

Minutes of the CercleS General Meeting on 13 September 2024 in Durham/via Zoom

17:00-18:00 BST

Meeting format

The meeting is held as a hybrid meeting, allowing both attendees in Durham and via Zoom.

Voting

Anyone is allowed to attend the meeting – online and in person – but only one person per institution is allowed to vote, as per the CercleS Statutes 2020.

A Zoom link was sent with the agenda that was sent to all members with an invitation to the GM. It was not required to register ahead of time in order to attend the meeting or in order to vote.

Voting for delegates both in-person and online is via Google forms. A URL and QR code are shared with delegates in person and online, and did not require having a Google account or registering with Google.

The votes are calculated on Google forms and checked by Zaan Bester and by Tom Grainger. If hands need to be counted in Durham, these are counted by Zaan Bester.

Panelists

Members of the Executive Committee:

Sabina Schaffner (President), Anne Chateau (Secretary General), Marta Estella Clota (Treasurer), Carmen Argondizzo (Vice-President), Mia Panisse (Deputy Secretary General), Tom Grainger (Deputy Treasurer), Zaan Bester (assistant)

Attendees

The following persons were eligible to vote (with their associations and institutions)

Online: 10

In person: 56

Total of delegates attending and entitled to vote: 66

Associate members

AM	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece	Anna Hatzitheodorou	Online
	Agricultural University of Athens, Athens, Greece	Eleni Kakrida	Online
	Center for Modern Foreign Languages UCU, Ukraine	Halyna Kurochka	In person
	Language Centre University of Cyprus	Helen Stavrou	Online
	Catholic University our Lady of Good Counsel, Tirana, Albania	Natalina Hoti	Online
	Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania	Saulė Petronienė	In person
	Semmelweis University, Hungary	Viktoria Sirokmany	In person

Presidency

Dr Sabina Schaffner / University of Zurich / Language Center of UZH and ETH Zurich

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General Secretariat

Dr Anne Chateau / Université de Lorraine / UFR Lansad (Langues pour Spécialistes d'Autres Disciplines)

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National associations

ACLES	Universitat de Barcelona	Adriana Penya Bueno	In person
	Salamanca Servicio Central de Idiomas	Alfredo Fernandez	In person
	Castilla la Mancha	Angel Mateos	Online
	Culm, University of Zaragoza	Begoña Checa	In person
	Politécnica de Madrid - Centro de Lenguas	Carmen Álvarez García	In person
	Universitat Jaume I (Servei de Llengües i Terminologia)	Irma Mulet	In person
	Centro de Lenguas Modernas, University of Granada	Jose Manuel Martín Pasadas	Online
	Universitat Oberta de Catalunya / Centre d'Idiomes Moderns	Joseph Hopkins	In person
	Universidad de Murcia	Juana Sanmartin	In person
	Universitat Politècnica de Valencia	Julia Zabala	In person

AICLU	Roma "FORO ITALICO" - CLA	Alessandra Fazio	Online
	Università di Modena via Reggio Emilia Language Centre	Alessandra Marazzi	Online
	Università della Calabria	Carmen Argondizzo	In person
	unde	Cesare Zanca	In person
	University of Ferrara	Eleonora Federici	In person
	Urbino university - ITALY	Enrica Rossi	In person
	University of Florence CLA	Jessica Thonn	In person
	Bologna University Language Centre	Luisa Bavieri	In person
	Università Statale Milano, centro linguistico SLAM	Michela Argenti	In person

AKS	Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg	Alexander Grimm	In person
	Ruhr-Universität Bochum, ZFA	Astrid Reich	In person
	Universität Leipzig, Sprachenzentrum	Irmgard Wanner	In person
	Georg-August-Universität Göttingen	Johann Fischer	In person
	Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg	Maike Engelhardt	In person
	Technische Universität Darmstadt	Martha Gibson	In person
	Universität Passau Sprachenzentrum	Michael de Jong	In person
	Freie Universität Berlin	Ruth Tobias	In person

AULC	West Indies, University of (Trinidad)	Avian Daly	Online
	University of Sussex	Benoît Guilbaud	In person
	University of Liverpool	Hanna Magedera	In person
	University of Cambridge	Jocelyn Wyburd	In person
	Oxford University Language Centre	Marion Sadoux	In person
	Durham University	Mark Critchley	In person

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Le Président

The President

Der Präsident

University of Zurich UZH

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	University of Central Lancashire	Sofia Anysiadou	In person
	Kings College London	Tanya Linaker	In person
	University of Edinburgh	Thomas Chaurin	In person
	University of York	Thomas Jochum-Critchley	In person
CASALC CZ	University of West Bohemia	Jana Cepickova	In person
	Masaryk University	Libor Štěpánek	In person
	University Pardubice	Zaan Bester	In person
FINELC	University of the Arts	Emmi Huttunen	In person
	University of Eastern Finland	Lauri Tolkki	In person
	Åbo Akademi, Turku	Mia Panisse	In person
NUT	University of Twente Language Centre	Katja Hunfeld	In person
	Universiteit Antwerpen – Linguapolis	Kris Peeters	In person
RANACLES	Toulouse University Capitole	Anne-Marie O'Connell UT Capitole	In person
	Sorbonne Nouvelle	Laurent Rouveyrol	In person
	Université de Rouen Normandie	Marie Gspann	In person
	LORRAINE Université/ Ufr lansad	Nicolas Molle	In person
	Sciences Aix-Marseille	Thomas Grainger	In person
	Bordeaux University	Youssef Benzoubair	In person
ReCLES	ISCAP- IPP	Manuel Silva	In person
SERMO	Centre of Languages and Communication, Poznan University of Technology	Barbara Sawicka	In person
	Gdańsk University of Technology	Jolanta Wielgus	In person
	Medical University of Lodz	Kinga Pasięka	Online
SSH-CHES- CSUS	Sprachenzentrum Uni Basel	Barbara Berzel	In person
	University of Zurich/ETH Language Centre	Sabina Schaffner	In person
	Université de Neuchâtel	Sara Cotelli Kureth	In person
	Universität Bern/SPZ	Stefanie Neuner-Anfindsen	In person

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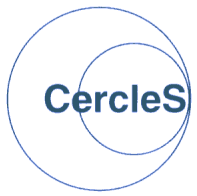
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Voting rights (CercleS Statutes 2020)

5.6 Voting rights

Institutional members (Language Centre members of full members that have paid their subscription) and associate members have one (1) vote per member present, it being specified that full members as such, represented during the vote by institutional members, do not have their own voting rights. Honorary members and benefactor members do not have voting rights.

Proxy voting is not permitted.

A member of the Association does not have the right to vote, when the purpose of the resolution of the Ordinary or Extraordinary General Meeting is to conclude a legal act with her/him, or to initiate or terminate legal proceedings between her/him and the Association.

5.7 Resolutions

Resolutions of the Ordinary and Extraordinary General Meeting shall be passed by a simple majority of the votes cast by those members present and entitled to vote.

The majority shall be calculated based on the votes cast, excluding abstentions, blank or invalid votes, which thus shall not be added to negative votes for the calculation of the majority.

Voting shall be by show of hands, or by roll call, or by secret ballot, as decided by the President of the Association presiding over the meeting.

1. Welcome

Information about polling (GM slides 1-5)

The president welcomed the participants of the GM in Durham and online. The voting procedure for online and in-person participants were explained, as well as ways that participants could communicate with the EC and each other.

Approval of agenda (GM slides 6-8)

No points are added to the agenda.

Voting: 60 approved | 1 did not approve | 5 abstained | [total:66]

The agenda is approved.

2. Approval of minutes from the General Meeting at ISCAP Porto/on Zoom on 16 September 2022

(required for approval: simple majority) (GM slides 9-10)

Voting: 48 approved | 0 did not approve | 18 abstained | [total: 66]

The minutes are approved.

3. Reports – presentation and approvals (required for approval: simple majority)

a. President's report (presented by Sabina Schaffner) (GM slides 11-22)

Voting: 60 approved | 0 did not approve | 6 abstained | [total: 66]

The report was approved.

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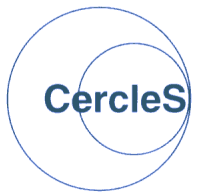
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b. Secretary General's report (presented by Anne Chateau) (*GM slides 23-31*)

Voting: 63 approved | 1 did not approve | 2 abstained | [total: 66]

The report was approved.

c. Vice-President's (LLHE Editor-in-chief's) report (presented by Carmen Argondizzo) (*GM slides 32-39*)

Voting: 62 approved | 0 did not approve | 4 abstained | [total: 66]

The report was approved

d. Treasurer's report and approval of accounts (presented by Marta Estella Clota) (*GM slides 40-49*)

Auditors' reports (by Stefanie Neuner Anfindsen and Nicola Kraml)

Voting: 62 approved | 0 did not approve | 4 abstained | [total: 66]

The report was approved.

Appointment of auditors for approval of accounts 2026 (*GM slide 47*)

Adriana Peña Bueno from ACLES (adriana.pena@ub.edu) and Alexander Grimm from AKS (alexander.grimm@sprachenzentrum.uni-halle.de) are appointed as auditors.

4. Outcomes of the Election of the new Executive Committee by the Coordinating Committee on 11 September 2024

a. Report by the election officer, Dr. Regina Mügge (*GM slides 50-51*)

Dr. Regina Mügge explains how the election was conducted and shares the results.

Office	Candidates	Votes obtained	Possible votes	Votes required
President	Julia Zabala, ACLES	21	22	15
Secretary General	Mia Panisse, FINELC	22	22	12
Treasurer	Tom Grainger, RANACLES	22	22	12
Vice-President	Libor Štěpánek, CASALC CZ	22	22	15
Deputy Secretary General	Alessandra Fazio, AICLU	21	22	12
Deputy Treasurer	Ruth Tobias, AKS Cesare Zanca AICLU	21 1	22	12

b. Ratification of the election of the President (*GM slides 52-53*)

Julia Zabala (ACLES) was elected President of CercleS at the Coordinating Committee meeting on 11 September. The election of the president has to be ratified by the General Meeting.

Voting: 63 approved | 0 did not approve | 3 abstained | [total: 66]

The election of the President is ratified

The new Executive Committee will take over day-to-day business on 1 October. (*GM slides 54*)

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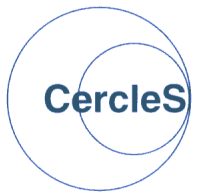
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5. AOB

a. Organisation and venue of the CercleS Conference 2026 (GM slides 55)

RANACLES will present a proposal in the coming weeks offering to host the XVIX CercleS Conference in Paris. Information about the next conference will be communicated in the coming months.

b. Date of the next General Meeting (GM slides 56)

At the XVIV CercleS Conference in 2026 (hybrid) – the date and time will be announced

The Executive Committee thanks all participants and adjourns the meeting. (GM slides 57)

Minutes: Zaan Bester

Secretary General: Anne Chateau

A. Chateau

President: Sabina Schaffner

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