

Meeting agenda

International Association for Cognitive Semiotics
Governing Board

Wednesday, 21 November 2018

Participants on skype: Esther, Todd, Kristian, Hannah, Irene, Jamin, Donna, Sara:

Minutes by Sara

Minutes corrected by Todd and Hannah

1. **Journal *Cognitive Semiotics*:**

• **Update on the journal (Peer Bundgaard)**

Todd reports (for Peer) that the next issue will be ready for publication on time.

3 articles are accepted for publication in issue 11.2 and 3 were rejected, another 3 have been accepted or under revision for issue 12.1, and are expected to be ready soon.

- **Feelings about keeping the journal as disseminated solely online; and if there would be a way to fund a paper version**

Mouton have stated that they are planning to winding up the print version of and only publish a web version. At the assembly in Toronto 2018 it was decided that the board should investigate the options to nevertheless preserve the option of a print version. (A majority of the assembly members voted for trying to preserve the possibility of a paper version.)

- “How / can we recruit more subscribers?”
- “What kind of subscriptions do they buy: paper version, web, or a combination?”

Todd reminded on that one solution could be to link subscription and membership from start but that would make membership more expensive and the option was voided by the members in the last assembly.

Jamin pointed out that the procurement contracts can look different. Subscriptions at University libraries’ can come “in package” and as single subscriptions.

Kristian noted out that institutional subscriptions are often contracted to web versions.

Sara asked for clarifications on how members gain access to the subscribers’ discount. Do we communicate this? Members can contact the treasurer for assistance.

Irene pointed out that the number of subscribers is not the only factor – other arguments for preserving print versions can be special needs based on type of articles and so forth.

- Questions on the possibilities to offer different options for subscriptions - and its consequences - can be put to Rebecca Walker at Mouton de Gruyter.
- The board decided that a letter reflecting the members’ urges shall be compiled and addressed to Mouton de Gruyter.

Complains on the web version that should be pointed out in the letter

- The presentation at the web is unsatisfying (it doesn’t look good)
- The presentation and quality of pictures and figures are dissatisfying
- The current interface does not allow accurate citations. Pagination is missing!

Other matter on CS:

Donna mentioned that additional reviewers might be needed.

2. **Overview of the IACS finances**

Kristian and Jamin reported that the financial report after the conference in Toronto is getting finished, and the process have mostly been fine. Only a few minor budget items remain to be paid.

One of them is the travel costs for Maxine Sheet-Johnstone. Because of administrative circumstances, some bank transfer costs have been double.

- Balance 21 November, 2018 :

\$420 / €365

When we receive membership fees from the last conference, the balance will be:
\$3131 / € 2758

3. IACS-4:

Logistic issues; ideas for a conference theme, plenary speakers, website, plans for student grants, etc. (Irene Mittelberg)

- Irene reported that the plan to place the conference both in Aachen and in Leuven remains. Leuven is only 1,5h away (with car/bus) from Aachen.

Irene's question to the board, at this point, concerned options for setting the time of the conferences. Focus in the discussions was on avoiding conflicts with other conferences that may attract the same people.

Irene suggested June as a good time for conferences in Europe, and would be easy to combine with LMC.

- The later part of June was preferred by the boards, also not to conflict with the time for LCM. According to Esther, LCM would like to coordinate the timing of their conference with IACS, as they did previously.

Other options for the conferences and dates to observe:

Irene also 2-3 weeks in, in October as a possibility. The options for June seemed better at this point. Gesture conference in Chicago in July; German linguistic conference by the end of September/beginning of October; American semiotic society – in the beginning of October

- The local committee will present a theme for the conference and then we will scan for plenary speakers.

4. Publicize members (all):

- Listing people's names and professional websites on the IACS website would make it more attractive for them to become a member, as they would get more clicks on their websites.

Esther presented the idea to list Members' names and links to professional websites.

Esther pointed out that for this to be manageable IACS must have a solution where the members themselves send in the information.

Hannah suggested that perhaps an ordinary google form would do, but the problem is to have control over what is published on IACS' website – the organization has to guarantee the accurateness of IACS.

Kristian argued that static websites are not so attractive to people, is it worth the job?

Todd agreed, and pointed out that there is a minimum limit – it's not good if there are too few who present themselves. Moreover, such a list must be kept up to date. Only members should be listed.

- The questions on publishing members' professional information and links on the website were postponed, and will be brought up again at the next general assembly.

A Newsletter by mail twice a year was suggested as an option that could offer benefits for IACS's members.

Donna, Esther and Jamin volunteered for the editorial board

5. Other matters and messages (all):

- Jamin reported that in spring 2019, The American Journal of Semiotics will publish a special themed double issue as a follow-up of the conference in Toronto 2018.