

DIGEST

News from the Executive Committee



For almost 70 years, AIIC has been growing, with each new generation of interpreters building on the work of those who came before. The Association has increased in strength and numbers, as well as the areas we deal with - starting as a voice for interpreters working in institutions, it has come to represent conference interpreters on the private market, in international organisations and courts, trainers of future conference interpreters, consultant interpreters, those entering the profession and many more. We have constantly adapted to the realities of the modern profession, so could it perhaps be time to modernise the way the Association operates too?

In 2019, AIIC's Advisory Board (AB) set out to explore this question, to study the needs of the current membership and to recommend how the Association might be streamlined, and thus the "Rethink AIIC" project was born. After exhaustive investigations and interviews with internal and external stakeholders, the Rethink project team analysed and condensed all they had learnt down to a list of concrete suggestions intended to help make AIIC an association fit for the future.

Cont...

Here we take a closer look at some of their findings and proposals (the full summary of the project can be found [in the library](#), and in the AB report for the 2022 Assembly):

1 Make Membership More Attractive

AllC membership has long been a symbol of excellence and experience, but is this enough to attract future generations? Why do many experienced colleagues not wish to join AllC?

Some may have started the application process, only to be put off by its apparent complexity or an initial rejection on administrative grounds, while others are uncertain of the benefits and responsibilities of pre-candidacy, which should be a gateway to full membership. CACL has done a lot of work to simplify the application process and ensure that information is easily available to potential applicants.

AllC needs to make itself more visible to the outside world, for example by holding an annual conference and through greater publicity of our values and our substantial work for the profession, including lobbying activities.

Membership dues are relatively high compared with those of [other associations](#), with members sometimes feeling they do not get much in return. Ensuring that membership comes with more tangible benefits could be one way of addressing this, as well as ensuring that the online AllC Directory is professional and easy to use for everyone, especially clients, or potentially even revisiting the dues themselves.

Should it be easier to become a member? Join in the discussion on the proposed [amendment](#) on admission criteria that will be voted on in Geneva.

2 Volunteer Burnout

We all know that it takes a special sort of person to volunteer their time and energy to help others and AllC's success depends on its hardworking volunteers. But when an increasing number of tasks are being managed by a limited number of members and coordination becomes a challenge, volunteer burnout, which was already a reality before COVID pulled the rug out from beneath us all, is the result. The question of how AllC can protect its volunteers and inspire the next generation has taken on a new urgency.

One solution is to identify tasks which don't have to be done by interpreters and could be passed on to professionals. It is also important to make sure that tasks aren't being duplicated across the Association. Online collaboration and project management tools exist which would allow groups working on similar projects to track and coordinate their efforts, and share tasks.

Finally, it should be easier to volunteer and find the right place for your particular talents. AllC is changing and if you would like to play a greater role in that change, visit the [volunteer page](#).

IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE...

The logo for AIIc's 38th Assembly is here! Designed locally by young designers in Geneva, the logo connects the city's tradition of fine watch-making with ExCo's slogan "It's time for change, in times of change".



CACL UPDATE

CACL are pleased to announce that the 'Join AIIc' section of the website has been improved to help potential candidates navigate the application process more easily.

The full [Practical Guide for Applicants](#) has also been updated and has been used to produce a downloadable visual guide (click on the image to see the new version) to support applicants.

Got colleagues interested in applying as candidates or pre-candidates? Don't let them miss the next deadline for applications which is coming up on **November 30th!**

INSIDE THE VIRTUAL BOOTH



Agnieszka Chmiel, Head of Dept. of Translation Studies, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan



Nicoletta Spinolo, Researcher, Dept. of Interpretation & Translation, University of Bologna (Forlì)

Lend a hand to last year's Research Grant winners, Agnieszka Chmiel and Nicoletta Spinolo, by completing [their survey](#). The anonymous survey consists of 40 questions and focuses on your experience of remote simultaneous interpreting.

Check out their [recent article](#) for AIIc's blog to learn more about their project.



ASSEMBLY NEWS

- Candidatures for the first ballot have closed, but more candidates are still required for the Budget Committee (BC), Committee on Admissions and Language Classifications (CACL) and the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee (DDC). If you would like to put your name forward as a candidate on the second ballot, please write to assembly@aicc.org with a photo and mission statement.
- Volunteers will be needed throughout the Assembly week (January 11-16) to provide interpretation into English and French. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the Secretariat.
- Anyone attending the Assembly in person, will need a valid certificate which will be scanned before you can enter the conference room. Those vaccinated outside Switzerland or the EU will need a Swiss Covid certificate. Once you have booked your flight or hotel, [click here](#) to apply for the certificate. Up to date information about the COVID situation in Switzerland and travel rules for your country can be found through the Assembly page of the portal.

PORTAL UPDATE

FAQs have been added to the portal to make it easier for you to find the information you need. From paying dues to making your details private or subscribing to newsletters, the answers to your questions can be found here.