



ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY LANGUAGE COMMUNITIES IN THE UK & IRELAND

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Minutes 9th January 2020

MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY

The Annual General Meeting was held at Maynooth University on the 9th January 2020 in Iontas Lecture Theatre.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 2019 were approved as a true record.

1. Chair's report

The Chair, Mark Critchley, opened the meeting and thanked John Morley, the outgoing Chair, for all his work with AULC. He also thanked Andrew Grenfell who is also stepping down from the Committee for all his work over a number of years.

a) Membership

AULC has currently 77 members (69 in the UK and 8 in Ireland), 5 of whom are associate members. 48 of the institutions belong to both AULC and Cercles. Included in the above numbers are one Associate member and two full members are planning to join AULC from 1st January 2020: the language centre of the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office; The Technical University Dublin, and Trinity College Dublin.

The membership has increased by 3 members since 2019.



b) Opportunities and challenges for the IWLP sector

The Chair drew members' attention to the briefing paper on the role of Language Centres in Internationalisation (available on the AULC website), and extended an invitation to members to write further briefing papers to be published by AULC.

The growth in membership of AULC is encouraging. However, it is noted that some IWLPs are being absorbed by academic Departments, for example the IWLP at the University of Manchester which is being transferred from the Language Centre.

c) Future Conferences

2021- The next conference will take place in Leeds in March 2021.

2022- There is a potential offer from Edinburgh University in Scotland.

2. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Thomas Smith, introduced the report (see Appendix for full report). AULC has currently a healthy positive balance of £12,454.

Due to a more limited sponsorship income, resulting in the 2019 Annual Conference's overspend, the Committee has approved the inclusion of a small conference fee for annual conferences from 2021.

3. CercleS Report

The new Cercles Executive Committee was elected in September 2019 with Sabina Schaffner (University of Zurich) as president and Heidi Rontu (Aalto University) as Secretary General. Heidi Rontu, however, has since resigned from her



post in December 2019 and has been replaced on an interim basis by the Deputy Secretary-General Anne Chateau (University of Lorraine, Nancy).

AULC members who do not already have membership of Cercles but would be interested in doing so should contact Mark Critchley.

4 SIG reports

The Chair thanked Andrew Grenfell who is stepping down from the Committee for his work as Events Officer, which has included the coordination of some activities undertaken by Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

AULC SIGs currently cover Teaching and Learning (convenor: vacant), Management (Ana de Medeiros- Kings College-London), Professional Development (Chiara Cirillo, University of Reading), Language for Specific Purposes (David Tual, University of Cambridge) and Interculturality (Sonia Cunico, University of Exeter and Katarzyna Lanucha, University of Cambridge).

A detailed update on the SIGs has been included in the Conference Programme. Members interested in joining any of these SIGs can contact the conveners (see AULC website for contact details).

4. UNILANG Report

Catherine Chabert reported on the success of UNILANG in the language programmes where the scheme has been adopted and the increase in approved UNILANG examiners. A session on UNILANG has been included in the Conference Programme for anyone interested in knowing more about the scheme or in becoming an examiner. Dr Chabert can also be contacted (see contact details on the AULC website)

Dr Chabert is also working within the pan-European NULTE group to develop common language certification schemes at a European level.



5. Results from the annual AULC/UCML survey of Institution-wide language provision

Ana de Medeiros and Caroline Campbell presented a summary of the latest survey results. Data has been collected from 46 institutions. The number of students registered on IWLPs of 45,164 was lower than the numbers reported in recent years, due to the lower overall response rate. However, proportionately based on responses received, overall numbers of registrations to language programmes appear to be stable in comparison with recent years. Key results from individual questions were then presented (See full report on the [AULC website](#)).