

IADA 2021

General Assembly

November 4, 2021, via Zoom, at 15h UTC

1. Meeting called to order at 15h (UTC Time).

27 participants are online at 15h15.

2. Adoption of the minutes from the 2019 General Assembly in Milwaukee

François Cooren gives some time to people to read the minutes from the previous year. No questions are asked, and no vote is asked for. The minutes are adopted unanimously.

3. A brief history of the association

François Cooren reminds the founding of the association in Bologna in 1990, by Sorin Stati, Franz Hundnurscher and Edda Weigand. He remarks that the association is 31 years old. He reminds IADA's common premises and its broad disciplinary scope. The main activities of IADA consist in its annual conference.

4. By-law changes

François explains the context of the proposed changes: it is necessary to change the rules concerning the IADA board in light of the fact that some board members, including himself, have been there for too long.

He introduces the board's proposal for by-law changes:

- Elect the IADA board every three years;
- Limit the term of the president to three years (no possibility of being reelected twice in a row)

Alain Létourneau mentions he is the one who made the proposal, and he highlights François' excellent work as a president.

Alain also asks whether board members have no more than two consecutive terms and makes that a formal proposal. The proposal is accepted by participants.

Theresa Castor also notes that elections should be staggered so that the whole board doesn't leave at once. François suggests that 1/3 of the board could be elected.

Marion Greene, for her part, highlights that the responsibility of treasurer is very important and that it is difficult to move the bank account to a different person (Marion is the outgoing treasurer). François, who is now in charge of the bank account, suggests changing the by-law proposal to make an exception for the treasurer, who could stay longer. Nicolas Bencherki suggests instead that the board could delegate the responsibility of the bank account to a member who is not necessarily the treasurer, to distinguish the treasurer position from the person who actually is in charge of the bank account.

A question by Robert Craig reveals some ambiguity over how frequently the board should be elected and how to renew the board in thirds. In the end, the following 4-point proposal is adopted:

- Elect the IADA board every three years;
- Limit the term of the president to three years (no possibility of being re-elected twice in a row);
- Four out of nine member of the board is renewed every three years (staggering of the board);
- Members of the board can only do two consecutive terms;
- The board can delegate some of its activities to other people (e.g., bank account responsibility).

5. Finances

Marion Grein delivers a brief report, noting (in connection with the previous discussion) that she has been a treasurer since 2012. She also notes that it has been difficult to have a bank account for IADA in Germany, since the association was not (until recently) incorporated; this has led to tax issues for herself.

At the start of 2020, IADA had 3,295.10 euros in its bank account, and at the end of the year 5,835.85 euros, with expenses of 2,728.92.

As of November 4, 2021, IADA has 6,909.49 euros.

Marion notes that she should expect to have important bank transfer fees when we move the account to Montreal.

Matthieu Balay suggests using Wise.com to make the transfer, which is cheaper than most bank options.

6. Publications

François Cooren introduces the book series “Dialogue Studies”, with John Benjamins, as well as the journal *Language and Dialogue*, also published by John Benjamins.

Following a question by Robert Craig concerning how members can access the journal, François recognizes that it is difficult and that normally members receive an access code when they initially join IADA, which gives them access for the issues published in the years during which they are members. Some frustration is expressed with this way of working.

7. Sorin Stati Awards for Best Student Paper

The jury members for this year were Ronald C. Arnett, Theresa Castor and Alain Létourneau, and they had to decide among 5 student papers that were received.

The winner of the 2021 Sorin Stati award for best student paper goes to Vittoria Colla, for her paper, “Doing being an involved parent: Practices for building the family-school partnership in parent-child homework dialogues.”

She will receive a 300-euro prize, as well as free membership for next year.

8. Future activities

IADA will be held in the coming years as follows:

2022: Moscow

2023: Tel Aviv (but this remains to be confirmed)

2024: Mainz, Germany

Theresa Castor asks how exactly the 2022 Moscow conference will be hybrid, and Natalia S. Erokhova explains that it will combine online and in-person formats. There will be screen in the rooms to see online participants, and there will be cameras in the room to allow online participants to see both the speakers and the audience. Marion Grein tells of another conference that was hybrid and notes that “it works quite well,” but stresses the importance of having multiple cameras and microphones.

Natalia introduces the host university and shows a promotional video, and then speaks of nearby accommodation options. She invites people to consult the call for papers which was sent by email and mentions that a website will be available. She also mentions collaboration with other Russian universities and reminds the deadlines (see the CFP).

9. Elections

The changes to the by-laws are not in effect immediately.

There are no real elections, since all current board members wish to renew their term, and no one has submitted their application. As a result, all current board members are elected by acclamation.

The board members are:

- Ronald C. Arnett
- Letizia Caronia
- Theresa R. Castor
- François Cooren
- Marion Grein
- Alain Létourneau
- Zohar Livnat
- Chaim Noy

- Răzvan Săftoiu

10. Announcements

IADA has now an official status as it is incorporated as a non-profit in Québec, Canada. The association will also have a new bank account, with the money transferred from Germany by Marion Grein, and there will be an easy way to pay on the website.

Nicolas Bencherki asks whether the association is, in addition to being incorporated as a non-profit, also registered as a charity organization. François answers that it is not the case for the moment, and Nicolas offers to help with that aspect.

François also thanks the organizing committee: Alain Létourneau, Nicolas Bencherki, Geneviève Boivin and Matthieu Balay, as well as Marie-Hélène Desmeules.

Minutes written by Nicolas Bencherki, in Montréal, on November 28, 2021