

**European Systemic-Functional Linguistics Association**  
**Minutes of the AGM**  
**Koper, 11th July, 2010**

**Participants**

Elissa Asp, David Banks, Tom Bartlett, Ivan Berazhny, Marta Carretero, Robin Fawcett (Treasurer), Donna Miller, Ann Montemayor-Borsinger, Stella Neumann, Mick O'Donnell (Chair), Gerard O'Grady, Sonja Starc, Geoff Thompson, Eija Ventola

**1 Recording Secretary**

Geoff Thompson volunteered to act as the recording secretary for the meeting.

**2 Minutes of the previous AGM**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

**3 Discussion of the ESFLA Constitution**

It was agreed that a draft version with modifications should be prepared by a working party consisting of Mick O'Donnell, Robin Fawcett and Geoff Thompson. This would be ready by December, and placed on the website with an invitation for comments. It would then be brought to the next AGM for approval.

**4 Results from the ESFLA Icon Competition**

Two icons, each in different versions, were presented; but neither was felt to be fully satisfactory. It was agreed that a working party consisting of David Banks (as convenor), Eija Ventola, Donna Miller and Ivan Berazhny would consult on the design of an icon with the aim of having it considered at the next AGM.

Nick Moore was thanked for his efforts both in initiating the competition and in submitting an icon.

**5 Treasurer's report**

Robin Fawcett presented a report setting out the current position. As agreed at the last AGM, a donation of £300, which was originally requested to help clear a shortfall in the accounts for the 2005 Conference in London, had been returned to ISFLA. The account now stood at £1407 (1688 euros).

It was noted that, because of different financial procedures in different universities, it was not always possible for conference organisers to transfer any surplus to the ESFLA account. Robin pointed out that an appeal for voluntary contributions at the 2008 Saarbrücken conference had met with a good response, and that this would be a way of ensuring some regular inflow of funds to ESFLA. It was therefore proposed that the appeal should be repeated at all future conferences.

Proposed: Geoff Thompson

Seconded: Eija Ventola

Passed unanimously.

**6 Report on the 2009 Cardiff Conference/Workshop**

Tom Bartlett reported that the conference had broken even. There was in fact a small profit, but the University would not release funds to ESFLA, on the grounds that it had underwritten the conference and would have borne any shortfall. Two

publications are planned, drawing mainly on the papers presented but also invited contributions. One will be on more theoretical and the other on more applied topics. A proposal for the first has been submitted to CUP, and one for the other will be submitted to Equinox.

### **7 Report on current conference/workshop**

Sonja Starc reported that the organising committee had been very successful in attracting grants: one to cover the costs of the summer school (which had therefore been free to participants), and another towards the costs of the conference/workshop. Current figures suggested that the conference would break even.

127 abstracts were received, of which 111 were accepted. However, there were serious problems with visas: despite a good deal of work from the organisers in trying to overcome the difficulties, a number of delegates were unable to attend. In the end, the conference included 3 plenaries, 73 papers and 2 workshops.

### **8 Future meetings**

Tom Bartlett gave a brief report on the upcoming Summer School at Cardiff, at which lectures and workshops will be given by Michael Halliday, Ruqaiya Hasan and Sydney Lamb, amongst others. The event had attracted a great deal of interest, and enrolment, with a fee of £105 for the 3 days, was currently 90.

In 2011, the International Congress will be held in Lisbon, and there will be no separate European conference.

Donna Miller gave a brief report on plans for the 2012 meeting, which will be held in the University Residential Centre of Bertinoro. The Centre allows a maximum of 100 participants. No decision has yet been made on whether a preceding summer school will be organised.

### **9 Any other business**

It was agreed that the Committee should be authorised to decide on requests for financial support for publications arising from conferences.

Sonja Starc enquired about the possibility of seeking help with editing the proceedings of the present conference. It was agreed that she should send out an email asking for volunteers.

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm.