**efsli is getting ready for Vienna!**

The efsli AGM & conference is coming closer! The efsli board and the 2012 organising committee is working hard to make this years’ event again to a great success. Over 230 registrations are now received for the conference. Vienna is eagerly awaiting your arrival! The organising committee is providing you an inspiring and enthusiastic insight into their organisational talents on the efsli 2012 conference Facebook page.

All efsli full members just received the preparation materials for the AGM. The AGM will start at 9.30 AM on Friday 14th September. If you want to participate as an observer at the AGM, please ensure that you register for the AGM. At the AGM interpretation English – International Sign is provided. At the conference there will be palantypists (into written English), Austrian Sign Language (ÖGS), International Sign, English, German and for the first time Bosnian/ Croatian/ Serbian. The team of 20 interpreters will be coordinated by Irma Sluis. To see who is coming to efsli, please go to [www.efsli2012.org > participants](http://www.efsli2012.org).

The conference programme promises inspirational days with presentations, discussions, networking and socialising! On Saturday evening we will celebrate efsli’s 20th anniversary. To commemorate efsli, we ask you to please look into those old shoe boxes and find photographs with efsli memories and send them to liivi.hollmann@efsli.org.

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**First efsli Executive Director**

The efsli board is very happy and excited to introduce to you our first efsli Executive Director Emilie Lykfeldt.

For the second round of applications, the efsli board received applications with a great variety of experiences and skills. The efsli board is delighted to work with Emilie and to move efsli further forward.

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**Gifts to Vienna for SAF**

As many of you know, the raffle for the efsli Special Attendance Fund (SAF) has become a fun and successful tradition. Following last year’s success, this year the raffle will be held again on Saturday evening.

Please bring some items to donate to the raffle. These items can be traditional from your country or items that are of special interest to the attendees at the AGM. Tickets for the raffle will be sold during the AGM and first day of the conference and at the end of the first day of the conference we will raffle all the great gifts.
**efsli 2012 trainers’ seminar**
Educators and trainers at sign language interpreting programmes across Europe are getting together from 17 – 19 September at the University of Graz for the efsli Trainers’ seminar. For the programme and information please visit: [http://www.uni-graz.at/uedo1/www/uedo1/www-veranstaltungen/efsli_rainers__seminar.htm](http://www.uni-graz.at/uedo1/www/uedo1/www-veranstaltungen/efsli_rainers__seminar.htm)

**Online symposium VRI**
In June efsli participated in the Gallaudet University online symposium on Video Remote Interpreting. A summary report and recommendations will be published for efsli members.

**And the winner is……?!**
**SVT winner membership contest**
At the beginning of this year efsli started the individual membership contest. Each new individual member could decide which full member association they would support to enter in the contest. For each new individual member the supported full member association receives a 10 euro discount to the efsli AGM & conference (option 2) and the association which had the most supporting new members would win the main prize: a free registration to the efsli AGM & conference for one delegate. The efsli board hereby congratulates SVT (Finland) with the first prize! SVT has 10 new efsli individual members.

**DG interpretation & EU parliament**
At the end of June efsli was invited by the director of DG interpretation at the European Commission to discuss the provision of sign language interpreters at EC meetings and events. The EC was to ensure the provision of qualified sign language interpreters and it was discussed how to go best forward with this.

The EU parliament hosted a hearing on the upcoming implementation of the European Accessibility Act in which efsli participated. The hearing was organised by the Zero Project of the World Future Council and the European Disability Forum. More information: [www.zeroproject.org/about/brussels/](http://www.zeroproject.org/about/brussels/)

**efsli at META Forum conference**
On 20th June efsli participated in the META Forum conference in Brussels. The conference looked at the future of language industry and the use of technology in Europe. The EC emphasized the need for quality research and data and an innovative agenda on how impact European policies and society. META has published white papers on each of the European countries, describing the current situation on language and technology. These can be downloaded: [www.metaOnet.eu/whitepapers/key-results-and-cross-language-comparison/](http://www.metaOnet.eu/whitepapers/key-results-and-cross-language-comparison/). A white paper on sign languages in Europe will be published in the future.

**efsli Research Fund – coordinator?**
The eRF received two applications by the extended deadline and is currently in the process of reviewing these. A decision is expected shortly.

At the upcoming efsli AGM, Christopher Stone, eRF coordinator will step down from his position as

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**1 July - efsli new members per association**

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coordinator in eRF. Are you interested in serving on the eRF or in the position of coordinator? Please send an email to researchfund@efsli.org.

**Policy paper – educational settings**

Thank you to all the members who participated in the online discussion on the new efsli policy paper on interpreting in educational settings and to those who send their feedback. The final paper will be voted upon at the efsli AGM.

**efsli Committee of Experts**

As agreed by the full members at the AGM in 2011, a Committee of Experts has been established. The efsli board sent a call for applicants and the committee has nine members, including the chair Lorraine Leeson. The task of the eCE is to advise the efsli board on any matters put forward by the board or to identify additional issues that the eCE finds essential for the efsli board.

**TRAFUT project**

The TRAFUT project is coming to its end. From 13th to 15th June experts from different European countries gathered together in Helsinki for the third workshop on the EU Directive 64/2010 on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings. The last meeting will take place in Antwerp from 18th to 20th October 2012. efsli has followed this project step by step as a member of the project team.

**efsli Summer school, a great success**

What is a “profession”? What are ethical dilemmas? What do codes of ethics/conduct/practice tell us to do (or not to do)? The role of the interpreter: what is it? These were just a few of the questions addressed to participants of the efsli Summer school that took place in Tallinn from 29th June to 1st July 2012. Many false myths about our profession were undermined and questioned during the inspiring training conducted by Peter Llewellyn-Jones from the University of Leeds (UK). And a new theory on interpreters’ role-space by Lee & Llewellyn-Jones was introduced. 16 interpreters from Estonia, Finland and Greece attended the school. The local organisation was simply perfect: a sightseeing tour of the city and a lovely dinner in a traditional Estonian restaurant were organised by the Estonian Association of Sign Language Interpreters, EVKTÜ. Thank you all for such a great experience!

**2012 efsli Autumn school**

The efsli Board in now in the process of selecting the trainers for the efsli Autumn school that will take place in London from 23rd to 25th November 2012. Registration will open soon. Keep an eye to the efsli website!

**efsli Summer holidays**

The summer is a wonderful time to get re-energised with family and friends! The efsli board and staff will be taken their summer vacation during July and August. We will be back to you starting 25th August.

The efsli secretariat will be open during the summer. Minke Salomé, efsli administrative support, will be happy to answer questions you might have.