

Membership Committee Report, 2019

Members: JeongYoun Chang (South Korea), Thomas Kalk (Treasurer, ex officio), Anders Cato (Secretary General), Kathy Adamson (UK), James Cassaro (US), Jane Gottlieb (US), Katie Lai (Hong Kong), Alexandros Charkiolakis (Greece), Pia Shekhter (Sweden), Anna Pensaert (UK)

Pia Shekhter (Sweden) and Anna Pensaert (UK) had been great assets to the committee but had decided to resign after the congress to concentrate on their roles as IAML President-Elect and new Board member. Chris Scobie and Bonnie Woel also left the committee. Thank you very much for your dedication.

At the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland, the Membership Committee met on 15th July 2019. On 18th July it joined a meeting with the Outreach Committee and Advocacy Committee. Three agendas were discussed at the two meetings as follows.

1. Would reducing the membership fee increase the number of members?

The Membership Committee needs to know how many potential members there could be in national branches, and why they choose not to join, or not to renew their memberships. It would be useful to know the reasons why they choose not to join IAML, and why they do not see/understand/acknowledge the benefits of membership.

Let members know about IAML

Simply we should consider translating IAML contents into many more languages to increase the membership all over the world. Translation of the introduction to IAML webpage would be a good start, alongside the multilingual greetings banner.

How about using social media more? We already have Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts. Then we can think about the benefits of membership and creating membership categories

Membership Categories

We should think about more benefits for membership beyond the subscription to *Fontes*. One of the reasons that members don't renew can be related to the membership fee. IAML does not currently have information from all its branches.

To increase congress attendance, how about making membership categories? In other associations for example, such categories can include: students, retired, early career, or no position etc. Some members are not able to attend the congress even though they would like to do so. New membership categories might help members to join IAML without burdensome fees.

2. Mentor/Mentee Program, and first-time attendees

Mentors and mentees at the congress each receive contact addresses from the official announcement, but clearly they cannot meet each other beforehand.

Please use the coffee corner.

There was a suggestion of having a specific room for mentors and mentees because it can get too crowded at the coffee corner. Some of them also attend the congress on different days, so a specific room for them would help them to find each other, if that is possible. However, they might then miss meeting other colleagues, so it's better to use the coffee corner as much as possible.

Using name card

Another possible solution would be to apply colored stickers to the name badge for first-time attendees. These colored stickers, would help them to recognize each other, even if they are shy. For mentors, mentees and first-time attendees, we expect this could be very helpful.

Introducing first-time attendees at the Opening session

How about introducing first-time attendees one by one, asking them stand at the opening session. An official welcoming of them at the Congress, would be a very memorable moment for them. But if they don't come, there is no way.

3. The term of the Membership Committee and seeking new committee members

Term clarifying

All committees have a 3-year term, so the Membership Committee's term needs to be clarified on the webpage.

Seeking new committee members

We need more committee members who are willing to work at making IAML better. We await new comments from all IAML members.

The Membership Committee cannot just work like other committees; we have to open our ears and listen to what the members are thinking about IAML, and what they want IAML to do. Any comments are welcome!

JeongYoun Chang, Chair