

# International Systemic Functional Congress Annual General Meeting

Minutes  
9:00 a.m., July 24, 1993  
University of Victoria  
Victoria, Canada

Michael Cummings chair (as continuation from 1992 meeting) AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of last meeting
3. Business arising
  - Constitution
  - Election of office bearers
4. Secretary's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. New journal
7. Bulletin board
8. Network
9. Upcoming conferences
10. Other business

## I. Thanks and Apologies

Bernhard Mohan, program chair, thanked all presenters. Gordon Fulton, local arrangements chair, thanked all attendees and urged them to maintain contact with the organizers. Michael Cummings explained his current reconvening of the 1992 meeting because the ballot was not sent out. Mohan moved to confirm Frances Christie as presiding chair, and Lynne Young seconded. After the vote passed, she took over and announced apologies for absence from Michael Halliday, Ruqaiya Hasan, and Joan Rothery.

## II. Minutes of the last meeting

Upon a motion by Mohan and Margaret Berry, minutes of the 1992 meeting were approved.

## III A. Constitution

A draft was presented from the ad-hoc committee consisting of Christie, Peter Fries, Nan Fries, and Jim Benson. Robin Fawcett, seconded by Margaret Berry, moved to remove the hyphen between Systemic and Functional in the name. The motion passed. Peter Fries, seconded by Adrian Hare, moved to add another purpose, "to promote scholarship and research in the relationships that hold between language and the various social contexts in which it is used." The motion failed. Numerous other motions were made and withdrawn or failed to receive a second, all dealing with expanding, concentrating, and otherwise refining the statements of objectives, especially #2-3; suggestions were made by Jim Martin, Tucker, Fawcett, Frances, Jonathan Fine, Carol Torsello, and Helen Jenkins.

Berry's motion to remove #2 passed, but the motion to remove #3 failed. A motion made by Torsello and seconded by Fawcett passed to allow the Committee to polish the wording, since there was a general understanding and agreement on purpose.

Fine moved that the status of full membership not be tied to payment of dues, but that there be a dues mechanism. Robert Veel seconded, and the motion passed.

Eugene Green's motion that there be a membership secretary also passed. Cummings moved that, subject to these amendments, the constitution

be approved. Mohan seconded, and the approval was unanimous.

III B. Election of office bearers: Peter Fries moved that the slate of nominees for the Systemic Functional Linguistics Association Committee be declared elected, as they are not opposed. Laura Proctor seconded, and the election completed.

Chair:	Fran Christie
Deputy Chair:	Bernard Mohan *
Membership Secretary:	James Benson
Recording/Corresponding Secretary:	Robert Veel
Treasurer:	Hillary Hillier

Area

Representatives:

Louise Ravelli (Australia)  
Margaret Berry (Great Britain)  
Gordon Fulton (Canada)  
Hu Zhuanglin (China)  
Erich Steiner (Europe)  
Peter Ragan (U.S.A.)  
Fermi Akindele (Africa) \*  
Amy Tsui (other areas) \*

\* Ex officio (non-voting)

IV. Membership Secretary's report

Benson reported that there were over 800 names on the list and urged the conferees to ensure its accuracy.

V. Treasurer's report

Benson also reported funds remaining in England and Australia after conferences, and it was agreed that this informal arrangement works to avoid constant exchange charges; local committees should report funds remaining each year to account for them, but the funds left after a meeting should be retained to use for future meetings.

VI. New journal

Ann Marie Simon-Vandenberg announced a contract with Benjamins for three years for a journal, *Functions and Language*, consisting of two issues per year, 250 pages per volume, starting in the spring of 1994. It will include contributions from systemicists and others. Some issues may be thematic; conference papers could be included or published separately. It will include book reviews. She asked for contributions for Volume 2. Institutions and libraries should be asked to subscribe. Simon-Vandenberg and her colleagues were given thanks and congratulations. Mohan announced that there were no plans to publish papers from the current conference.

VII. Bulletin board

Michael Toolan is the E-mail contact; Jim Benson was thanked for helping with the set-up.

VIII. Network was not discussed because Editor Jim Martin had left the meeting.

IX. Upcoming conferences

August 1-5, 1994: The twenty-first ISFC will meet in Ghent, Belgium, after a pre-conference course in Leuven, 45 miles away. Contact Anne Marie Simon Vandenberg.  
July 19-24, 1995: Twenty-second IFSC in Beijing, China. Contact Hu Zhuanglin.

July 15-19, 1996: Twenty-third IFSC in Sydney, Australia. Contact Di Slade and Fran Christie.

X. Other business

Local organizers Bernie Mohan and Gordon Fulton were thanked cordially and profusely.

A motion by Robin Fawcett passed, establishing a subcommittee to act for publication.

Peter Fries was nominated for the Finance Committee.

Fran Christie closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hartnett".

Carolyn G. Hartnett