

**EUROPEAN SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL LINGUISTICS ASSOCIATION
BUSINESS MEETING**

Friday 21st July 2006, 7.20 p.m., Gorizia.

- 1 Geoff Thompson gave a brief report on the 2005 ESFLA meeting:
 - It was held at Kings College London August 2005
 - No substantive decisions were taken
 - A presentation was given by Chris Taylor and Elizabeth Swain on the site for the 2006 ESFLCW, Gorizia

- 2 Chris Taylor reported on the 2006 ESFLCW18. Apart from the problems caused by the heatwave, the Conference had run smoothly, and it was likely that costs would be covered, with no surplus.
The meeting unanimously agreed a vote of thanks to Chris, Elizabeth Swain and the organising committee for their excellent work.

- 3 It was confirmed that the location of the ESFLCW in 2007 will be in Saarbrücken: Erich Steiner and Stella Neumann were to give a presentation formally announcing the Conference at the round-up session the following day.
Eija Ventola confirmed that she was still willing to host the 2008 ESFLCW in Helsinki, but said that it would be more convenient if another location could be found for 2008, with the Conference being held in Helsinki in 2009. It was agreed that the Committee should explore the possibilities during the coming year, with the aim of confirming the 2008 location by the time of the 2007 Conference.

- 4 Geoff Thompson reported that the ISFC (which will be held in Odense in 2007) will come back to Europe in 2011; and that Carlos Gouveia had offered to host it in Lisbon. This was welcomed by the meeting. GT pointed out that the decision on where the Congress is held is made by the Executive Committee of ISFLA, and noted that, if any other centres wished to put in a bid to host the Congress, they should approach the ISFLA Chair, Cecilia Colombi, directly.

- 5 Geoff Thompson proposed that positions on the Committee, which have so far been open-ended, should in future be for a fixed term of three years. This was agreed unanimously.

- 6 It was further agreed that the present membership of the Committee should continue in post for the coming year, but should be charged with the duty of formalising the procedures of the Association, particularly in respect of:
 - membership of the committee, and the election of committee members
 - guidelines for the conduct of meetings of the AssociationThe Committee will prepare a set of proposals on these, and any other matters that they feel are appropriate, to bring to the meeting in Saarbrücken for approval.

- 7 Geoff Thompson having announced that he wished to stand down after 8 years as Chair of the Steering Committee and latterly of the European Association, an election was held for the post of Chair. Eija Ventola was the sole candidate, and was elected unanimously.

- 8 The election of Eija Ventola as Chair left a vacant place on the Committee. Julia Lavid was unanimously elected as a member of the committee.

It was noted that there had been no recent contact with Antonia Sánchez Macarro. Eija Ventola undertook to check with her whether she should still be considered as a member of the Committee.

The Committee for 2006-2007 is:

Chair: Eija Ventola (Helsinki)

Treasurer: Robin Fawcett (Cardiff)

Representatives:

David Banks (Brest)

Julia Lavid (Madrid)

Antonia Sánchez Macarro (Valencia)

Erich Steiner (Saarbrücken)

The following are *ex officio* members of the 2006-2007 Committee:

Chris Taylor (Trieste – 2006 Conference Organiser)

Geoff Thompson (ex-Chair)

9 Eija Ventola took over as Chair, and thanked Geoff Thompson for the contribution he had made.

10 The meeting was closed at 7.50 p.m.