

## Management Committee Meeting

### COST Action IS0804

### Language Impairment in a Multilingual Society: Linguistic Patterns and the Road to Assessment

Amsterdam, 18 November 2009

**Present:** Sharon Armon Lotem (Chair), Jan de Jong (NL, Vice-chair, Secretary), Jelena Kuvac Krajevic (CR), Kleanthes Grohmann (CY), Monika Rothweiler (DE), Petra Schulz (DE), Kristine Jensen de Lopez (DK), Laurie Tuller (FR), Philippe Prevost (FR), Ianthi Tsimpli (GR), Bence Kas (HU), Ferenc Kemeny (HU), Naama Friedmann (IL), Adriana Belletti (IT), Daniela Gatt (MT), Helen Grech (MT), Anne Baker (NL), Kirsten Bjerkan (NO), Ase Kari Wagner (NO), Ewa Haman (PL), Joao Costa (PT), Alina Popa (RO), Dorin Popa (RO), Natasha Ringblom (SE), Eva-Kristina Salameh (SE), Theo Marinis (UK)

#### 1. Welcome to participants

#### 2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda is adopted.

#### 3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes are approved.

#### 4. Report from the Scientific Officer

No COST officer is present. The budget status for 2009 is reported by the Chair:

Budget allocation - 1 June 2009 to 31 May 2010: 80,000 EUR.

Budget report:

Brussels meeting – 21121 EUR

GASG (for webpage and secretarial support) – 2000 EUR

Amsterdam meeting (estimate) – 46000 EUR (43,000 reimbursements + 3,000 meeting support)

Total used (based on estimation) – 69121 EUR

Total left – 10879 (to be used for STSMs until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009)

#### 5. Year Budget planning under the Grant System (starting January 2010, for 12 months)

Meetings	60 000 EUR
STSM	15 000 EUR
<b>Subtotal</b> Science Expenditure	75 000 EUR
Secretarial Support	10 000 EUR
<b>Total</b> Expenditure	85 000 EUR

The MC meeting decides on the following measures with respect to the budget changes:

- a. There will annually two shorter meetings of 2½ days with reimbursement of 3 and not 4 nights until the end of the project.

- b. Reimbursement of accommodation will be up to a maximum 100 EURO instead of 120 EURO per night; reimbursement will be contingent on negotiated hotel rate by organizers.
- c. For now the budget for STSMs will be maintained. If Newcastle exceeds the current budget, cuts on STSMs may be needed.
- d. the COST office will be informed of the meeting's concern using the following text (Anne Baker):

*The MC expressed its dismay and concern that the budget for the Action has been reduced especially considering the involvement of 24 countries. Because of these cuts the organization of two meetings per year, the participation of early researchers and the STSMs are threatened, which would have a very negative effect on the success of the Action. The MC wishes that their concern be passed on to the COST office.*

The MC meeting voted for this unanimously.

Natasha Ringblom recommends early booking for future meetings (including an insurance for cancellation) as a way to restrict expenses.

## **6. STSM status, first call deadline**

The deadline is November 25<sup>th</sup> for STSMs until the end of 2009. Forms and instructions are available through the webpage.

The next deadline is January 31<sup>st</sup> for STSMs until May 31<sup>st</sup> / 7500 euro. Application must be made at least **four** weeks before the start of the mission (for destinations outside Europe: **six** weeks)

## **7. Publications**

The guidelines for publication policy as approved in Brussels are supported by the MC:

All named authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3.

- 1) They must make substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data;
- 2) They must be involved in drafting the article OR revising it critically for important intellectual content;
- 3) They must give final approval of the version to be published.

Fulfilling all these conditions is a necessary condition to be an author. Order of authorship should be decided on the basis of importance of contribution and otherwise alphabetically

## **8. Request for new members**

The following members were approved by the MC:

- WG1 - Andrea Junyent (IT)
  - Maria Teresa Guasti
  - Jorn Rye Hansen (DK)
- WG2 - Alexandra Economou (GR)
  - Elena Abrudan (RO)
  - Dagmar Bittner (DE)
- WG3 - Maria Jesus Monforte Benajes (ES)
  - Antonia Cerro Collazos (ES)
  - Higini Sales Miralles (ES)
  - Rosa Sos Peña (ES)
  - Stanislava Zajacova (SL)
- WG4 - Anna Marzecová (PL)
  - Lone Sundahl Olsen (DK)
  - Laura Quintanilla (ES)

A call for WG members to be approved in Newcastle will be sent a month before that meeting. There is some concern that the number of WG members will be too large. However, the funding for reimbursement of WG members is quite limited. Sending out a call ensures that new applications will all arrive around the same time. New candidates WG members should be approved by the MC.

From now on, new candidate *MC members* have to be voted on by the MC.

## **9. Non-COST participations**

Frenette Southwood, Stellenbosch University, South Africa - Approved  
Camille Messarra, Universite Saint Joseph, Lebanon– Approved by the MC, awaiting COST approval

There have been some suggestions for Russian participants, but they have not yet applied officially. Non-COST participants can ask the Chair for application forms.

## **10. Promotion of gender balance and of Early Stage Researchers (ESR)**

- Constant efforts will be made to achieve gender balance in recruitment of early-stage researchers. Gender balance will be considered in approving STSM applications.
- The Action will encourage the involvement of early-stage researchers (MAs, PhDs, postdoctoral fellows).

## **11. Web news**

Website is up at [www.bi-sli.org](http://www.bi-sli.org). It is limited to the Action's members currently but will be open to the public once it includes relevant information. The site will be completed in January.

The MC meeting agrees on the following:

- a. Presentations from the meetings will be in the closed section; titles of the presentations will be in the open section
- b. Links to individual homepages will be collected and will be available.
- c. Everyone should put a link to the Action webpage in on their own webpages

## **12. Time and place of next meeting**

Newcastle, May 26-28, 2010. In Carolyn Letts' absence, the venue is presented by Theo Marinis. There is a large seminar room as well as a smaller room for subgroup meetings. Before the meeting (on 24/25 May) there is a meeting of a UK-based group on bilingualism and SLI (<http://www.ecls.ncl.ac.uk/ealwcis/>). This timing is convenient for those who want to attend both. The COST meeting will start on the *morning* of the 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **13. Locations for future meetings.**

There were two candidates for the Fall 2010 meeting: Romania and Cyprus.  
15 voted for Cyprus, 6 for Romania and 2 abstentions.

The meeting will be held in Cyprus.

The Rumanian MC's propose to add Romania to the list of candidates for the 2011 Spring meeting.

Other candidates are:

Spring 2011 - Turkey (Eskisehir)

Fall 2011 - Italy (Padua), Malta

A vote will take place in Newcastle

## **14. AOB**

### *14.1 Rules for reimbursement for WG members who are not MCs*

The rules for reimbursement adopted for the Amsterdam meeting, as cited underneath, are accepted by the MC meeting. It is also agreed that, for future meetings, it is left to the steering group to decide, as long as the criteria are transparent. The steering group will account for the selection to the whole MC in every meeting.

For the Amsterdam meeting these rules were reported:

“1 – Our goal was to achieve representation of as many language combinations/countries as possible. If there was no MC member from a particular country in your WG, a WG member from this country had priority.

2 - Since this meeting was about boosting our knowledge, the young researcher criterion was not relevant, but we actually wanted to opt for more senior people who could share their experience with the rest of the group (which was the purpose of the meeting). This does not preclude early stage researchers but opens the way for more senior ones too.

3 - WG members were reimbursed in Amsterdam only if they presented their work. This does not mean that all those who present their work are reimbursed.

4 - The leaders of each WG sent a message to the members of the WG asking them whether they want to present in Amsterdam and what. This enabled scientific selection of those who were to be reimbursed based on relevance and diversity.

It turned out that most of the WG members who are reimbursed for the Amsterdam meeting are Early Stage Researchers (though this was not the major criterion). We tried to divide the budget proportionally between the WGs and had no more than two people from the same lab/country.”

14.2 The schedule of the Newcastle meeting will essentially be similar to the present meeting (i.e. no parallel sessions). There will be sufficient time for general discussions.

14.3 Background questionnaires for exposure - English questionnaires will be recruited and put on the web site - coordination by Kristine. Theo recommends Johanne Paradis' questionnaire available on her webpage.