

Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies

Annual General Meeting

11th October 2017, University of Stirling, Stirling, Scotland

MINUTES

Introductions and apologies

Amanda Sacker welcomed SLLS members to the AGM. A quorum of members was present (N=44), including the following Executive Committee Members:

- Amanda Sacker (AS), President
- Ingrid Schoon (IS), Treasurer
- Hans-Peter Blossfeld (PB), Past President
- Elizabeth Webb (EW), Member
- Heather Joshi (HJ), Journal editor
- Aisling Murray (AM), Member
- Michelle Kelly-Irving (MKI), Member
- Mark Hayward (MH), Member
- Ludovica Gambaro (LG), Early Career Rep
- Jessica Abell (JA), Early Career Rep
- Dario Spini (DS), Member
- Dale Dannefer (DD), Member
- Tony Robertson (TR), Local Rep

1. President's Report (AS)

Noted: The Society celebrated the 8th annual conference in Stirling. The location of the 2018 conference is in Milan on 9-11 July, an earlier time of year than usual. We do not have a location for the 2019 conference. Members were encouraged to speak to the Executive Committee if they were interested in hosting the 2019 conference.

Agreed: Many thanks were extended to Tony Robertson and his local team and to Cat Westlake, SLLS, for their organisation of the 2017 Conference. The membership was grateful to Sveva Magaraggia from the University of Milano-Bicocca for taking the lead on the 2018 conference.

Noted: The society was delighted to be able to present three prizes again in 2017: (i) the LIVES Best Paper Award to Christian Brzinsky-Fay; (ii) the John Bynner Distinguished Scholar Award; and (iii) the Best Poster Award. The recipients of the last two awards will be announced at the conference dinner.

Noted: The following changes to the Executive Committee were announced: Hans-Peter Blossfeld and Mark Haywood completed their terms on the Committee, Michelle Kelly-Irving was elected as an ordinary member for a 2nd term, Ingrid Schoon was elected as the new President Elect, replacing Ingrid as Finance secretary will be Elizabeth Webb, and Meena Kumari was voted in as an ordinary member by the SLLS membership.

Agreed: Many thanks were offered to Hans-Peter Blossfeld and Mark Haywood who were offered a small token of appreciation and congratulations to the new President Elect, Finance Secretary and Ordinary members of the Executive Committee.

2. Finance (IS)

Noted: The society is holding its own and its accounts are balanced. As of September 2017, the society has a balance of around £40k, but this does not include all the income and expenditure from the conference yet. The conference promises to make a small profit, of around \$15k (with many thanks to Tony and his team). Moreover, the society has received a most generous donation of £20k from an anonymous donor without strings attached (our deepest gratitude to the generous donor). We should make good use of this donation to improve the profile of the society and in particular our journal.

Noted: Our bank, the Co-operative Bank is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) which provides protection for £85k. However, a critical issue is that the Co-operative bank will discontinue its Euro accounts as from December 2017 and the society has to look for new locations to deposit its Euro funds. It was agreed that we should look into an E-banking account and explore different offers. Since IS will resign her position as treasurer as from next year, Elisabeth Webb has agreed to join IS in the search for a fitting solution.

3. Membership

Noted: In the absence of Michael Shanahan, AS reported that membership was steady.

4. LLCS Journal (HJ)

Noted: The standing of the journal continues to improve on the metric of citations in Thompson Reuters Emerging Sources Citation Index.

Noted: SLLS members were encouraged to submit papers to the journal as this will help the journal to get an Impact Factor. The difficulties for members from the biomedical sciences were acknowledged.

5. SLLS Summer School (LG)

Noted: The 7th summer school in longitudinal and life course research was held in Zurich in August 2017. As in previous years it was self-funding, attracting 42 students from 17 countries. LG attended in her role as SLLS representative. The location of the 2018 summer school has yet to be agreed.

6. SLLS Policy Group (AM)

Noted: AM organised two symposia and a Policy Group Lunch for SLLS 2017.

Noted: There is an online forum which members were encouraged to join.

7. Early Career (JA)

Noted: ECR activities at the conference include a dinner in a local pub and two tables reserved for ECR at lunch on Wednesday. The latter was very successful and appreciated by ECR members.

8. Interdisciplinary Health Group (MKI)

Noted: Silke Tophoven, one of the conveners of the group is leaving academia. She has been integral to the group's success and will be greatly missed.

Noted: The group organised two symposia and a lunch for SLLS 2017. A half-day workshop after the main conference has been organised that is piloting a format with fewer and shorter lectures, combined with practical & group work sessions.

Noted: There is now an IHR group forum set up on the SLLS website and an email list for one-way communications.

9. A.O.B.

Noted: David Blane asked for further clarification on the membership. There has been approximately 300 – 350 individual members in the last few years. Our current membership is at a peak of 344 with representatives from 22 countries.

10. Date of next meeting

Noted: The 2018 AGM will take place during the SLLS 2018 Conference in Milan, July 9-11.