

22nd Congress of the AILC-ICLA, 29 July-2 August 2019

Minutes of the 2nd General Assembly, 2 August 2019, 11.00am.

(In the absence of the Secretaries, Minutes were taken by Lucia BOLDRINI)

The Outgoing President, Professor ZHANG Longxi thanked all the organisers and the participants, and reminded the delegates about the good work done by the outgoing Executive Council over the last three years, for which he thanked the members of the EC.

Elections were held and completed despite the typhoon disruption. Thanks were expressed to Helena BUESCU for having overseen them successfully.

Votes cast: 226. Valid votes: 224.

The elected officers and members of the Executive Council 2019-22 are:

President:	Sandra BERMANN (USA)
Vice Presidents:	YANG Huilin (first Vice-President) (China) Lucia BOLDRINI (UK) E.V. RAMAKRISHNAN (India) Márcio SELIGMANN-SILVA (Brazil)
Secretaries:	Anne TOMICHE (French) (France) Paulo LEMOS HORTA (English) (US)
Treasurers:	Roberto VECCHI (Europe/Africa/Middle East) (Italy) Noriko HIRAIISHI (Asia/Pacific) (Japan) Adelaide M. RUSSO (Americas) (USA)
Executive Council:	Marie-Thèrese ABDELMESSIH (Egypt) Ipshita CHANDA (India) Sangjin PARK (South Korea) Mads ROSENDAHL THOMSEN (Denmark) Piero BOITANI (Italy) Oana FOTACHE-DUBĂLARU (Romania) Róbert GÁFRIK (Slovakia) Isabel GÓMEZ (USA) Marina GRISHAKOVA (Estonia) Stefan HELGESSON (Sweden) Marko JUVAN (Slovenia) Adam KOLA (Poland) Bruce ROBBINS (USA) Rita Terezinha SCHMIDT (Brazil) Toshiko ELLIS (Japan) Youngmin KIM (South KOREA) ZHANG Xiaohong (China) Takayuki YOKOTA-MURAKAMI (Japan)

The Chairs of the following Standing Research Committees were ratified by the General Assembly:

CHLEL: Karen-Margrethe SIMONSEN

Comparative Gender Studies: Liedeke PLATE
Comparative History of East Asian Literatures: Haun SAUSSY
Literary Theory: Robert YOUNG
South Asian Literatures and Cultures: E.V. RAMAKRISHNAN and Chandra MOHAN
Translation: Sandra BERMANN

E.V. RAMAKRISHNAN moved to thank the outgoing AILC-ICLA President, Professor ZHANG Longxi. The motion was warmly supported.

Stefan BUCHENBERGER moved to nominate the outgoing AILC-ICLA President, Professor ZHANG Longxi, Honorary President of the AILC-ICLA. The motion was warmly supported.

The newly elected President of the AILC-ICLA, Sandra BERMANN, thanked the outgoing AILC-ICLA President, Professor ZHANG Longxi, the Executive Council and the good work done over the last three years. She thanked the organisers of the Shenzhen conference and AILC-ICLA Executive Council meeting, and of the Macau Congress, and especially ZHANG Xiaohong, ZHANG Jing (Cathy), the CCLA and its president, WANG Ning, the University of Macau, the University of St Joseph, Shenzhen University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Renmin University of China, Macao Association of Convention, Exhibition and Tourism Sectors.

The President reminded delegates of important decisions taken by the outgoing Executive Council, and in particular the support for early career researchers through the waiving of the AILC-ICLA membership fee and the institution of a travel fund, details of which would be announced in due course.

She invited delegates who are not already members of the AILC-ICLA to become members, through membership of their national association or using the possibility of individual membership.

The President then invited members to look up the webpage to find more information about the work of the Research Committees, how to propose new Committees, get in touch with the AILC-ICLA to make suggestions, give feedback on the website, or request information. She announced that a Newsletter would be produced soon, and invited all members to read it and send information to be shared.

Comparative Literature contributes greatly to the humanities and the humanities contribute greatly to the world. This contribution is especially important at this particular historical moment, across the entire world, and the AILC-ICLA wants to re-state its commitment to supporting the values of openness, exchange and communication across all divides and differences. The Executive Council will therefore be very keen to receive members' ideas for new initiatives, as well as suggestions of how we can support member Associations and individual members in realising these innovative projects.

ZHANG Longxi thanked the new President and the outgoing Executive Council for their support, wished the new Executive Council well for the next three years, and then declared the 22nd Congress of the AILC-ICLA closed.