

AGM highlights

The AGM at De Montfort University on Saturday 20 July was well attended, and members had the perfect forum to air their views on ITI matters, from constitutional issues to voting for an Honorary Past President.

Here is a round-up of motions discussed and passed.

- 1** To confirm the minutes of the annual general meeting held on 21 April 2001. *Confirmed.*
- 2** Receive the report of the Council and the audited accounts for year ended 30 April 2002. *Motion carried.* However the position of the money from the sale of the City Road offices in the accounts was queried, but it was agreed that while the position was not ideal, it was clearly accounted for in the report. Answering a question on the future servicing costs of the new building, Treasurer David Ryan said it was not possible to give a figure, but that these would be reduced.
- 3** To consider the motion that Baker Tilly, the successor to HLB Kidsons, shall be appointed statutory auditor until the next general meeting at which accounts are laid and that the Council should fix its remuneration. *Motion carried.*
- 4** To approve the appointment of Ms Diana Wallis as President for 2002/2003. *Motion carried.*
- 5** To confirm the appointment of David Ryan as Treasurer for year 2002/2003. David Ryan was the only candidate. Some members felt Mr Ryan should stand down, and the post should be an Institute member with accounting experience. Personal attacks were made from the floor about Mr Ryan and his ability to fulfil the post of Treasurer. Chair Diana Wallis, called the meeting to order and to vote. The result was split 15:15, with 10 absentions. A poll of members present and by proxy was carried out. *The motion was carried by 80 votes to 35.*
- 6** To approve the appointment of five members of the Council chosen by Qualified members:



De Montfort University, Milton Keynes, proved an accessible venue for this year's AGM

William Chilcott, Andrew Fenner, Daniela Panzer, Emma Wagner and Joanna Waller. *Motion carried.*

7 To approve the appointment of Rae Walter as a member of the Council chosen by non-qualified members. *Motion carried.*

8 To approve the appointment of William Chilcott as Chairman for the year 2002/2003. *Motion carried.* Mr Chilcott outlined plans for his term of office and scotched rumours about the implementation of compulsory CPDs. He congratulated ITI staff on

organising the AGM.

9 To take note of the officers of the Institute until the next AGM, which are as follows.

President

Ms Diana Wallis

Chairman

Mr William Chilcott

Vice-chairman

To be chosen by the Council from its members

Treasurer

Mr David Ryan

General Secretary

Mr Alan Wheatley

Members of the Council

Mr Simon Dalgleish

Mr Andrew Fenner

Ms Daniela Panzer

Ms Emma Wagner

Ms Joanna Waller

Ms Rae Walter

Mr Anthony Withers

10 To consider the motion that there shall be no increase for the subscription year 2002/3 and that the reference subscription year shall be changed to 2002/3, although there was an increase in the retail prices index between October 2000 and October 2001



Patricia Crampton (left) accepts the John Skyes Memorial Award for Excellence in recognition of her professional work and outstanding contributions to national and international organisations of translators from the new ITI President Diana Wallis, MEP.

justifying an increase in the subscription for ordinary members of £3. *Motion carried.*

11 To consider the motion that (a) for the subscription year 2003/4 the subscription for qualified members shall increase by £15 (ca 8.3%) and (b) the subscriptions for other members shall increase by 2.2%.

There was much discussion on point (b) and whether the increase was unfair as it took into account a levy for PI, an insurance some members already paid for separately. It was suggested this rise would be better dealt with at the 2003 AGM, but Michael Rowley pointed out that would probably be in September 2003 and too late a date to implement the rise. Mr Graham Cross moved that 'the question be not now put', but settled nearer the time, by postal ballot or an EGM. *The motion that 'the question be not now put' was carried on a show of hands, and Motion 11 was shelved.*

18 To consider the motion, proposed by Ms Christine Durban, that the members of the Institute of Translation & Interpreting would like to thank Antonio Aparicio for all the excellent work he has put into the *ITI bulletin* over the past six years, and in compensation for the damage incurred as a result of the manner in which his editorship of the *bulletin* was terminated with the Institute, wish to award him the sum of £12,000 (equivalent of six months' pay) payable



Sir Rowland Whitehead accepted a gift of a cut-glass decanter and glasses from the ITI Council at the AGM, as he stepped down from his six-year post as President and handed over to the new incumbent Diana Wallis, MEP. A motion was passed to appoint Sir Rowland as Honorary Past President and a Companion of the Institute. Sir Rowland, President from 1996-2002, said this was a great privilege. See letter to ITI members from Sir Rowland on page 27.



Counting the votes: from left, AGM Chair Diana Wallis, MEP, Former President Sir Rowland Whitehead, Bt, General Secretary Alan Wheatley and Council member Michael Rowley

with immediate effect. This motion was brought forward to the first item after lunch after a request by Chris Durban, who said she had to leave by 4pm and wanted to be present to speak on this issue. *The chair reluctantly agreed to put this change in the agenda running order to the floor and the change was passed.*

Members were unclear about the facts in the case of Mr Aparicio, who spoke on his own behalf to ask members to pass this motion over his 'unfair' dismissal. The action brought about by Mr Aparicio centred on the nature and serving of his notice period of six months, and whether he had qualified as being a full-time employee. The Chair, Diana Wallis, said she felt strongly that this was not the appropriate forum for this discussion, which is the subject of a court hearing.

The motion that 'the question be not now put' was carried on a show of hands, and Motion 18 was therefore shelved.

The Chairman stated, in response to Ms Durban, that Motion 18 would not be ignored but would be resolved by the new Council.

12 To consider the motion that Bylaw 5, making rules for networks and regional groups, shall be approved by the Institute. *The motion was carried.*

13 To consider the motion that part 15.4 of Bylaw 15, introducing the appointment of an Honorary Past President and Visitor, shall be approved by the Institute.

The motion was carried, excluding 15.4.2, and in particular clause b (i), which stated that a member, officer, or employed of the Institute aggrieved by a decision of the Council can petition the visitor,

provided all other means had been exhausted. Members did not want to slight Sir Rowland or undermine his six years' as President, but it was thought involvement of this kind of any Past President would be inappropriate.

14 To consider the motion, proposed by Mr Michael Rowley, that part 15.5.1 of Bylaw 15, introducing the principle of remunerating the ITI chairman, shall be approved by the Institute.

It was felt the role of the chairman was time-consuming and that the incumbent should be given a financial reward for loss of earnings. *Motion carried.*

15 To consider the motion, proposed by Mr Michael Rowley, that the chairman of the Institute shall be allowed a fee for his services, in accordance with part 15.5.1 of Bylaw 15, of £5,200 a year until the next annual general meeting.

After much discussion about an appropriate figure, the motion was carried and the amount confirmed as £5,200 per annum.

16&17 The motion that Motions

16 & 17 should be dropped.

This motion was carried.

19 Any other business

(i) Mohammed – expressed his concern that the current level of marketing within the Institute was ineffective and that a new focus was required to raise the profile of the Institute.

(ii) Ms Mercer asked that the Council reports in the *bulletin* be far more detailed and objective when published.

(iii) Mr Cross proposed that Dr Catherine Greensmith be elected to Fellow of the Institute in recognition of her services to the Institute as Chairman of the Institute. Mr Withers seconded the proposal. *Motion carried.*

(iv) Mr Anderson expressed concern regarding the format and production of the membership directory.

Alan Wheatley assured him that a new directory would be a priority for the new Council.

The ITI President thanked all those present for making her first AGM such a pleasant experience. She closed the meeting at 16:15.

HOW TO REACH US

THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO CONTACT THE ITI:

1 ITI WEBSITE –
WWW.ITI.ORG.UK

The main contact numbers, fax and email details for the ITI office are on the Home Page; choose *Contact ITI*.

■ The names and contact details for Council can be found on the page 'About ITI', then choose *ITI Council Members*.

■ Names and contact details for ITI staff can be found on the Home page, choose *Contact ITI*.

■ Contact details for Regions and Networks can be found on the Home Page choose *Regional groups and Networks*.

2. ITI BULLETIN

On page 1 of every issue of the *bulletin* are the:

- Names of Council members
- Names of standing committees and their Chair
- Contact details for the ITI Office

The first meeting of the new Council was due to be held on the 24 August 2002, as *bulletin* went to press. At this meeting the brief and structure of all committees will be considered and approved as necessary.

All decisions made will be reported to members in the November-December *bulletin*.

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