

# SLLS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25 September 2019, 17:15 – 18:30

University of Potsdam, Germany

(32 members in attendance)

## MINUTES

### 1. Executive Committee Election Results (Ingrid Schoon)

Congratulations to our new members of the Executive Team, including Dario Spini in his new role as President elect, Wolfgang Lauterbach, our new General Secretary, Mary Clare Lennon, and our two new early career representatives Stella Tsoli and Gergö Baranyi. A big thank you to Amanda Sacker (past president), Michael Shanahan (previous General Secretary), Ludovica Gambaro and Jessica Abell (previous early career representatives) for their continued support for the society.

### 2. Other announcements (Ingrid Schoon)

The 2020 SLLS conference will be held in Vilnius, Lithuania, from 5-7 October 2020. Workshops will be held on 4 October 2020. Please note the dates.

The winner of the 2019 John Bynner Distinguished Scholar award is Prof. Karl Ulrich Mayer, who will present his keynote on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

The winner of the LIVES Best Paper Award for Early Career Researchers is: Liliya Leopold from the University of Amsterdam.

The winners of the SLLS best Poster award are Josephine Jackisch from Stockholm University and Liam Wright, University College London.

### 3. Finance (Tony Robertson)

The society is in a stable financial position, with an operating profit of £14,604. We can however not stay complacent, as we expect a small deficit for 2020 due to a number of issues, including a decline in membership numbers; higher costs due to our new contract with Bristol University Press to manage our journal; uncertainty due to Brexit with associated additional costs for fees, transactions, and potentially higher costs for organizing the 2020 conference. There has also been a loss in strength of the British Pound against other currencies.

### 4. Membership (Tony Robertson)

The number of members has been declining since last year, reducing from 310 active members in December 2018 to 217 active members in 2019. There is usually a spike in membership renewals in January/February and August/September of each year, but not this year. The biggest drop was in corporate members, followed by ordinary members. There might be a number of reasons for this drop: our move to British University Press (BUP) which is now managing the membership base and is sending out the invoices. The change from a rolling to calendar year system by BUP. Another reason might be the timing of the 2018 conference in Milan, which did not require existing members to renew their membership for 2019. There are also new

restrictions due to GDPR regulations, requiring permission to contact individuals on our mailing lists. We are starting a new membership drive in October, winning back members for whom membership has lapsed and recruiting new members.

**5. Longitudinal and Life Course Studies Journal** (Ingrid Schoon represented Heather Joshi who was ill)

The journal continues to flourish. Since 2019 the management of the journal has been handled by Bristol University Press (BUP). We have now published 2 issues with BUP. In 2019 we also have been awarded an impressive first impact factor by Thomson Reuter of 0.911. A big thank you goes to Heather and her editorial team.

**6. Early Career (Ludovica Gambaro)**

SLLS is keen to welcome early career researchers and have organized a number of events (such as a joint dinner and lunch, meeting with the editor, etc.) which have been well received. Ludovica Gambaro and Jessica Abell have specified some tips and tricks for presenting and publishing. The information can be found on the SLLS website.

**7. Summer School (Matthias Studer)**

The 2019 SLLS summer school was organized by Matthias Studer at Geneva. The summer school was well attended, by over 40 delegates from 16 countries. During the 5 days of the summer school, each day had a different focus, including classes on multi-level modelling, event history, sequence analysis and structural equation modeling. Participants recruited from different disciplines, including epidemiology, sociology, demography, psychology, and statistics. The organization of the 2020 SLLS summer school is still open.

**8. Global Reps (Stasja Draisma):**

During 2019 the number of Global Representatives has been increasing from 22 to 26. The 'Global Reps' had a meeting during the conference, at which they discussed relevant tasks for each representative to pursue in their country. Suggestions, and plans for 2020 include:

- i. To establish an active social media (Facebook/Twitter) group with one person in charge
- ii. Survey of all Global Reps regarding existing longitudinal studies, research teams, and key issues in their respective countries
- iii. Using information from the existing cohort network to contact key stakeholders within their respective countries

Stasja will step back from her role as representative of the global reps and pass this task to Christian Brzinsky-Fay and Stéphane Cullati.

**9. Interdisciplinary Health Group (Noriko Cable)**

The interdisciplinary health group has organized a conference workshop as well as 4 symposia for the 2019 conference. They have a very active Twitter account with 521 followers, in the majority from UK/US/Canada/Europe. The aim is to expand its reach further on a global scale. They are open to new ideas of how to achieve this.

**10. Policy Group (Aisling Murray)**

Aisling presented the work of the policy group, which had a number of presentations and symposia at this year's conference. It is planned to open a new twitter account to promote the activities of the group and refer to interesting published papers in the field of longitudinal research applications. The group is open to new ideas and global perspectives.

**11. New Working Group: Life course and longitudinal studies of refugee populations**

Ben Edwards (The Australian National University) organised a workshop and will establish a new working group on this topic.

**12. 2020 SLLS Conference in Vilnius (Rita Zukauskiene)**

Rita Zukauskiene presented a very inviting and cheerful powerpoint presentation to showcase the facilities and cultural context of the 2020 SLLS conference in Vilnius. A big thank you to Rita for hosting the conference in 2020.