

10. Report of the Structures Committee

Gothenburg, 29 June 2019

AICL/ICLA

Executive Council

Report from the Structures Committee 2018–2019

The Committee has received no special assignments from the President or the Executive Council during the past year.

The Committee has noted with great satisfaction the progress of the ongoing work towards the establishment of consolidated ICLA membership lists and offered occasional advice concerning the preparation of the election of new ICLA officers at the 2019 ICLA congress in Macau.

The 1990 by-laws of the Structures Committee have been brought to light. These have been circulated within the Committee, which unanimously proposes that the Executive Council amend one paragraph in the by-laws (see our separate motion).

The present members of the Committee are:

Lieven D'hulst (Belgium)

Ibra Diene (Senegal)

Jonathan Hart (Canada)

Sandra Nitrini (Brazil)

Concetta Rizzo (Italy)

Wang Xiaolu (China)

Anders Pettersson (Sweden), chair

According to the Committee's by-laws, the Committee will be constituted anew after the 2019 Congress. The incoming President will appoint a chair of the Committee, who will then select the other members of the Committee, at least three, in consultation with the President.

Respectfully submitted,

Anders Pettersson

ICLA Committee on Structures

By-laws

Preamble

During the meeting of the Executive Council (Bureau) of the ICLA in New Delhi on 24-26 February 1990, the function and procedures of the Committee on Structures (see ICLA Bulletin XI, no. 2 of 1991, p. 43) have been set forth. The Committee on Structures (hereafter "the Committee") is an administrative committee established for the study of specific organizational problems relevant to comparative literature (article VII of the Statutes of the ICLA).

Article 1

The Committee studies questions concerning the organizational forms of ICLA, suggests improvements in ICLA's constitution and by-laws and advises on procedures; considers inquiries from the membership regarding problems of organization in the Association or of academic participation in the field of comparative literature at large, and advises the Executive Council thereon.

Article 2

The Committee is responsible to the Executive Council of the ICLA and will annually submit a formal account of its activities to the Executive Council, before its meeting. The Chairperson of the Committee is entitled to attend the meetings of the Executive Council of the ICLA as an observer.

Article 3

The membership of the Committee shall be re-constituted after every election. It will consist of at least four members:

- the chair of the Committee, appointed by the incoming President of the ICLA (his or her name will be made public at the first meeting of the newly-elected Executive Council (henceforth called the "EC");
- three members named by the incoming chair of the Committee in consultation with the President of the Association.

In appointing members of the Committee, every effort should be made to insure broad geographic representation. Members of the Committee should also have a broad familiarity with the history and structure of the ICLA. All members of the Committee, the chair included, will be limited to serving two three-year terms.

Article 4

During the execution of its task, the Committee may seek the advice and guidance of the EC, of past officers of the Association (for historical memory) as well as other persons who may have particular expertise about specific administrative matters.

Article 5

The president of the Association or a person designated by the president may attend *ex officio* meetings of the Committee.

Article 6

Votes are decided by the simple majority of members present. The quorum consists of half of the committee membership, present or represented, plus one. By majority consent of the Committee, a vote on an urgent matter, or on a matter arising between meetings of the Committee, could be taken electronically via email. In the absence of a quorum or in the interval between Committee meetings, the Chair, after consultation with the Vice-Chair or the Secretary, may, in an emergency, make decisions subject to approval by the Committee via correspondence or at the next meeting of the Committee. A Committee member unable to attend a meeting may designate another member or any qualified person as a proxy provided that the Secretary and the Chairperson receive a written notification of such proxy before the meeting. No Committee decision will, however, be definitive unless at least one-third of the elected members are personally present.

Anders: I believe that this Article is obsolete and suggest that it be replaced with the following new Article 6 : «Votes are decided by a simple majority. The quorum consists of half of the committee members plus one. »

Article 7

The Executive Council of the Association has the right to dissolve the Committee.

Article 8

A motion to advise the Executive Council to alter or add to these by-laws must be made by at least two members of the Committee. Any change in the by-laws must be approved by the Executive Council of the Association.

11. Alteration of the By-laws of the Structures committee appendix

Gothenburg 10 June 2019

AILC/ICLA

The Executive Committee

Alteration of the By-Laws of the Structures Committee

The Structures Committee has gone through the 1990 by-laws of the Committee. The Committee unanimously proposes that the reading of Article 6 be altered. Please see the attached proposal.

For the Structures Committee

Anders Pettersson