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Minutes from IACS board meeting
Friday July 9th, 2021
Place: Skype
Time: 3PM, CET

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[Notes made by: Sara Lenninger; Checking the notes: Esther Pascual and Todd Oakley]

Attendees: Sara Lenninger, Hannah Little, Irene Mittelberg, Paul Sambre, Todd Oakley, Esther Pascual, Jamin Pelkey (joined at 3.30PM, CET).

Esther chairs the meeting. It is agreed that IACS secretary Sara will take notes on the meeting. Sara asks for permission to record the meeting for the checking of the minutes. The board accepts the request.

Report on Cognitive Semiotics (Todd)

The journal is proceeding in its normal pace with two issues a year (currently in volume 13). The journal is indexed in Scopus, which should make it more appealing as publication venue. Todd encourages submissions, as there has been a drop in submissions during the pandemic – new ideas for articles are welcomed. CS also welcomes proposals for special issues. There is a special issue coming up in CS on "Pierce and consciousness" guest edited by Donna West. There is a new production editing team and a new production system at De Gruyter. Todd has not noticed any effects concerning CS by the newer system. The journal is still online only, perhaps a little bit faster and probably deals with the editing managing. Sara asks if the new system affects the review process and Todd replies that it does not.
Esther asks if CS has (or is interested in having) the routine for pre-publication online once a paper has got accepted. Todd will bring this question to the editor-in-chief, Peer Bundgaard.

The board notes that Scopus Index is a step in the right direction but is still not enough for many Universities to support the fellow's submissions to CS. Different countries and Universities have different standards for this. That is, lists like the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) or ASEAN Citation Index (ACI) are requested in China and 'The Norwegian list' is a requirement at some Nordic Universities.

IACS-4 in Aachen 2022; theme: "Semiotic complexities – theory and analysis"

Irene reports that the conference rooms are booked for June 15-18, 2022.
- The plan is to organize a hybrid conference with keynote speakers at place in Aachen, if possible.
- The *confirmed plenary speakers* from the planned 2020 conference will be contacted by the local committee as soon as possible with the question if they are still able and willing to participate in IACS-4 in 2022.
- The conference will be held even if the only option were to have an online conference in June 2022. Continuity for the association is the priority.
- Vaccination rates, the development of immunization, travel costs and other restrictions for travelling across countries are all external conditions that will affect the members' possibilities and willingness to participate physically in Aachen.
- The number of participants is difficult to calculate at this stage, but the local committee needs an approximate number for the reservation of rooms. There is

nevertheless a flexible booking system at Aachen University and Irene expects that the room booking will allow for some expansions if needed.

- Scholars who have accepted abstracts and proposals from the 2020 review will be contacted by the local committee with the request to re-new their intent to participate at the conference. They will also be asked to make the appropriate updates of their abstracts. No new review process will be undertaken on these proposals.
- After some discussions, the local committee suggests *Monday August 16, 2021* to be the suggested deadline:
  - for participants to re-new intent to participate in IACS-4,
  - to update their 2020 submitted and accepted abstracts in EasyChair
  - tell whether the plan is to attend in person, virtually, or is not sure.
- The local committee will investigate how to reactivate EasyChair.
- Restricted call for papers: For new proposals a new CfP will be announced in the autumn 2021. Depending on how many delegates want to re-update their already accepted abstracts there may have to be a restriction on the number of new proposals that can be accepted.
- Martin and Irene will draft a new 'restricted' CFP and send it out to the board. For the preparation they will investigate the options for the conference fees, such as to have different fees for virtual and in-person participation or other reduced fees, etc.
- Bursaries: No Bursaries to students can be offered from the local committee. Kristian Tylén will be asked to check for the possibilities for IACS to grant student proposals or cover costs for other participants needing financial support.
- The workshops that were planned for 2021 are also planned for 2022.

Website

Esther asks for need a back-up plan for updating the website. More people in the board need to have access for up-dating the website. One proposal is that the President is given access and passes it to the next President. Hanna reports that she has an account for updating the website, but has no ultimate access for the account administration. Hanna has the login for Twitter and to share admin for FB.
Esther will discuss this further with Hanna per email. Sara contacts Sonesson.

Newsletter

Esther, Jamin and Todd will write the next newsletter.
- Updates on the conference
- Other conferences
- New publications to announce:
Brandt, Per Aage. 2020. *Cognitive Semiotics: Signs, Mind, and Meaning.* London, UK*:* Bloomsbury.
Paolucci, Claudio. 2021. *Cognitive Semiotics: Integrating Signs, Minds, Meaning and Cognition.* Springer Nature Switzerland.

Bank account

The decision on how to proceed with the bank account is postponed to next board meeting.

Next board meeting

The next board meeting will be scheduled for September.