



Integrating Content and Language in Higher Education

Membership report 2017-2018

18th October 2018

Before the last conference at Copenhagen (4th-7th October 2017), the ICLHE Association had no actual membership. All ICLHE 2017 conference participants became members, as membership was included in the conference fee. This meant that as of the last AGM we had approximately 124 members, but it is worth bearing in mind that these members had never made an active commitment to join the association, they had joined by default, so it would be misleading to assume we would maintain membership at this level in the short-term.

Towards the end of 2017 and at the start of 2018 the Association was busy building a first version of the ICLHE WordPress website and establishing a PayPal account to make payment of membership fees easier. None of this was as straightforward as it may sound, which meant that we were not immediately in a position to renew memberships in January. However, we were able to actively recruit members from early February and we contacted the current membership (i.e the Copenhagen conference participants) as well as former members and participants of previous conferences in an effort to stimulate membership.

After the initial response (by the end of March we had 56 paid-up members), we have experienced a slow but continual increase in membership throughout the year, and as of 13th October we have 76 paid-up members. The Board considers that we now have a solid membership base from which to build, and we hope to encourage members to play an increasingly active role in the Association in the coming year (more about that later).

The main practical issue regarding membership during the first half of the year was that there was no integrated (digital) linkage between membership applications and payment. This was simply not possible with the original free version of the WordPress website. This meant that when somebody applied for membership by filling a form on the website, they had to undertake a separate procedure to complete payment. Inevitably in some cases payment has not been completed despite reminders and invoices being sent. Now that our finances have allowed us to invest in an upgraded version of the ICLHE WordPress website, membership applications and payments have been integrated, and we already experience greater clarity regarding payment when new members join the association.

At the last AGM (5th October 2017) it was decided to set the membership fee for 2018 at 40 Euros and 25 Euros for (PhD) students. This fee would be payable on 1st January 2018 and membership

would therefore run to 31st December 2018. Current members will therefore be asked to renew their membership on 1st January 2019. The Chair has referred to this year as a 'year of consolidation', and in this light the Board is proposing that the current fee of 40 Euros (25 Euros for students) be maintained for another year.

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