

Minutes of the annual SLS Business Meeting
SLS-18, Bratislava, Slovakia
Friday, August 25th 2023
Moyzes Hall, Filozofická fakulta Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave

The SLS treasurer, Catherine Rudin, and the chair of the SLS Executive Board, Marco Biasio, declared the meeting open at 3.30 p.m.

The following points were addressed:

1. On behalf of all the members of the Executive Board, Marco expressed his sincerest thanks to the lead organizer of SLS-18, Gabriela Múcsková, as well as to all the members of the organizing team, for agreeing on hosting the first SLS on-site meeting in almost four years and successfully coordinating such a large number of attendees (over 100 individuals between active participants and guests) from all over the world. Special thanks were expressed for the organizing team's impeccable work in running the conference and setting up a variety of captivating social events, which included the gala dinner at the Bratislava Castle on Friday, August 25th, the Danube boat trip and the guided tour to Devin Castle on Saturday, August 26th;
2. Catherine took the floor and gave the audience in attendance the annual Treasurer's report, whose details are available on request. Since the Journal of Slavic Linguistics (JSL) is now almost entirely delivered in .pdf version and the last three SLS meetings (Bloomington in 2020, Urbana-Champaign in 2021, and Sapporo in 2022) were held entirely online, it was possible to keep expenditures to a minimum. Some of the resulting accumulated funds are being spent this year on a much-needed website redesign and a celebratory conference dinner, as well as a significantly increased amount of money allocated for student travel awards. Catherine then proceeded to hand over the paper certificates to this year's recipients, who included Hunter Brakovec (Indiana University), Tamara Butigan (University of Auckland), Alexandra Kohut (Boston University), Biljana Konatar (University of Washington), Clara McMahon (City University of New York), and Dragan Katarina Mikulin (University of Wisconsin–Madison).
3. Franc Marušič took the floor next, reporting on the JSL current status and activities as one of its current editors-in-chief. For editorial reasons that have nothing to do with the editors' work, the second issue for 2022 is still in production and it is unclear at this point when it will come out; hopefully the problem will be resolved in the near future. Franc also encouraged the audience in attendance to submit their unpublished papers to the JSL. As he explained, currently the JSL appears to be very competitive, but as nearly half of the submitted papers are desk-rejected, because they are not related to Slavic linguistics, submission on Slavic linguistics are still very much desired;
4. Considering Jeff Parker's 5-year term as SLS webmaster has recently expired, and in the wake of the recent restyling that involved the SLS official website, Marco issued an open call for a volunteer 5-year position as content manager (webmaster). While the position is unpaid, the board has unanimously decided to have the SLS membership fee waived for the appointed individual. The position was taken on by Dragan Katarina Mikulin (University of Wisconsin–Madison), to whom go the thanks and gratitude of the Executive Board members and all the SLS affiliates.
Marco also took the opportunity to advertise the SLS X (fka Twitter) and Instagram official accounts, which have been online for almost two years now and on which updates are regularly posted;
5. Next, the hosting sites for the forthcoming three SLS meetings were officially announced. SLS-19 will be held at Brigham Young University (Provo, Utah) on August 15th-17th 2024,

organized by Jeff Parker; SLS-20 will be held at the University of Verona (Italy) in 2025, organized by Daniele Artoni, Marco Biasio, and Jelena Živojinović; SLS-21 will be held at Seoul National University (South Korea) in 2026, organized by Hakyung Jung. Further venues for future meetings were also discussed, with Boban Karapejovski officially proposing Ss. Cyril and Methodius University (Skopje, North Macedonia) as the hosting site of either SLS-22 (2027) or SLS-23 (2028);

6. On behalf of the Executive Board members, Marco presented the 2022 Charles E. Townsend Memorial Award to Maša Bešlin (University of Maryland). Although she was unable to attend SLS-17 in Sapporo in 2022, Maša was named the 2022 CET recipient for the outstanding quality and theoretical breadth of her previous SLS talks, *On the categorial distinction between 'verbal' and 'adjectival' participles* (SLS-15; 2020) and *On the distribution of full object-pronouns in Serbo-Croatian* (SLS-16; 2021), for which she had already earned a double honorable mention. The CET Award is given each year to a graduate student presenting at either of the two preceding SLS meetings, who has demonstrated the strongest long-term high-quality dedication and contribution to the field of Slavic Linguistics, and consists of a lifetime membership to the SLS, a subscription to the JSL, and publication privileges in the Journal of Slavic Linguistics.

The board also decided to confer on Niyaz Kireev (Independent scholar) an honorable mention for his impressive talk *On alleged exceptions to 'Zaliznyak's rule': apocopation of unstressed vowels in Russian*. As a recipient of an honorable mention, Niyaz was given a 1-year membership to the Slavic Linguistics Society.

7. On behalf of the Executive Board members and all the SLS affiliates, Marco gratefully acknowledged the valuable service and continuous support of outgoing SLS board members Marek Majer (University of Łódź) and Hakyung Jung (Seoul National University), whose three-year term came to an end during SLS-18. Nominations were held for the two vacant Board seats. Catherine nominated Wayles Browne (Cornell University), while Marco nominated Jelena Živojinović (University of Graz / University of Verona). Both candidates accepted their nomination and were elected by acclamation.

Wayles took the floor to mention that he is book-review editor of the JSL, and asked everyone to let him know about new books that might be of interest to JSL's readers (e-mail ewb2@cornell.edu).

Marco introduced the other (currently serving) board members to the audience: Aida Talić, Andrei Antonenko (in absentia), and Jadranka Gvozdanović.

8. As a final remark, Marco reminded the audience in attendance of some of the major Slavic Linguistics conferences which are to be held over the following weeks/months. Among the advertised meetings are:

- The workshop *Inflection and Derivation in the Slavic Verb* within the 56th Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea (SLE 2023; Athens, August 29th-September 1st), available at <https://societaslinguistica.eu/sle2023/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2022/12/INFLECTION-AND-DERIVATION-IN-THE-SLAVIC-VERB-final.pdf>;
- The 4th edition of the *Cetinjski filološki dani* (Cetinje, September 6th-8th);
- *Fundamentals and Advances in Balkan Linguistics* (FABL; Belgrade, November 16th-18th), available at <https://sites.google.com/view/fabl2023/home-cfp>;
- The 16th edition of *Formal Description of Slavic Languages* (FDSL-16; Graz, November 29th-December 1st), available at <https://sites.google.com/view/fdsl16/home>;
- The 33rd edition of *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics* (FASL 33; Halifax, May 2024);
- The thematic section on Slavic languages within the 21st *International Congress of Linguists* (Poznań, September 22nd-28th 2024).

FABL organizer and former CET awardee Đorđe Božović (University of Belgrade) advertised the conference and reminded the audience in attendance that the deadline for abstract submission has been extended to September 10th.

The meeting was adjourned at 4.00 p.m.

Padova, Italy,
August 31st 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Marco Biasio
Chair of the SLS Executive Board