

European Systemic-Functional Linguistics Association
Minutes of the AGM
Bertinoro, July 11th 2012, 9.00 am.

1 Apologies for absence

Mick O'Donnell, Lise Fontaine, Stella Neumann.

In the absence of Mick O'Donnell and Lise Fontaine, Geoff Thompson served as acting Chair for the meeting.

Maria Freddi kindly agreed to act as Recording Secretary.

2 Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes (available on the ESFLA website) were accepted as an accurate record.

3 Matters arising

*4 ESFLA Icon Competition

No final decision has been taken on the ESFLA icon: the new committee will decide on the logo. It was noted that the ESFLA website is back online (it was taken down after being hacked).

*5 Voluntary contributions

No recommendation on the question of voluntary contributions had been made by the committee (but see point 5 below)

*8 Establishment of a Committee in support of Institutional Initiatives in Teacher Education.

No information on this proposed committee has been received from Bernie Mohan.

4 Election of new ESFLA Chair and Executive Committee

Chair: Lise Fontaine – proposed Geoff Thompson, seconded Donna Miller. Agreed unanimously.

Robin Fawcett agreed to continue as Treasurer, and three members of the Executive Committee – David Banks, Stella Neumann and Julia Lavid – agreed to continue in post.

Carol Taylor-Torsello had indicated that she wished to step down. Donna Miller was proposed as her replacement: proposed Sheena Gardner, seconded Robin Fawcett. Agreed unanimously.

On behalf of the Association, the acting Chair extended thanks to Mick O'Donnell for his work as ESFLA Chair, and to Carol Taylor-Torsello for her work on the Executive Committee.

5 Treasurer's report

The Treasurer reported on the financial situation of the Association (see below). In the light of the report, it was generally felt that a decision on voluntary contributions should be taken.

It was proposed that a voluntary contribution be asked for at the present conference – proposed Robin Fawcett, seconded Donna Miller. Agreed unanimously.

It was further suggested that future conference registration fees should include an amount for the Association. An alternative suggestion was that the contributions should remain voluntary. The two alternatives were voted on: 15

votes were cast for including a sum in the registration fee, 9 for keeping the contribution voluntary.

It was therefore agreed that registration fees should in future include a contribution for the Association.

6 Report on the 2012 Bertinoro Conference/Workshop

The conference convenor Donna Miller reported on the 2012 Conference/Workshop. She noted that expenses have been covered. The choice of Bertinoro was dictated by room availability as well as facilities.

On behalf of the Association, the acting Chair thanked Donna Miller warmly for the smooth organization.

7 Future meetings

Sheena Gardner announced that the venue for the 2013 conference will be Coventry. (An official presentation would follow the close of the conference).

The venue for the 2014 might be Paris, organised by Chris Gledhill (confirmed after the meeting).

In 2015 the ISFLA Congress will be held in Europe (Germany), and there will be no separate ESFLA conference.

8 Any other business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 9.45 am.

ESFLA TREASURER'S REPORT 2011-12

Statement of the ESFLA account with the Co-operative Bank

Date	Details	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
		GBP	GBP	GBP
22.07.11	Carried forward			1408.91
06.07.12	Interest	0.30		1409.21

This is EUR 1776.

The last year has been unexciting financially - at least for ESFLA.

In my 2008 report I wrote "As your Treasurer, I would advise that we should continue to build up our reserve fund to a figure of at least GBP 3000 (= approx EUR 3781) before contemplating any major additional expenditure. (This is because, if a conference happened to be preceded by, say, a terrorist attack on a flight to the city of the host university, the loss could well be far above the loss of GBP 1000 that we suffered at the Kings College London conference.

The association's only source of income is conferences that make a profit, and it is a matter of concern that, after a good start in 2006 and 2008, we have had no income from any of the Helsinki conference (2008), the Cardiff Conference (2009) or the Koper conference (2010). Let us hope that this year's conference will reverse this trend.

Robin P. Fawcett, 06.07.12