

ALLC AGM at Hamburg

Agenda

1. Attendance

Committee: John Nerbonne (President, Meeting Chair) (JN)
Lisa Lena Opas-Hanninen (Chair) (LLOH)
Paul Spence (Treasurer) (PS)
Melissa Terras (Secretary) (MT)
Dino Buzzetti (DiB)
Øyvind Eide (ØE)
Tomoji Tabata (TT)
Karina van Dalen-Oskam (KvDO)
David Beavan (DaB)
Edward Vanhoutte (EV)
Jan Rybicki (JR)
Leif Isaksen (LI)

Apologies: Jan-Christoph Meister (JCM)

A record was taken of other members attending for logging in the attendance book later.

2. Minutes and Matters arising

Members were asked to check the minutes from the Stanford 2011 meeting as the meeting progressed. These minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. Reports

3.1 Chair's report

JN reported that he has been acting as chair of ALLC for a few months. There was a (low budget) mid-term meeting in Wassenaar, with the objective to discuss ways in which we could increase membership. JN reported that it is difficult to count membership, and we think there is room to increase membership. At the meeting the committee talked at length about the name change, which will be covered later in this meeting. We agreed further support for our website with JCM. Finally JN reported that ALLC is talking with a German Chapter about alliances with ALLC, and this raises the question of how to develop regional chapters associated with ALLC.

3.2 Secretary's report

MT thanked Espen Ore for taking minutes and keeping records when she was on maternity leave. MT began secretarial duties again in December 2012. MT asked the membership to carry on getting involved in elections, etc.

3.3 Treasurer's report

PS reported that membership growth was going well, but that there was room for improvement, and encouraged existing members to get new members to sign up, given that subscription to LLC is the mechanism by which all ADHO activities take place. PS talked about the reserves that we have and the need for expenditure: last year we subsidized a number of activities which are detailed in the treasurer's report. PS showed accounts to the meeting and talked through the different initiatives funded by the committee. PS encouraged the membership to approach us with proposals when the call comes out in the autumn.

3.4 Membership report

DaB reported on membership issues. Subscribers to LLC are now up to 503, the highest we have ever had. More than half of those are members of ALLC, as there are now 310 members of the association. DaB reported frustrations with the renewal process, and is now working with OUP to resolve these issues with the OUP system. DaB encouraged the membership to keep in touch if they have any issues and to capture any problems to feed back to OUP. DaB thanked the membership for their perseverance.

There was a question about automatic renewal process, and how it had failed. DaB will report this back to OUP.

The ADHO steering committee has set up a workgroup to tackle strategic matters with OUP, and ALLC are represented on this by DaB and Harold Short.

4. Elections

Members Elected: David Beavan, Tomoji Tabata (2nd term), Maurizio Lana. They begin as (regular) members after the summer meeting.

Co-opted: Leif Isaksen (unable to stand for election due to technicality)

Melissa Terras – Secretary (2012-15)

John Nerbonne – President (2012-15).

5. Communications

EV reported on LLC. He thanked Femke Vandeveld and Stéfan Sinclair for their work on the Journal and Marilyn Deegan in particular for her role as Consulting Editor with the Journal in 2011. EV was happy to report that they have accurate figures from OUP about the timing of acceptance and resubmission etc – which gives positive feedback about the publication process. Submission to first decision is 110 days, overall 230 days to final decision, which the press and editors are happy with. We can improve this if we have reviewers that can stick to their deadlines. Acceptance rates for 2012 is 82%, acceptance

rates for the period 2005-2012 is 68%. The investment on working together with authors and reviewers in the revising of papers pays off and the acceptance rate for papers after revision is 94%. There have been two issues published this year so far, and two more issues lined up. There are links with DHQ, where DHQ are publishing data files and sound files that relate to papers in ALLC. Some papers will be published in Open Access, in an editor's choice, which is another way to show the relevance of the Journal to a wider academic audience.

The chair thanked EV for his work on the journal.

6. ADHO

OE reported on particular issues from the ADHO meeting that apply to ALLC. There are now 5 constituent organisations, and this year there will be 6 with the joining of the Japanese Association of Digital Humanities, and the role ALLC had in encouraging this development was acknowledged.

OE reported on ADHO infrastructures issues, which will now have significant investment to sort out a shared infrastructure.

7. Conferences

JN thanked JCM for his work on organising DH2012. JN thanked PS for his work as PC.

Next year we will be in Nebraska. 2014 will be in Lausanne, chaired by MT from ALLC.

8. Association initiatives

There will be a funding call from ALLC for small proposals in the autumn.

There was a discussion about whether or not we can include a German Chapter, DHD (Digital Humanities Deutschland) within the ALLC framework, developing a model for involving the national groups that exist across Europe.

Name change. The committee proposed to change the name to ALLC: the European Association for Digital Humanities. There was a discussion about the needs and reasons for this. We wish to emphasize that we are European in focus and the scholarly work is broader than literature and linguistics. Finally, although we might have dropped the acronym 'ALLC' altogether, we are proud to continue the organization. The floor was opened to the membership and a discussion ensued. The name change will be adopted, given the reasonable level of support at the meeting, and barring legal problems with a name change (see 9).

9. Any other Business

There was a question about the legal ramifications regarding the change to the name of the association. LLOH and PS and JN will be following this up.

There was a question about the ALLC AGM: in years when there was not a meeting in Europe, would there be a meeting for membership in Europe? A discussion ensued, with a reminder that there could be funding available in the autumn funding call, should someone want to organize such a meeting.

EV was congratulated for his retro-digitization of LLC bulletin and LLC journal.

The chair closed the meeting at 1.30pm.