



A word from our president

The season of efsli conferences is nearly upon us. It hardly seems possible that the new Board is nearly at the end of its first year in office; and what a year it has been! The first three months was a very steep learning curve for us all as none of us really understood the inner workings of efsli and our first tasks included organising the launch of efsli's new publications at the European Parliament (a daunting task in itself) and writing the annual report of all of efsli's activities that had been financed by the European Commission (something none of us knew how to do). During the same three months the efsli Winter School and a 'training on demand' course had to be organised and the accounts had to be completed ready for submission in January. I don't think any of us got much sleep between September and December and we couldn't have got through it without the support of the previous Board members, the efsli staff and the countless individual and committee members who gave us their time and words of wisdom.

During the first part of 2014 we began to find our feet, start work on the two major projects we are involved with this year - Justisigns and Insign - and begin to look at how we can all work more efficiently. In September last year, the Board members were five individuals who had only just met. By the end of January we were a team.

We will be reporting on everything we have achieved (and those things we haven't) at the AGM.

Below is a copy of the formal announcement that was sent to the full members and an extract from the constitution that explains how the AGM works. The meeting is your opportunity to make sure we are concentrating on the issues that are important to you so we look forward to seeing you there.

Until then ...

Peter

Important Dates:

efсли Deaf Interpreters Seminar
Antwerp, Belgium
10th - 11th September 2014

efсли AGM & conference
Antwerp, Belgium
12th & 13th - 14th September
2014

efсли Training
Antwerp, Belgium
15th - 16th September 2014

efсли Board

- **Peter Llewellyn-Jones**
President, Head of the International Department (England, ASLI)
- **Lieve Roodhooft**
Vice President, Treasurer and Head of the Training Department (Belgium, BVGT)
- **Josefina Kalousova**
Secretary to the Board, Liaison with efsli Committees (Czech Republic, CKTZJ)
- **Christian Peters**
Liaison with EUD and other Deaf (Interpreter) organisations (Germany, BGSD)
- **Jolanda Peverelli**
Head of the Publicity and Promotion Department (The Netherlands, NBTG)

efсли Staff

- **Lourdes Calle Alberdi**
efсли project coordinator (Spain)
- **Minke Salomé**
Administration (The Netherlands)
- **Andy Irvine**
Web Designer and Web Master (Scotland)

AGM and Conference

12-14 September 2014
efсли 2014 AGM and Conference
Antwerp, Belgium



"Mind tricks: Our brain is the limit. Cognitive processes in sign language interpreting"



Curious to see who the registered participants are and from which countries they're from?

<http://efсли.org/2014/participants/>

Dear Members

In my capacity as President of the European Forum of Sign language Interpreters, and in accordance with the efsli Constitution (as amended in 2010), I hereby formally announce that the 2014 Annual General Meeting of efsli will take place at the Radisson Blu Astrid Hotel, Koningin Astridplein 7, 2018 Antwerp, Belgium on Saturday 13 September.

All full, associate and individual members are invited to attend, as are interested observers. Only full members (National Associations of Sign Language Interpreters) in good standing are entitled to vote on any motions that may be put to the meeting. Associate and individual members, together with ratified observers, may address the AGM and/or contribute to the discussions at the invitation of the chair.

Please note: proposals for formal motions to be considered by the Annual General Meeting must be submitted to the efsli Secretariat (admin@efсли.org) no later than twelve (12) weeks prior to the meeting (see Article 4 on the next page).

On behalf of the Board and staff of efsli,

I hope that you are able to attend and we look forward to seeing you there.

Yours faithfully

Peter Llewellyn-Jones
President
European Forum of Sign Language Interpreters

ARTICLE 4 – ORGANISATION

Section 1. The Annual General Meeting

1. COMPETENCES - The Annual General Meeting (“AGM”) of Full Members shall have the following exclusive authority:
 - a. to approve the annual budgets and accounts;
 - b. to consider and vote on all submitted motions;
 - c. to appoint and dismiss Board members;
 - d. to expel non-paying Members from efsli;
 - e. to amend the Articles of association;
 - f. to dissolve and liquidate efsli.

AGM - The AGM shall take place once a year, convened by a letter from the President of efsli at a venue to be agreed upon by the Board. A letter of invitation and agenda for the meeting will be sent to Full, Associate and Individual Members at least eight (8) weeks prior to the date of the AGM. The AGM will be chaired by the President of efsli or, in the event of his/her absence, by a Board Member nominated by the Board. The AGM can also be chaired by an appointed external chairperson, approved before the start of the AGM by the full members.

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING – Extraordinary meetings may be called by the President after consultation with other Board Members or at the request of a minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of the Full Members. Such meetings shall require advance notice of at least twelve (12) weeks.

MOTIONS - Motions to be considered by the AGM shall be submitted to the Board at least twelve (12) weeks before the AGM date. Draft motions received by the Board shall be circulated to the membership at least eight (8) weeks before the AGM date.

QUORUM – The quorum for the AGM shall always comprise at least half of those entitled to vote, except for proposals for amendments in the Articles of Association or for the dissolution of efsli. By entitled we mean those registered representatives of the Full Member organisations physically present at the AGM and in good standing (see article 8.3 of the Internal Rules), as well as Postal Votes (see article 14.7 of the Internal Rules) of Full Members in good standing and Proxy Votes (See article 14.7 of the Internal Rules) of Full Members in good standing.

VOTE – Each Full Member is entitled to two (2) votes at the AGM. All questions/matters, except proposals for amendments in the Articles of Association or for the dissolution of efsli, may be decided by a simple majority vote. The expulsion of non-paying members shall be decided by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

MINUTES – Minutes of every AGM are drawn up by the secretary or the Board Member or appointed person designated by the President at the start of the Meeting, and signed by such secretary or person and the President. The minutes are kept in a separate binder, where they remain at the disposal of all Members and will be distributed to all full members within 6 months after the AGM. Third parties wishing to consult the minutes must address a request to the Board who shall decide to allow the request or not.

Efsli COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

The Committee of Experts, chaired by Prof. Lorraine Leeson of Trinity College Dublin, played a central part in the development of the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Guidelines published by efsli at the end of last year and launched at the European Parliament in December.

Since that project has come to an end we have been turning our thoughts to how the committee can best contribute to efsli in the future. The meetings of the Insign and Justisigns projects have given Peter, efsli's President, an opportunity to have discussions with three of the Committee's members, Lorraine Leeson, Jemina Napier and Myriam Vermeerbergen. As has already been reported, Beppie van den Bogaerde (the newly appointed Professor of Linguistics at The University of Amsterdam) has recently offered her services and Prof. Tobias Haug of the Interkantonal Hochschule für Heilpädagogic Zürich (University of Applied Sciences of Special Needs Education in Zurich) has also expressed an interest in becoming involved. All of the members have particular expertise in a range of disciplines that are central to efsli's work.

As the work and reach of efsli grows, the Board and committees are finding themselves involved in an increasing diversity of specialist areas from training to project development, research and consultancy.

One of the ideas we have discussed is that the Committee of Experts could form sub-committees made up of members with specific expertise to develop position papers and advise the efsli Board on its day to day work. Any position papers or policy developments could then be put to the Annual General Meeting for further discussion and, if felt appropriate, agreement.

The Board intends to continue these initial discussions with the Committee of Experts over the summer and, if we can come up with a feasible and useful plan, present this to the AGM in September.



efsli.org/shop

STOP PRESS!



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

European Funding

The European Commission has now confirmed that efsli has been awarded an 'Operating Grant' for this year, 2014. The grants for 2014 should have been available in January but the European Parliament failed to agree the EU budget on time, meaning that the funding of all activities was put on hold. We heard at the beginning of 2014 that applications for funding were, at last, being invited for this year and Lourdes and Peter spent many hours completing the applications for two different grants (knowing that we couldn't get both but hoping that two applications under different budget headings would increase our chances). The grant we have been given is under the Erasmus+ programme-Key action 3, Civil Society Cooperation in the Field of Education and Training, and you will now see the Erasmus+ logo appearing on the efsli websites, publications, certificates and correspondence.

It will take Lieve Roodhooft, the efsli Treasurer, Peter and the other members of the Board several days, perhaps even a couple of weeks, to go through the whole of this year's budget to see what can now be funded and what can't.

We are not quite 'out of the woods' yet because the money will only cover just over 50% of our expenditure this year and every cent we spend will have to be justified against the proposed work programme. Never-the-less, it has come as a great relief and we can now begin to plan accordingly. So, we have some very good news and quite a few smiles to take us into the summer!

JUSTISIGNS

The second meeting of the Justisigns partners was held at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh on 19th and 20th June. Professors Lorraine Leeson, Jemina Napier, Myriam Vermeerbergen, Graham Turner and Tobias Haug, together with Peter from efsli, were able to report on the progress they had made and Liese Katschinka, the President of EULITA, joined us by Skype for our discussions on the Friday. It was agreed that the project would need to focus on one particular aspect of legal interpreting as the field encompasses far too many different settings, from solicitors meetings to asylum hearings and high court trials. The meeting agreed that, in the first instance, the partners would concentrate on interpreting in police stations. Tobias and Peter have agreed to meet in Zurich in October to start designing a focused training course for sign language interpreters.

In the meantime, Heriot-Watt University, Trinity College Dublin and KU Leuven will concentrate on developing information and training for the Deaf Community and police forces across Europe. EULITA will be supporting all of the partners by providing information, experience and expertise relating to the provision of spoken language interpreting services in the various legal domains. There will be a short workshop on the Justisigns and Insign projects in Antwerp on Sunday 14th September, after the close of the efsli Conference.



ESOSLI 2014

The second conference for European student of sign language interpreting (ESOSLI) took place in Utrecht (the Netherlands) from the 29th of May until the 1st of June. This wonderful event was put together by a group of enthusiastic students from the Hogeschool Utrecht and around 200 students from all over Europe attended.

The conference was opened by a lecture given by Maya de Wit and Irma Sluis, who talked about the “quality of interpreting what makes a good interpreter and on what grounds do Deaf clients select their interpreter.” This two hour lecture included discussions and various activities and set a very high standard for all the following lectures and workshops.

From Friday afternoon until Sunday noon there was a wide range of workshops and lectures on offer (up to 4 at each time) and the participants were able to choose a topic that most interested them. The topics included: Basic NGT (Dutch Sign Language), International Sign, Deafblindness, Ethics and Attitudes, Working with a Deaf Client, Deaf Films as part of Deaf Culture, Simultaneous Interpreting: Cognitive Processes and Practical Strategies, Exploring Inuit Sign Language and many others. One of the workshops also introduced efsli and its activities to the student participants.

The conference was concluded by a lecture on Role-space given by Peter Llewellyn-Jones, which was one of the highlights of the programme.

On Sunday efsli offered individual membership for the participants and about 30 of them decided to join! Welcome to everybody!!

ESOSLI 2014 was definitely a success and we are looking forward to the next conference, which will be held in Finland in 2016.

Contact us

efsli website:
www.efsli.org

Facebook
**European Forum of Sign
Language Interpreters (efsli)**

Twitter:
@efsli

Email:
peter.llewellyn-jones@efsli.org
lieve.roodhooft@efsli.org
jolanda.peverelli@efsli.org
josefina.kalousova@efsli.org
christian.peters@efsli.org

lourdes.calle@efsli.org
admin@efsli.org

<http://esosli2014.wix.com/esosli2014>