tom Bartlett has volunteered to convene)
2026 North America
2027 Asia
2028 Latin America
2029 Australia
2030 Europe

ESFLC 2022 is scheduled for Odense (23-26th August)

5. *Proposals re ISFC 2022:*

The 2022 ISFC Committee has proposed the following: to move ahead with the conference, but to plan for a hybrid format in which any participants who are unable to travel would be able to participate virtually.

¹ Some attendees' full names are not recorded because of the online nature of the meeting.

3 options were discussed by AGM participants - face to face, online or hybrid. Majority agreed that ISFC 2022 will go ahead at Shenzhen with Alex Peng as host with following suggestions discussed:

- Some meeting attendees felt that organising committee should include representatives from regional organisations.
- Regions might function as a ‘hub’ with some social interactions at a regional level e.g., might gather to watch keynotes, view parallels in break-out rooms, share lunch etc.
- Opportunities for regional committees to have panels in local languages could be considered
- Some presentations could be recorded for later viewing. Plenaries could be at times that most could attend then others can watch in local hubs in a better time.

Helen Caple noted that organisers should consider the capacity of video streaming, e.g., zoom has 1000 participant plans.

Alex to confirm dates.²

6. *ISFLA Treasurers’ reports*

6.1 Carlos Gouveia (Europe): Balance as at 2018-19 and Carlos reports no changes in 2020/21

10,088.60 GBP

11,297.45 EURO

13,219.53 USD

6.2 **Bernie Mohan (North America): TBC**

6.3 Yaegan Doran (Australia): Balance as at June 1, 2019: \$17,277.46 (AUD) and Yaegan reports no changes in 2020/21

7. *Regional news:*

Gail Forey reminded meeting of upcoming ESFC (organised by Nick Moore at Sheffield) and asked that people email sysfling with “dine with” and “walk with” activities as well as social networking opportunities.

8. *Any other business - NIL*

² ISFC 2022 dates later confirmed as July 21-23 (Pre-Congress Institute) and July 25-29 (Congress). To be hosted in hybrid mode by University of Shenzhen.