

Future FIT destinations

SOME OF THE PLACES FIT WILL BE SEEN



BAKU MARCH '15
COUNCIL



PERU OCT '15
EC



HAVANNA DEC '16

FIT COUNCIL



FIT Council 2014-17

Thank you once again for demonstrating so much enthusiasm and such a diverse range of skills and knowledge in the first 6 months of this mandate. The Federation is blessed. Consequently, this also means that expectations will be greater from the wider Federation and beyond.

Regional Liaison

The first set of tasks and responsibilities entrusted to you are those concerning regional liaison. This may well be the most personal contact some of our members have had since they joined the FIT family. We often

Collectively, the Council has a wide range of expertise covering academic, finance, print & new media, professional practice and policy.

hear that individual associations feel distant from the Federation. Your role is to bring them closer to the Federation, and the Federation closer to them.

Communications

One of the first tasks successfully undertaken by this Council was the collaboration on the preparation of the first issue of *Translatio*. Special thanks go to Sabine Colombe, Jane Rollet and Catherine Hodot in this endeavour.

Effective Communication, be it internal or external, remains one of the Federation's key challenges as mentioned in the briefing paper I circulated to you earlier. I invite you to re-read the briefing and come up with some alternative/innovative ideas for building a sustainable and comprehensive communication strategy. As it stands, we currently have as

Webmaster (Eva Malkki)

Print Media (Sabine Colombe et al) including *Getting It Right* (Council liaison: Sandra Bertolini), and

Social Media (Henry Liu)

Research Taskforce (Reiner Heard)

One of two new "ministries" in this mandate. FIT is the voice of associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists around the world. But where is the evidence backing of what we are saying? The SFO Congress first expressed the as yet unmet need of position papers on topical and/or controversial issues. The crowdsourcing position paper prepared by the last Council is the first of such papers. This taskforce will be the infrastructure dedicated to assert the authority of FIT and providing specialised services to our member associations.

Events (Alison Rodriguez and Gangyi Wang)

As outlined at the closing ceremony in Berlin, the wider translation and interpreting community, along with the public, still see the next Congress (Brisbane 2017) and the Asian Translators Forum (Xi'an 2016) to be highlights of the FIT triennial calendar.

Standards and Credentialing (Izabel Arocha - FIT ISO representative, Alan Melby)

The main role of FIT is to be the collective strength of the profession, that is performing tasks that are often beyond the reach of individual members and addressing both international issues and regional issues (via Regional Centres).

Nimble & authoritative



The Byline of the Federation is the voice of association of professional translators, interpreters and terminologists around the world. In what way can we be the voice? And in what way can we be truly global?

Standards and credentialing are the core of modern professions. Standards Committee currently chaired by Alan Melby works actively in collaboration with our ISO representative. Some of you are involved in examination boards or mirror committees in your own countries within ISO or other regional standards and credentialing. FIT's role is to represent the diverse interest of translators, interpreters and terminologists across the different countries and sectors.

Training and Continuing Professional Education (Olga Egorova)

Berlin saw the momentous signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CIUTI. It is important that there is coordination of the transition from academic study (under the CIUTI's jurisdiction) to professional practice (under FIT's). Whilst FIT will not be a CPE provider, FIT member associations often are. It is important that FIT facilitates the co-operation at regional and national level by tapping into the resources of member associations as well as that of CIUTI in the provision of focused continuing professional education, especially in newer media, whilst ensuring that there is professional input into academic training.

Development (Eleanor Cornelius)

Article 4(g) of the Bylaws states one of the objectives of FIT is "to strengthen the international translators, interpreters and terminologists community by assisting the formation of associations in countries where they do not yet exist". Previously, there have been various attempts to attract new members. The purpose of this taskforce is to draft a "how to" guide for setting up a professional organisation and compile the different types of models of delivery models across different jurisdictions. The key pillars however are constant - transparent admission criteria; relevant continuing professional education and accountable complaints and disciplinary procedures with a Code of Ethics. This will also function as a resource, in addition to the e-group, for newer members of the Federation to enhancing their range of services.

Admission (Secretary General)

Article 60 of the Rules of Procedure stipulates the Secretary General will chair the admissions process. Rather than convening a committee, Sabine would like to the whole Council to be actively involved.

Within this mandate, I also want to discuss the issue of review of membership. At present, FIT membership is granted in perpetuity unless members fail to maintain good standing (i.e. fail to pay) or the activities of the member concerned have become incompatible with the purposes of FIT (Article 18 of Bylaws).

Should there be a formal process of review? Should there be a consideration of how representative an organisation ought to be in order to be eligible for FIT membership? What is the FIT position on multiple organisations within a jurisdiction?

Administration (Secretary General and Executive Director)

These are the unsung heroes who ensure that the Federation functions and that we respond to the needs of our members in a timely fashion.

Finance & Investment (Treasurer)

Investment taskforce is only convened when the Federation has major decision regarding asset management. The day-to-day as well as the strategic forecasting of the finance of the Federation is the responsibility of the Treasurer.

Awards (Denis Bousquet)

As most of you have seen first hand at the Congress, this is a major undertaking showcasing and honouring the best of our profession. Denis has provisionally agreed to continue his role outside of the Council.

Solidarity Fund (Reiner Heard)

Originally proposed by the Norwegians, this fund is an example of solidarity within the Federation and the wider profession, assisting member associations in the time of need, especially in circumstances beyond their control.

Visibility and International Relations (Henry Liu)

During this mandate, visibility is a specifically budgeted item to reflect its priority. This is not really a committee or taskforce or “ministry” rather just to make sure that we all know the importance of building stronger relations with other organisations to produce concrete benefits. This is the area in which FIT is and should continue to specialise in, providing services and credibility to member associations otherwise beyond their means. If you have specific contacts in international organisations, like IoC, FIFA, Expo, MSF, International Red Cross, NATO etc. Please let me know.

Committee & Midterm review

Arising from the mandate of 2008-2011 where there was almost completely new Council, coinciding with the retirement of the then ED, Diane McKay, it was decided that there is a 9 month “décarlage” between the Statutory Congress/Council Election and the appointment of Committees/Taskforces. There will be a call for nomination around the time of the Council Meeting with a view to appointment of Committee / Taskforce in May. Currently there are the following committees, not all of which will be reconstituted. New committees/taskforces can also be constituted for a specifically demonstrated need or concrete project.

Audio-Visual

Prizes

Bibliography

International Database
of Complaints &
Disciplinary Process

Copyright

Education &
Development &
Training

Human Rights

Literary Translation

Legal Interpreting &
Translation

Medical

Public Relations

Terminology

Culture & Translation

Technology

Standards

This is a living document

Whilst the Council Strategy is an active plan with flexibility and nimbleness to adapt over time and to respond to contingencies, this should give some idea of the specific aims of this mandate and the concrete results this Council hopes to deliver by the time of Brisbane 2017.

I also intend to review these structures, directions and interim results in 18 months time in addition to the regular update at Council meetings.