

Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Association for Written Language & Literacy

Braunschweig, September 18, 2008

Participants:

President: Anneke Neijt (Nijmegen)

Vice-President: Beatrice Primus (Cologne)

Secretary: Martin Neef (Brunswick)

plus approx. 20 members and guests

1. The association

Change of secretary. Martin Neef will resign, since he will be general editor of the journal *Written Language and Literacy* next year. Our nomination of Dominiek Sandra has been approved by the members, who subsequently thank Neef for all he did for the Association, wish him good luck with his editorship and express a warm welcome to Sandra as our secretary.

2. Website

The “logo” of the Website does not contain adequate translations. We received an improved transcription of Greek by Elena Papapavlou, which will replace the old one:

Association for Written Language and Literacy
Ассоциация для языка и грамотности в письменном виде
Ένωση για τη γραπτή γλώσσα και τη βασική εκπαίδευση
书面语言和识字协会
Association for Written Language and Literacy

Our webmaster Stefan Meeuws will continue to maintain the website. In the near future, however, a successor may be needed. Beatrice Primus considers to ask one of her student assistants.

3. Activities

We discussed the possibilities of research cooperation. One of the items suggested: influence of one’s knowledge of one writing system on the acquisition of another writing system, transfer. Another issue: influence of writing on speech. The possibilities will be further investigated by Amandine Bergère, Yishai Neumann and Anneke Neijt. The typological database will be discussed tomorrow (cf. Programme, Neijt and Primus, *Towards a typological database of writing systems*). The activities concerning the bibliography will be stopped (unless new initiatives are taken; one such an activity might be the publication on the website of Terry Joyce’s bibliography of writing systems). In order to increase the number of members of the Association, Martin Neef will ask the actual members of the Editorial Board of *Written Language and Literacy* to become members (they won’t have to pay for it for as board members they have a subscription of the journal anyway).

4. Next publication

A selection of the papers of the workshop will be published in a special issue of *WLL*. Guest editors are Susanne Borgwaldt and Guido Nottbusch. Further information on deadlines etc. will be sent by e-mail or appear on the website.

5. **Next meeting in 2010**

Several options were discussed. Neijt will explore the possibility of organizing the next workshop in Denmark. Other possibilities are Bielefeld or Cologne.

6. **Theme**

Provisional title: Units of language – Units of Writing.