

**INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL LINGUISTICS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
LISBON, JULY 2011**

AGENDA

Present: Adegboye Adeyanju, Jorge Arus, David Banks, Jim Benson, Wendy L. Bowcher, Marta Carretero, Chang Chenguang, Fran Christie, Cecilia Colombi, Michael Cummings, Fan Dai, Robin Fawcett, David Fiki-George, Sheena Gardner, Huang Guowen, Carlos Gouveia, Wei He, Sue Hood, Derek Irwin, Carys Jones, Pauline Jones, Julia Lavid, Maria Lirola, Jim Martin, Bernard Mohan, Gillian Moss, Désirée Motta-Roth, Estela Moyano, Doris Obieje, Mick O'Donnell, Yi Peng, Sue Spinks, Erich Steiner, Geoff Thompson, Eija Ventola

1 Apologies for absence: Rosemary Huisman, Elke Teich, Elsa Ghio, Honglin Chen, and Lise Fontaine.

2 Minutes of the 2010 AGM
Bernie Mohan moved, Cecilia Colombi seconded – accepted as an accurate record.

3 Matters arising
At the previous AGM, Geoff Williams raised the issue of whether ISFLA should have a discussion about shifting international congresses to a two-year cycle. At that meeting, it was agreed that the committee would consider the issue. The committee reported to the current meeting that they had considered the issue, but decided against it, as members were "voting with their feet" (basically, the increasingly high attendance at ISFCs suggests that attendance is not a problem).

4 Proposal for Change to Constitution
To add ex-officio member role for webmaster, to include Mick O'Donnell.
Fran Christie moved, Cecilia Colombi seconded: passed.

5 Statement from outgoing Chair (Geoff Thompson)
Committee discussed and decided to honour those who have made contributions to ISFLA: Jim Benson, Michael Cummings, Robin Fawcett, Bernie Mohan so honoured at meeting; Peter Fries, Nan Fries, and Bill Greaves also to be sent certificates of appreciation.
Those who might have nominations for this certificate should submit names – years of service is the basic criterion.
Presence on Internet, especially Wikipedia, and not only in English. Working group formed under Mick. Eija comments that not much has changed – still few SFL pages linked to anything.
Geoff Thompson thanked Mick in particular for his assistance on the committee, and Robin and the rest of committee as well.

6 Elections for new Executive Committee (Cecilia Colombi)
Cecilia Colombi as ex-chair was in charge of nominating committee with Mick O'Donnell and Mary Schleppegrell. Elected positions as follows:

Guowen Huang (president) Wendy Bowcher (vice) and Lise Fontaine (Membership Secretary). Rest of members stay same.

Fran Christie moved, Bernard Mohan seconds. Passed. Huang Guowen chairs.

7 Reports on the Pre-Congress Institute and ISFC 2011 (Carlos Gouveia)
Videos of plenaries now up on website, at <http://www.fl.ul.pt/unidades/institutos/ici/isfc38/>. Pre-conference: 72 participants in 7 courses, 5 in English and 2 in Portuguese. Conference: 216 people have registered and are present, 20 have not yet arrived. 2 grantees to the congress, selected by sub-committee, \$3000 from ISFLA for this but transfer has not taken place. Grants actually 3500 Euros, conference may have a surplus, but still outstanding bills. Will be able to confirm funds by September.

8 Upcoming congresses

2012 Sydney: Sue Hood reports University of Technology Sydney as congress venue, University of Sydney for pre-congress, website is up now, budget being built, and some issues with scholarships. They are working on ways to reduce costs.

2013 Guangzhou: a bit early for details, but many co-organizers.

2014 Mendoza: Cecelia Colombi just consulted with people in Mendoza, and they are very excited to host.

2015 Europe: Huang Guowen reports 2 universities (Cardiff and uni-saarland) expressed interest, but we are waiting for other responses.

9 Other upcoming SFL conferences (see ISFLA website for details)

Latin America has ALSFAL in Argentina in October.

Len Unsworth is convening the ASFLA conference at the University of New England, Australia (September 21-23 2011).

Donna Miller will be talking about the European congress on Friday, the last day of this year's congress.

Nanjing in November for National Chinese Congress.

Eija Ventola is organizing MUST in November 28-29, 2011 at home of Santa Claus, Rovaniemi, Lapland, Finland.

Wendy Bowcher announces the Oita Text Forum (OTF) in Oita, Japan, on December 4th 2011.

Cardiff will be having a 2012 summer school.

10 Treasurers' reports (Robin Fawcett – report attached)

Very little out of Europe account, Australian account fairly healthy, North America no change. Have to be wary of sudden expenses – congresses can lose money, but ISFLA needs to encourage regional responsibility.

No source of income for 4 years – only comes from congresses paying money back in. Marilyn Mohan scholarship fund not used this year, as can only be used for South Asia due to way it was set up via a Canadian charity. Any unspent funds will return to the Foundation on 1st July, 2014, unless they specifically authorise an extension.

Full details of the agreement at: <http://www.isfla.org/Minutes/MarilynMohanScholarshipAgreement.pdf>

11 Other business

David Fiki-George would like to thank the association for the help in Africa and Nigeria in particular. He hopes that that this area will be able to self-sponsor, but also

wants to point out that there are possibilities for exchange and appeals that we can do more for them as they join across universities.

Robin Fawcett sent about 12 parcels of books to Nigeria from the David Young collection, department at Cardiff paid. Adegboye Adeyanju has received the packages, and is developing a system with the library to allow largest numbers of scholars access to books.

12 Date of next meeting
July 20th or so, 2012, at ISFC39.

THE ISFLA ACCOUNT 2010-11

A: Report by Robin Fawcett, Treasurer for the Europe area, July 2011

		GBP	GBP
Date	Description	Out	In
	Balance		
01.04.10	Carried forward		
	7,672.67		
25.07.11	To Mick O'Donnell for ISFLA website	61.74	
	7,610.93		
01.04.10	Interest		6.14
	7,617.07		

Summary of ISFLA (Europe) account

This account is still in a healthy position (but see the report on the three accounts, taken as a whole). My recommendation to the 2007 AGM was that we should keep at least GBP 5,000 in this account, to be able to cover any possible shortfall in a future congress held in Europe, and we have achieved that. However, if we allow for a 4% increase per annum, we now need to keep £5850 in reserve.

As approved at the 2010 AGM, this account has now been moved from the Triodos Bank to the Co-operative Bank (another ethical bank, but one with which it is easier to make transfers into and out of euros), sort code 08-92-99, account no. 65432545).

B: Report by Honglin Chen, Treasurer for the Australia area (via RF)

		AUD	AUD
Date	Description	Out	In
	Balance		
July 2010	Carried forward		
	17,254		
?	Responding to a request to ISFLA from the Latin-American SFLA for fare for a plenary speaker	1000	
	16,254		
?	Interest		1.80
	16,255.80		
July 2010	Loan to organizers of ISFC 2012, Sydney	3000	
	13,255.80		

C: Summary of all three ISFLA accounts

Figures are also expressed in USD to facilitate comparison.

	AUD	GBP	CND	EUR
Australia (ISFLA)	13,256			10,011

Europe	7,617		8,642
North America		2,000†	<u>1,464†</u>
Total			20,117

† The 2007 figure. I am assuming that it was not used to support the 2010 Vancouver ISFC.

Thanks to significant profits from Cardiff 1998, Sydney 2005 and Odense 2007, ISFLA is still in a healthy financial position. However, ISFLA members should note that there has been no payment into any of the three ISFLA accounts of a surplus from any ISFLA congress since the Odense congress in 2007. Historically, this has been our only source of income. If this pattern of slow but steady decline in our finances is not reversed, we shall have to cut down on the outgoings such as those mentioned in this year's reports, in order to maintain the ISFLA funds for their primary purpose, i.e. to provide loans to future congress committees and, if necessary, to cover the costs when a congress loses money. (Since 1990 four international congresses have experienced losses - though only one asked for assistance. But it could happen again at any time.

D: Marilyn Mohan Scholarship Fund

July 2010 AUD 5327

July 2011 AUD 5406

RPF, 22.07.11