

Minutes of the ASFS AGM
held at the Australian National University, Canberra, 27 November 2011
19th Annual Conference of the ASFS “French Connections: traduction, didactique et analyse du discours”

Present (members and non-members):

Executives: Françoise Grauby (President, in the chair), Louise Maurer (Vice-President), Sonia Wilson (Treasurer), Barbara Hanna (Editor), Tess Do (Secretary).

Jean Anderson, Leslie Barnes, Peter Brown, Alice Caffarel, Julien Chartier, Ashok Collins, Chantal Crozet, Diane de Saint-Léger, Véronique Duché, Narelle Fletcher, Jean Fornasiero, Angela Giovanangeli, Joe Hardwick, Margaret Hennessy, Hélène Jacomard, Belle Joseph, Christelle Maizonniau, Henry Méra, Philippe Met, Kerry Mullan, Nadine Normand-Marconnet, François Quet, Elizabeth Rechniewski, Alistair Rolls, Raphaël Tantroul, Marie-Laure Vuaille-Barcan, John West-Sooby, Bronwyn Winter.

Apologies:

Greg Hainge, Peter Cowley.

Approval of minutes:

Motion was made by Françoise Grauby and seconded by *John West-Sooby (to be confirmed)* to approve the minutes of the 1st October 2010 AGM meeting.

Thanks & Recognition:

- Françoise Grauby thanked the executive committee, the organisers and the student helpers for organizing the 2011 ASFS conference.
- Alistair Rolls thanked the ASFS for the travel funding it had given to post-graduate students to attend the conference.

ERA:

- Greg Hainge reported in an email to Françoise that the ERA rankings were dropped this year and that he would continue to communicate with other colleagues about this issue.
- Françoise said that the FoR (Field of Research) codes replaced the ERA rankings and we could use these codes to regroup our research under different clusters (e.g., cinema, literature, etc.) in order to consolidate what we had. This approach depended on the relation that the French section had with the other disciplines (e.g., Cinema Studies, Cultural Studies).

ASFS website:

Françoise reported that

- the ASFS website was in reconstruction and Peter Cowley was taking care of it. This would make the ASFS site more user-friendly.
- where possible, all the ASFS archives since its foundation 19 years ago would be transferred to the website. ASFS members were asked to send their own archives to Peter.

Baudin Scholarships:

Françoise reported that

- the Baudin Scholarships were highly competitive; this year 12 scholarships were given (out of 43 applications).
- in general the letters of motivation were found not to be very strong ; for example, students did not put enough stress on the reasons why they wanted to

go to France for a year; in the future, as teachers, we needed to remind our student applicants to stress these reasons in their letters of motivations.

- the French Embassy continued to resist the idea that the selection process be undertaken by committee and had pointed out that this would necessitate sending out 43 applications, on paper, to each member of the committee. Consequently, the old system was used in which the selection was carried out by a restricted committee consisting of Béatrice Chassaing and Françoise Grauby.
- this year we received funding of 2,000 euros from the French Embassy and we would receive the same amount next year (2012); this means that we have funding for the organization of the 20th ASFS conference; this would be an opportunity for us to showcase the dynamic nature of the Society.
- the French government continues to fund Teacher's Assistant Program, the Internship Program, the Tutorship Program and this funding reduced its budget.

Memberships and recruitment:

Françoise proposed that in order to generate funding we would

- ask current members to renew their memberships.
- start recruiting new members early next year.

Treasurer's report:

- Sonia Wilson reported a slight profit (for details, see the Treasurer's report).
- As there were no applications for travel expenses for the 2010 ASFS conference in Sydney from postgraduates, that money was used to support postgraduate attendance at the 2011 ASFS conference.

Carnet editor's report:

- Barbara Hanna reported on the move from the paper version to the electronic version of the *Carnet Austral*; however, the on-line *Carnet* was not yet available as a printable PDF document because the current website did not support PDF; The electronic version therefore unfortunately does not currently retain the *Carnet* look and formatting.
- Some of its contents (such as the postgraduate register and details of complete theses) were distributed to other places within the ASFS website, like in the postgraduate area accessible to all users by the horizontal navigation bar.
- Barbara thanked the Society for paying for an assistant to work on the compilation of the conference listing.

ASFS Conference 2012:

- Françoise announced that Ben McCann (University of Adelaide) had proposed that Adelaide University host the 2012 ASFS Conference
- The proposed title, theme, place and dates of the Conference were: "Cadrages", "Cinéma et les arts visuels", University of Adelaide, 27-28 September 2012.
- The call for papers would go out in January 2012.

Election of Office-bearers:

- Françoise asked each of the Office-bearers present at the meeting (Louise Maurer, Sonia, Barbara, Tess) whether they would be willing to continue in their current positions; as their answers were affirmative, they were all re-elected.
- The rest of the Office-bearers were also re-elected unopposed.

Result of the election:

- President: Françoise Grauby

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- Vice-President: Louise Maurer
- Treasurer: Sonia Wilson
- Secretary: Tess Do
- Carnet Austral editor: Barbara Hanna
- Postgraduate and Research officer: Peter Cowley (reelected in absentia).

As there was no other business the meeting was closed at 2:30pm.