



August 2014

A successful Statutory Congress was held in Berlin on 2 and 3 August 2014, at which 53 regular members were represented, either by delegations or through proxies. The retiring Council also held a meeting the day before the Congress and the new Council a brief inaugural meeting the morning after. Our thanks go to the Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer e.V. (BDÜ – German Federal Association of Interpreters and Translators) for hosting us. The Congress discussed a wide range of issues and there was a good spirit of finding the best solutions for the Federation and the profession. The following are the highlights of these events; the full report on the Congress will be made available as soon as possible.

Membership

Candidate members were ratified and we welcome the following as full members of the Federation:

Regular members:

- The National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators
- Association de Traducteurs et Interprètes professionnels du Congo (ATIPCO)
- Ordre des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec (OTTIAQ)
- The Azerbaijan Youth Translators Association (AGTA)
- Association luxembourgeoise des traducteurs et interprètes (ALTI)
- The Italian Association of Conference Interpreters (ASSOINTERPRETI)
- The Czech Association of Conference Interpreters (ASKOT) as a regular member
- Asociación de Traductores e Intérpretes del Ecuador (ATIEC)
- The Slovak Association of Translators and Interpreters (SAPT)

Associate members

- The Legal Translation Section, Qatar Supreme Judiciary Council (SJC)
- The Department of Translation and Interpretation of Atilim University, Turkey
- The Xi'an International Studies University

The membership of the following observer members was noted:

- The Association of Translators, Interpreters and Teachers of Foreign Languages of Uzbekistan
- The International Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters (IAPTI)

Unfortunately, the membership of some associations had to be terminated for non-payment of their dues:

- The Hong Kong Translation Society Ltd
- The Iraqi Translators Association
- The Jordanian Translators' Association
- The Masters of Literary Translation (Russia)
- Organización Mexicana de Traductores Capítulo Occidente
- Société hélienne des traducteurs de littérature
- École Supérieure Roi Fahd de Traduction
- The Euro-Schulen Organisation
- Universidad Intercontinental, Escuela de Traducción (Mexico)

Two members had resigned from FIT:

- Swedish Writers' Union, Translators' Section
- Translatørforeningen (Denmark)

Institution life

The reports of the Council, executive director, regional centres and FIT committees were approved by the Congress. Two new developments in the past few weeks were noted: the finalisation of a position paper on crowdsourcing and the creation of an e-group for member associations to talk directly to one another. It was formally decided to discontinue the Federation's ID card programme. The accounts for the past three years were approved. Five new honorary advisors were appointed: Adolfo Gentile, Andrew Evans, Frans De Laet, Peter Krawutschke and Marion Boers.

Looking forward

The Congress considered the proposals of the Organisational Development Committee for streamlining FIT's operations and considered the amendments to the by-laws and rules of procedure proposed by the committee and the Council, the majority of which were passed. A new strategic vision document was accepted to guide the Council's work. After extensive discussion, members voted for an average 10% increase in dues, with a rise in the ceiling for regular members to CHF 4,500. A new system of standing committees and task forces was introduced.

A highlight of the proceedings was the signing of memoranda of understanding with CIUTI (Conférence Internationale Permanente des Instituts Universitaires de Traducteurs et interprètes) and EULITA (European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association), the latter with FIT Europe. A second highlight was the issuing by the Congress of a resolution in support of interpreters, translators and terminologists in conflict areas, which was later endorsed by the participants at the open congress.

Council 2014-2017

The following members were elected to the Council to serve FIT up to the next Congress:

- Henry Liu, NZSTI – New Zealand Society of Translators and Interpreters (New Zealand), President
- Reiner Heard, ATICOM – Fachverband der Berufsübersetzer und Berufsdolmetscher e.V. (Germany), Vice-President
- Silvana Marchetti, ACTI – Cuban Association of Translators and Interpreters (Cuba), Vice-President
- Terence Oliver, ITI – Institute of Translation and Interpreting (UK), Vice-President
- Sabine Colombe, SFT – Société française des traducteurs (France), Secretary-General
- Reina de Bettendorf, APTI – Panamanian Association of Translators and Interpreters (Panama), Treasurer
- Alan Melby, ATA – American Translators Association (USA)
- Alison Rodriguez, AUSIT – Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators
- Eleanor Cornelius, SATI – South African Translators' Institute (South Africa)
- Eva Malkki, SKTL – Finnish Association of Translators and Interpreters (Finland)
- Gangyi Wang, TAC – Translators Association of China (China)
- Ismayil Jabrayilov, AGTA – Azerbaijan Youth Translators Association (Azerbaijan)
- Kevin Quirk, NFF – Norwegian Non-Fiction Writers and Translators Association (Norway)
- Maria Mousafiri, PAT – Panhellenic Association of Translators (Greece)
- Olga Egorova, UTR – Union of Translators of Russia (Russia)
- Robert Ensor, NGTV – Netherlands Society of Interpreters and Translators (Netherlands)
- Sandra Bertolini – AITI – Associazione Italiana Traduttori e Interpreti (Italy)

Congress 2017

The bid to hold the 2017 FIT congress was won by AUSIT of Australia, and the congress will take place in Brisbane in August of that year.

FIT Prizes 2014

The FIT Prizes were awarded as part of the Statutory Congress this year, except for the Pierre-François Caillé Memorial Medal, which was awarded at the closing ceremony of the open congress. We thank all our member associations who made nominations, those who served as members of the various juries (all volunteers), the members of the FIT Prizes Task Force (Denis Louis Bousquet – chair, Beatriz Rodriguez, Benny Hoed and Irene Yuan), and Denis Bousquet and FIT executive director Jeannette Ørsted for administering the whole process. The winners were:

- Astrid Lindgren Prize for the Translation of Children's Literature: **Ms Julia Lydia Calzadilla Núñez**, nominated by the Cuban Association of Translators and Interpreters (ACTI)
- "Aurora Borealis" Prize for Outstanding Translation of Fiction Literature: **Prof. Xu Yuanchong**, nominated by the Translators' Association of China (TAC)
- "Aurora Borealis" Prize for Outstanding Translation of Non-fiction Literature: **Ms Metella Paterlini**, nominated by the Italian Association of Translators and Interpreters (AITI)
- Karel Čapek Medal for Translation from a Language of Limited Diffusion: **Ms Kari Kemény**, nominated by the Norwegian Association of Literary Translators (NO)
- FIT Prize for Best Periodical: **ITI Bulletin** published by the Institute of Translators and Interpreters in the UK, with an Honourable Mention going to the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario (ATIO) newsletter **InformATIO**

- FIT Prize for Best Website: awarded jointly to **www.iti.org.uk** and **www.universitas.org** – the websites of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting (UK) and Universitas (Austria)
- FIT Prize for Excellence in Scientific and Technical Translation (new in 2014): **Md Svetla Moutafova**, nominated by the Bulgarian Translators' Union.
- FIT Prize for Interpreting Excellence (new in 2014): **Dorothy Charbonneau**, nominated by the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario (ATIO)
- Pierre-François Caillé Memorial Medal for a contribution to the profession at an international level: **Bente Christensen**, nominated by the Norwegian Association of Literary Translators (NO)

World Congress

Almost 1,600 delegates attended an extremely well-organised and enjoyable Open Congress, which included the celebration of FIT's 60th anniversary with a birthday party one evening. There was a huge range of presentations on a wide variety of topics and an interesting set of exhibitors and a job exchange. All in all, delegates had only complimentary things to say about the event!

Please see the congress website for feedback and photos: www.fit2014.org.