

Extraordinary General Meeting

Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain 2021-2022

Minutes

Time: 18:00 UTC

Date: 21st March, 2022

Place: Zoom

Minutes: Louis Van Steene (National Secretary)

Agenda

1. Election of Local Chair/Host Institution for ULAB 2022
2. Election of Social Media Coordinator
3. Election of Institutional Representatives
4. Amendments to the Constitution
5. Resolutions
6. Close of the meeting

National Committee Members

Clíodhna Hughes (CH)

Hafren Vaughan (HV)

Louis Van Steene (LVS)

Beatrix Livesey-Stephens (BLS)

Caitlin Wilson (CW)

Lydia Wiernik (LW)

Stephanie Jat (SJ)

Eloise Parr (EP)

Tom Williamson (TW)

Roma Dhasmana (RD; absent)

ULAB Subcommittee Members in attendance

Local Committee: Olivia Szczerbakiewicz (OS), Joana Počopkaitė (JP)

Institutional Representatives: Cecilia Tang (CT), Michael Goessler (MG)

JouLAB Editorial Committee: Liam McKnight (LM)

U-Lingua Editorial Team: OS, TW

Total attendance (peak): 15

Duration: 1 hour, 30 minutes

1. Election of Local Chair/Host Institution for ULAB 2022

Candidates: Caitlin Wilson (University of Edinburgh), Re-Open Nominations

Speech:

- Current Vice-Chair.
- Edinburgh is a great location.
- Secured over £4000 in funding.
- Rooms have been secured: 4 rooms in University's Central Campus, with live stream capability.
- Already sold over 80 in-person tickets, as well as a number of online tickets.
- Lots of work already done on scheduling and the programme.
- CW has been working very hard, and certainly deserves to be elected into the role!

Points of discussion:

- BLS: really impressed by CW's drive to make a powerpoint, which is a cherry on top of the fantastic ULAB Local Chair cake.
- SJ: CW very efficient worker, will organise conference to utmost standard.
- OS: absolute support and endorsement of CW.

Vote: 12, 0

Caitlin Wilson is duly elected Local Chair.

2. Election of Social Media Coordinator

Candidates: Bea Livesey-Stephens (University of Aberdeen), Re-Open Nominations

Speech:

- Has been part of ULAB for a while, Local Chair last year.
- Has been managing social media alongside RD for a few months.
 - Revived LinkedIn.
 - Posting eye-catching graphics at least twice a week.
 - Increased following by at least 40 followers in past month.
- The key to a good social media strategy is consistency.
- If elected, would oversee another IR takeover.

Points of discussion:

- TW: will you consider taking this role up at the AGM? BLS: yes.
- General concurrence that BLS has been doing a great job and deserves the role.

Vote: 14, 0

Bea Livesey-Stephens is duly elected Social Media Coordinator.

3. Election of Institutional Representatives

There are no candidates.

4. Amendments to the Constitution

Amendment 1: New Clause (4.1.2 item 5) - Local Vice Chair

Points of discussion:

- TW: would it be simpler instead to have a nominated person on the LC to fulfil this purpose
 - CW: we do usually have a Local Vice Chair anyway.
 - TW: what does Local Vice Chair do specifically?
 - BLS: Local Vice Chair is also important and also more suited to stepping up to fulfil role.
- SJ: does this apply to NC? Why shouldn't it?
 - CH: there is an existing procedure for NC. For LC, there is more time pressure.
 - LVS: time pressure is an important concern; makes more sense to re-elect in the case of NC.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 13, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 2: New Clause (3.2.14 item 5) - Local Vice Chair

Points of discussion:

- CH: pretty much the same as the previous one.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 14, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 3: Revise Clause (4.6 item 2) - Local Vice Chair

Points of discussion:

- TW: sounds dodge. Agree with second point (that host institution shouldn't necessarily be up for election). But the first bit seems to allow too much.
 - LM: it's only we can do what we like if we lose a Local Chair, which is already an emergency situation.
 - TW: don't think this is sufficient - there always needs to be a proper procedure in place.
- TW: likely not needed anyway - if Local Chair drops out, then Local Vice Chair will immediately assume role of Local Chair, and a Local Vice Chair will immediately be appointed and would hence be the successor, as per amendments 1 & 2.
- LVS: clause probably not necessary on top of previous amendments, since this is already a pretty impossible/complicated scenario, and if such a scenario arose that wasn't already sufficiently covered by amendments 1 & 2 we should just host an EGM anyway.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 3, 7, 3

The amendment does **not** pass.

Amendment 4: Correct JoULAB committee name (1 item 3)

Points of discussion:

- TW is very convinced by this one.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 12, 0, 1

The amendment passes.

Amendment 5: Correct plural (3.2.9 item 2)

Points of discussion:

- CT: “that do be how the plural works”

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 13, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 6: Correct plural 2 (4.3 item 1)

Points of discussion:

- None.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 13, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 7: Change Journal Editor requirements (3.2.9 item 3)

Points of discussion:

- BLS has no qualms.
- CH spots and LM fixes a typo.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 12, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 8: Secretary newsletter (3.2.3 item 2)

Points of discussion:

- LVS resoundly justifies the clause.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 13, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 9: Secretary data protection (3.2.3 item 3)

Points of discussion:

- LVS: basically the same as the last one.
- BLS: what specifically do you mean by relevant?
 - LVS: both encourages more attention to be paid and in general is more specific.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 13, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 10: Capitalise M (3.2.3 item 5)

Points of discussion:

- None.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 12, 0, 1

The amendment passes.

Amendment 11: Website accounts for all (3.2.6 item 2)

Points of discussion:

- LVS: me fixing things I wrote last year, and I’ve kinda been doing this anyway.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 12, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 12: New Webmaster clause (3.2.6 item 4)

Points of discussion:

- LM/SJ: good to ensure that this is in the constitution!

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 12, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 13: Henceforth / herein (5.4 item 1)

Points of discussion:

- None.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 12, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Amendment 14: Rewording of Website purpose (5.4 item 3)

Points of discussion:

- LVS: previous wording horrible, new wording nice.
- LW: archives good, concise wording good.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 12, 0, 0

The amendment passes.

Further amendments?

- LM: is it worth allowing NC to fix grammar mistakes and small inconsistencies without an EGM?
 - TW: slippery slope! Where does it end?
 - LM: will propose this in the AGM.
 - SJ: something like “Members of the National Committee reserve the right to correct any perceived grammatical or typographical errors in the Constitution, dependent on a two-thirds majority within the NC.” ****ACTION LM/SJ****
- BLS: should we officially designate Artie as our mascot in the Constitution?
 - TW: what if Artie gets cancelled?
 - LM: what if vowel quadrilateral model gets superseded?
 - BLS: can just hold an EGM.
 - BLS & CH draft a new clause. Upon realising that we don't have a branding clause at all yet, CH also adds details of the logo into the same clause.

Amendment 15: Branding (1 item 6)

Points of discussion:

- None.

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 9, 0, 1

The amendment passes.

5. Resolutions

No resolutions proposed.

6. Close of the meeting