

**Agenda for AGS Business Meeting,
Main Arts Building, LR4, University of Bangor, 30 August 2018**

1. Welcome and Apologies (ML)

Apologies from Georg Krawietz (DAAD)

Welcome to Joseph Russo (new PG/ECR rep)

Apologies from JR; Stephan Ehrig offers to represent JR in his absence

ML welcomed delegates to Bangor; the 81st meeting of AGS is her first as President ML emphasised the importance of AGS in difficult times, especially its vibrant research community, diverse community and ECR representation ML thanked Anna Saunders, Sarah Pogoda and Frauke Matthes for organising an excellent conference and event

2. Committee Business (ML)

Members' news

Conference dates:

- 2019 Bristol, provisionally 4-6th September
- 2020 Swansea
- 2021 TCD
- 2022 Lancaster
- 2023 Leeds

3. Committee Reports:

Vice-President (NM)

NM reminded members of deadlines for travel grants and publication subsidies and encouraged eligible members to apply

Treasurer (SD)

SD reported that AGS accounts are in good order with a healthy buffer; money is being used for grants and subsidies e.g. PG attendance and teachers' panel SD echoed NM's encouragement to apply for grants and subsidies (inc. volumes edited by ECRs)

SD thanked Christiane Schonfeld for her assistance in administrating the Irish account

SD reported that he is still investigating possibility of charitable status and encouraged feedback from members

Secretary (DO)

DO reported that membership numbers remain healthy and extended welcome to new PG members

DO reminded to members to check that standing orders are up to date

Publicity (SW)

SW thanked Duncan Large for running German Studies list; DL is standing down and the list will be run by Anna Saunders and SW; SW also thanked AS

SW encouraged members to explore the initiatives and support offered by the AHRC as a government scheme which explicitly welcomes applications from ML

Conference (FM)

FM thanked Anna Saunders and Sarah Pogoda for their help in organising the conference and for putting on the various events

FM encouraged panel submissions for the next conference, especially from ECRs and PGs

FM encouraged potential hosts for conferences post-2023 to get in touch

FM announced that she will be standing down as Conference Secretary after the 2019 conference in Bristol; she announced that a call for nominations will go out next summer, but that potential applicants should get in touch with her with informal enquiries

FM reminded members of AGS book launch at drinks reception

Postgraduate/ECR (SE for JR)

SE reported that the code of good practice discussed at the 2018 Business Meeting has been successfully implemented at Durham during the strikes; Durham will no longer hire on 9-mth contracts

Schools liaison and networks (SM)

SM announced the formalisation of networks meetings: the networks will now appear as two standing items (one at HoGMeet in the spring and one at AGS)

4. External Reports

German Embassy (Susanne Frane)

SF reported a successful teachers' awards ceremony, where Ian McEwan was guest speaker

SF announced the upcoming German careers fare in London which has 800 registrations; she encouraged members to promote this very successful and important event

SF reported support for a rejuvenated town twinning scheme

SF encouraged members to contribute ideas for the 100th anniversary of Bauhaus

SF announced that a conference has been planned with Centre for Anglo-German Relations as part of the celebration of 200 years of the V&A

SF thanked the regional Think German Networks and reminded members that full funding is available

IMLR (Godela Weiss Sussex)

GWS reminded members of the Annual DAAD/IMLR writing competition (deadline 5th October)

GWS announced that Andrea Capovilla has put together a very full programme for the Ingeborg Bachmann Centre

GWS reminded members to apply for the various schemes and funding offered by the IMLR (Sylvia Naish Fellowships; annual post-graduate student lecture; Bithell Series; conferences) and encouraged members to look at the full programme of events on the website)

WIGS (Katya Krylova)

KK announced that WIGS celebrates its 30th anniversary this year and that the 2018 conference will be held at Aston

KK reminded members that the deadline for the WIGS book prize is 1st September and for the PG essay prize 1st October

KK encouraged members to follow WIGS on social media

MLR (Mary Cosgrove)

MC encouraged members to submit articles to MLR

MC thanked reviewers - both peer reviewers and book reviewers - and encouraged PG reviewers to put themselves forward

MC announced that the MHRA is celebrating 100 years with a series of distinguished lectures, including lectures from speakers in Modern Languages

6. President's Business (ML)

AHRC Consultation

Following a summary from ML, members discussed various issues, including: advocacy, funding and training needs, HEIs' internationalisation strategies, refocusing on European languages, defining 'cultural' in 'cultural impact', grants, fostering relevant collaborations abroad, making languages a fundamental part of training toolkit.

Other associations

ML discussed with members possible links with other associations (British German Association, Youthbridge, Anglistenverband). It was decided that an invitation to participate in AGS conference should be extended to these other groups as an initial means of encouraging collaboration.

REF Consultation

Following a presentation from Charles Forsdick, members discussed matters relating to REF and the Modern Languages panel