

# ESLR Annual General Meeting

Date / Place	Attendance (Apologies)
Thursday, 19 November 2020 / Online	22 members of the Society, including: Dominik, Edith, Marco, Rachel, Riana, Sabine, Steffi

Minutes taken by: Marco

## 1. Welcome

- Marco opens AGM, thanking everyone who attended the Zoom meeting
- Points out that the AGM is an important part of a functioning society as it is the time when the committee explains what the society has been up to and where it is heading next; this is also an opportunity for the members to raise issues or give feedback
- Outline for this year's AGM:
  - Determining quorum
  - Annual report: presentation and approval
  - Treasurer's account: presentation and approval (Edith)
  - Membership report (Sabine)
  - Journal Cultured Scene (Rachel)
  - Confirmation of the Committee members
  - Motions (opportunity to ask questions)
  - Closure: any other questions/Happy Hour

## 2. Quorum

- Quorum is 16 as list of members is now 32
- **Quorum is reached (22)**

## 3. Annual report by the Chair

1. Approval of the annual report from 2019
2. Workshops
  - 3rd ESLR Workshop 2019 in Leipzig "From Theory to Data and Back Again"
  - "Strategic Social Learning Online Meeting" in September 2020 with 10 talks and 71 registered participants (initially planned as EHBEA Satellite meeting in Krakow in April)
  - 4th ESLR Workshop, Konstanz [postponed to 2021] "Tracing Transmission - From Nodes to Networks"
3. Members
  - Institutional Map with all Institutions where our members are located
  - Members directory planned for 2021 with information about current career stage, affiliation and research interests. This should increase visibility of our members and interactions between them
  - "Faces of ESLR" in the Newsletter and on Cultured Scene to promote our members
  - Zoom Happy Hours (each last Friday of the month) to have informal chats and get to know each other

- New website content like “Recommended Readings” with literature tips for newcomers or the “Crucial Guide” which provides a rich source of useful resources
- Posters to promote the Society (can be downloaded from the website)

#### 4. Cultured Scene

- The Society published many new articles on the newly designed website. The URL [www.cultured-scene.org](http://www.cultured-scene.org) is finally working thanks to our new web consultant Nic Garner. We worked with our new design consultant Alessandro Calzetta on a new design of the pdf-version of Cultured Scene which will be finalized soon.

#### 5. New Co-opted Committee Members

- The Society co-opted Stefanie Gierzewski and Riana Minocher as additional Journal Secretaries and Dominik Deffner as Social Secretary. Furthermore we could acquire Nic Garner as Web Consultant to help us with the websites and Alessandro Calzetta as Design Consultant to deal with all kinds of design issues.

#### What's next?

- Members' directory, starting 2021
- Growing Crucial Guide
- Adding new issues to Cultured Scene
- Pre-conference meetings (pandemic permitting)
- Organising one further online event (seminar/workshop)
- More Happy Hours
- Continue efforts to gain members outside of Europe

There were no further questions on the Annual Report

- Vote on approval of Annual Report – outcome: **approved unanimous**

#### **4. Annual financial statement presented by the Treasurer**

- Edith is informing the Society that *Max Planck Institute for Animal Behavior* will cover all costs for next year's workshop.

- Therefore, we had mainly money coming in, foremost through membership fees

Income:

- Carried over from 2018: **£ 1,271.91**
- Membership: **£ 376.89**
- Additional **£ 15** for a water bottle that Luke Rendell bought from us ;)

Outgoing:

- Software (for Cultured Scene) **£ 38.65**
- Cultured Scene domain **£ 9.11**
- Paying for hosting the Society's website **£ 12.99**

Total

- **£ 331.14**

New Balance:

- **£ 1,603.05**

- No further questions on treasurer's report.
- Edith raised the question what we should do with the overlap? We thought of providing travel bursaries or starting a prize for collaborative projects between our members. Simon C. suggested to use some of the money to pay our consultants.
- Vote on approval of treasurer's report; outcome: **approved**

#### **5. Membership report by our Secretary/Social Secretary**

- Biweekly Committee meetings that are open to the public
- Monthly Zoom Happy Hours to have informal chats
- Bimonthly Newsletter with a new section “Faces of ESLR” to promote members
- 31 paying members in 2020 (80% women!!), most members come from Germany (48%) and the UK (25%); membership fee is for the calendar year, thus please remember to renew your membership in January
- Institutional Map with all locations of our members
- Showing all people who participated to Faces of ESLR in 2020
- Twitter account has now 569 followers (+77%)

## **6. Cultured Scene**

- Rachel thanks Steffi and Riana for their enormous work on the Journal. The team was able to publish 23 articles in 2020 (compared to 9 in 2019). Publishing on the website is way quicker because creating the pdf always takes its time. With launching the new website design new categories were introduced and there are now special focus topics like the pandemic which cover a topic from different perspectives.
- Rachel emphasizes that members can promote their new papers in the journal and everybody is welcome to contribute.

## **7. Committee confirmation**

Members approved the current Committee members Marco, Edith, Sabine and Rachel and elected Steffi, Riana and Dominik to full Committee members.

## **6. Motions**

Alba requested more frequent job advertisements separately from the newsletter because of the very short deadlines in many cases.

More online workshops are welcome as they are inclusiver.

Depending on the situation with pandemic the organizers of the workshop in Konstanz are thinking of a mixture of in person and online options.

Rachel points out that you can always contact us with ideas or suggestions or attend a committee meeting.

## **7. AOB**

Thanks to the committee members for their work.