

SATE Annual General Meeting 30 November 2018

- Venue:** Lycée Jean Piaget Neuchâtel
- Committee :** Brigitte Brun (BB, president), Patricia Burger (PB), Marie-Claude Guerry (MCG)
Hans-Ueli Mueller (HUM), Dewi Williams (DW),
- Excused:** Matthias Rüegger (MR), Hans Jürg Suter (HJS, auditor)

1. Last year's minutes (BB)

Last year's minutes are accepted

2. Membership (BB)

Membership is a bit lower than last year, and the reasons for dropping out are the usual ones (deceased, retired). We had 215 members as per September 2018. 7 more have joined now.

A new flyer has been printed.

Fees stay the same: CHF 30 to join, CHF 20 discount on courses (refunded cash this year)

3. Finances (HUM; HJS, RL)

Carried forward on 1st October 2017 were 42,387.05 The total operating funds carried forward on 30th September 2018 are 43,099.90. Balance: +712.85

Total income: 14,255.00 (of which membership fees 6,175.00 and Sate November course 8,080.00. Total expenditure 13,542.15 (of which, amongst others, Sate November expenditure 6,301.45 and 1,164.20 committee expenses).

Comments: Bank charges are high because participants don't pay electronically. Zug expenditures were also quite high because we had to rent the course premises (and sponsor the tutor's travel pass).

Next year we will have to invest in the website so that we can add more pages.

Members accept the accounts.

Budget for next year should show similar figures and profit.

4. Committee (BB)

- Suggestion for compensation for committee members :

President: CHF 500 per year; Treasurer: CHF 500 per year

The reasons for this compensation is that the workload has increased over the years, and so have the numbers of meetings to attend, so all in all, the president and treasurer are putting the hours in.

Approved unanimously

- Resignations: Auditors HJS and RL will step down as per 2020

RL will carry on one more year to train the new auditors.

5. Report from Delegates' Meeting (AK, KK)

Carole Sierro is stepping down at the end of the school year. Lucius Hartman will be the new president. As he is now vice president a new vice-president is wanted, preferably a woman from the French speaking part.

Annual membership stays the same, at CHF 120. There is a need for new members.

Discussions on grammar schools, amongst a few subjects:

There will be a tool to compare cantons performances on the VSG page.

A few studies to be published (amongst others):

- ➔ On the workload in different linguistic regions. School time has been reduced by 3% over 20 years.
- ➔ On students' motivation.

Another on-going project is on the negative image of teachers and how we can change that.

There also is a reflection on Matura: One of the big issues is to compare the Matura in different cantons.

Next Delegates' Meeting: 29th November 2019 in Wil, SG.

6. Report on courses (DW)

The following courses, run by SATE members, were held in 2018:

14-16 March. *CALP Plus (Course in Advanced Language Practice + Literary Component)*

Organisers/Tutors: Rosemarie Allemann, Richard Begbie, Dewi Williams

38 participants. In addition to having the usual mixture of discussions, advanced language exercises and lectures, participants also read the novel *Olive Kitteridge* by Elisabeth Strout and three stories from Viet Thanh Nguyen's collection *The Refugees*.

5 May. *Upgrade Your English. Workshop for Immersion Teachers.*

Organisers/Tutors: Richard Begbie, Dewi Williams

15 participants. A mixture of discussion and language exercises, intended to improve the participants' accuracy and fluency.

14 September. *Teaching Lexically with Hugh Dellar*

Organisers: Richard Begbie, Dewi Williams. Guest Tutor: Hugh Dellar

20 participants. The workshop on teaching and learning vocabulary was run by Hugh Dellar, author of the book *Teaching Lexically*

5-10 October. *New Perspectives on Theatre for the Classroom / Dublin Theatre Festival*

Organiser: Richard Begbie

10 participants. Visits to various plays, including *Hamlet* (with Ruth Negga as Hamlet), Joyce's *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, Arthur Miller's *The Misfits*, etc.

22-24 November. *Cornwall Contemporary Poetry Festival* (Falmouth).

Organiser: Richard Begbie

16 participants. Readings, talks and workshops by established and lesser known poets, plus a 'poetic' cruise up the River Fal.

29-30 November. *SATE Workshop. Poetry with Young Adults*

35 participants.

This year the workshop was devoted to the topic of using poetry with teenagers and was given by the Irish writer, Elaine Feeney. Participants received a number of poems and 'prose poems' before the workshop, which were then discussed during the following two days. Elaine Feeney's combination of eloquence, passion for her subject, charisma and humour meant that the workshop was stimulating and very enjoyable.

Meeting over at 17.00

Lausanne, January 4th 2019

Marie-Claude Guerry