

# ESSLLI's Principles and Parameters Some Categorical Investigations

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## Abstract

This document lists the background and overall set-up of ESSLLI, the European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information, the bodies involved in the organisation of the annual ESSLLI Summerschools, the rights and responsibilities of these bodies, and a couple of appendices (a 'repository'), the most extensive part of which is available online. Comments are welcome.

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## 1 ESSLLI Background

ESSLLI, the European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information is a yearly recurring event, which has been organized since 1989 under the auspices of the Association for Logic, Language and Information (FoLLI). It is like a travelling academic circus. The ESSLLI Summer School covers two weeks of courses and workshops in the summer, in different sites around Europe, for beginning and advanced students, as well as senior researchers, on the interface between linguistics, logic and computation. ESSLLI provides foundational, introductory and advanced courses, as well as workshops, covering a wide variety of topics within the three main areas of interest: Language and Computation, Language and Logic, and Logic and Computation. In addition it hosts three or four evening lectures in which prominent researchers present interdisciplinary overviews of recent developments for a broad audience. ESSLLI also offers a number of social activities for students and senior researchers alike.

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Previous summer schools have been highly successful, attracting around 500 students from Europe and elsewhere. The school has developed into an important meeting place and forum for discussion for students and researchers interested in the interdisciplinary study of Logic, Language and Computation. A particular sign of the appreciation is ESSLLI's student session, part of the program since 1996, organized *for* and *by* the students themselves. An overview of previous locations and organizers can be found in the appendix.

## 2 Overall Organisation

The organisation of ESSLLI involves an interplay of a number of bodies:

- the FoLLI management board (FoLLI)
- the ESSLLI standing committee (SC)
- the local organizing committee (OC)
- the program committee (PC)
- the organizing committee for the student session (StS)

For an overview of the activities of the relevant bodies, schedules, and current members, also see the appendices. In this section we sketch the installment, and main tasks and responsibilities of the various bodies.

### *The Association of Logic, Language and Information (FoLLI)*

FoLLI was founded in 1991 to advance research and education on the interfaces between Logic, Linguistics, Computer Science and Cognitive Science and related disciplines. FoLLI is responsible for the organization of ESSLLI and it develops, enhances, sponsors and practically supports events, research and publications in the field. Beside many other activities, FoLLI has its own journal, the Journal of Logic, Language and Information (JoLLI).

### *Standing Committee (SC)*

The Standing Committee is a permanent body responsible for the quality of the ESSLLI scientific programs, the choice of future ESSLLI sites and the constitution of program committees. The SC proposes its own members in the areas of logic, language and information for normally two years; membership is subject to approval by the FoLLI board.

The SC collects and acquires proposals for organizing ESSLLI at least two years in advance of the scheduled date. The SC decides on a choice one and a half year in advance, in consultation with the FoLLI board. The SC also selects the members and a chair for the PC one year and four months in advance, and invites them after approval of FoLLI. The SC itself has to approve of the program submitted by the PC a year in advance.

Associated to the SC is the Standing Committee Secretary, who intermediates between OC and the SC with the primary motive to relate experience

in organizing an ESSLLI to an OC, and to keep the SC informed about the progress in organizing the events.

#### *The Organizing Committee (OC)*

Potential OC's submit proposals at least one year and nine months in advance with proof of support from the local institution and a selection is made by the SC one and a half year before. The Local OC is responsible for organizing the summer school on site. Among others, such includes setting up the summer school site, obtaining funding, arranging lecture rooms and accommodation, public relations, registration, printing and distributing course material, computer and internet facilities (labs, wireless connections), and keeping in contact with the lecturers. Such requires a year of work for the main responsible person, and normally a team of 4–8 of co-organizers, and a bunch of helpers.

#### *The Program Committee (PC)*

The Program Committee is responsible for the ESSLLI course program, the selection of the evening lecturers, and monitoring the organization of the workshops. For each ESSLLI the PC is chosen by the SC. A PC consist of a chair, one local co-chair and six section chairs (two for each area). The chair is responsible for the calls for proposals for courses and workshops, out of which a selection will be made. The PC members are requested to solicit suitable proposals, but eventually these have to be handled like other proposals: all proposals are accepted or rejected by the PC as a whole, and this decision is subject to approval by the SC, a year in advance on a meeting at ESSLLI itself. Deviations from the proposal are normally very minor.

There are strict schedules for advertising, submitting, and selecting course and workshop proposals. (See the appendices.) Professors who give a course must be senior, but they may be assisted by a (PhD-)student. Members of the SC, OC and PC are excluded from submitting courses. Further instructions can be found in the manual mentioned.

#### *The Student Session (Sts)*

The Student Session is relatively autonomous. It is organized \*for\* and \*by\* the students. Therefore the chair of the student session is always a student himself (mostly 'herself'), assisted by 3 or 6 co-chairs and 3 area experts. The chair of the ESSLLI Student Session is a student selected by the chair of the previous Student Session, a choice to be approved of by the SC again. In consultation with the chair of the PC, the StS chair composes his/her own team.

ESSLLI provides a one hour time slot for both oral presentations and a poster session each day. The StS is also responsible for electing a winning presentation and poster, and finding a grant for them, normally funded by Springer (before: Kluwer). Again there are rather strict regulations and time schedules: Students may apply for giving a presentation at a workshop *and* the

student session but they must indicate if they apply for both and they cannot be accepted for both. Students can definitely not be accepted to present work of their supervisor as a co-author. For more details, see the guide mentioned in the appendix.

### 3 Structure of Program

The ESSLLI program ideally consists of the following distribution of courses and workshops, one week each, and each one allotted 90 minutes for five days:

*Distribution of Proposals*

	FD	IN	AD	WS	Total
LaCo	2	6	6	2	16
LaLo	2	6	6	2	16
LoCo	2	6	6	2	16
Total	6	18	18	6	48

‘FD’ stands for foundational, and is meant for students in all areas, ‘IN’ is for introductory in a specific area, ‘AD’ is advanced in an area and ‘WS’ is for workshop. ‘La’ is language, ‘Co’ is computation, and ‘Lo’ is logic. These figures are definitely not pertinent. Depending on the type and quality of submissions there are fluctuations and experience has taught that it is unwise to classify the workshops in any of the three areas. (This means that in principle there is room for 6 workshops, no matter their specific subject matter.)

For the practical implementation of the course schedule this has, over the years, led to the following overall structure:

*Program Structure*

	Week 1	Week 2
9.15 – 10.45	Slot 1	Slot 5
11.00 – 12.30	Slot 2	Slot 6
12.30 – 14.15	<i>Lunch</i>	
14.15 – 15.45	Slot 3	Slot 7
16.00 – 17.00	<i>Student Session</i>	
17.15 – 18.45	Slot 4	Slot 8
19.00 – 20.00	<i>Evening Lecture</i>	

The two schedules together imply that on average 6 courses/workshops are given in each slot, and that a participant can, in principle, follow four courses/workshops per week. Taking in consideration further study, homework, evening lectures and social activities, seriously and completely following three courses seems to be a practical upper limit.

## 4 Financial Matters

The OC is responsible for a budget fluctuating between 150 and 250 KECU, and finding like 20% of external funding from academic institutions (local and national), international organizations, and local companies and industry. (The average ESSLLI population does provide expertise in, possible employees for, and consumers of, all kinds of information technological development and applications; surprisingly, we have not yet substantial financial interest from the part of the market.) The most part of the finances is brought in by the participants themselves, in some countries furnished by their home organizations, but definitely not in all. Each year there is strive for external funding, grants, and fee-waivers.

FoLLI does allow the members of the SC reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses for one meeting per year. The same holds for prospective organizers, and the chair of the PC. All this does *\*not\** cover reimbursement for following a whole school — like all others, one should find funding for that within the home institution. There are very strict and clear regulations about reimbursement of costs for travel and accommodation of lecturers and participants of the workshops. For further details, see the appendices.

## 5 Appendices

### SC guidelines

- this document

### OC guidelines

- <http://staff.science.uva.nl/~katrenko/WWW/manuals/timeline-v0105.pdf>

### PC guidelines

- <http://staff.science.uva.nl/~katrenko/WWW/manuals/pc06guidelines.pdf>

### StS guidelines

- <http://staff.science.uva.nl/~katrenko/WWW/sscmaterial/ssmanual-v05.pdf>

### Current Members, 2008

#### *FoLLI*

- Michael Moortgat (Amsterdam), president
- Ann Copestake (Cambridge), vice-president
- Lutz, Carsten (Dreseden), treasurer
- Carlos Areces (Nancy), secretary
- Johan van Benthem (Amsterdam), senior member

*SC*

- Paul Dekker (Amsterdam), chair
- Sophia Katrenko, (Amsterdam), secretary
- Ruth Kempson (London)
- Janos Makowsky (Haifa)
- Malvina Nissim (Bologna)
- Christian Rétoré (Bordeaux)

*OC, 2008*

- Hans van Ditmarsch (Otago & Toulouse), chair
- Benedikt Löwe (Amsterdam & Hamburg), chair
- Stefan Bold (Bonn)
- Hannah König (Hamburg)
- Peter van Ormondt (Amsterdam)
- Sara Uckelman (Amsterdam)

*PC, 2008*

- Rineke Verbrugge (Groningen), chair
- Benedikt Löwe (Amsterdam and Hamburg), local co-chair
- Petra Hendriks (Groningen), LaLo
- Philippe Schlenker (Los Angeles), LaLo
- Michael Kaminski (Haifa), LoCo
- Enrico Franconi (Bolzano), LoCo
- Khalil Simaán (Amsterdam), LaCo
- Massimo Poesio (Colchester), LaCo

*StS, 2008*

- Kata Balogh (Amsterdam), chair
- Laia Mayol (Pennsylvania), co-chair LoLa
- Manuel Kirschner (Free Bozen-Bolzano), co-chair LaCo
- Ji Ruan (Liverpool), co-chair LoCo
- Anke Lüdeling (Berlin)
- Paul Egré (Paris)
- Guram Bezhanishvili (New Mexico State)
- Alexander Rabinovich (Tel-Aviv)
- Rineke Verbrugge (Groningen)

## ESLLI Historical Overview

Year	Location	OC	PC	StS
1989	Groningen	Alex Lascarides, Jan de Vuyst, Frans Zwarts		–
1990	Leuven	Frank van Eynde	Frank Veltman	–
1991	Saarbrücken	Maike Paritong	Elisabet Engdahl	–
1992	Essex	Doug Arnold	Erhard Hinrichs	–
1993	Lisbon	Joao Peres	Jacob Hoeksema	–
1994	Copenhagen	Per Anker Jensen	Finn Sorensen	–
1995	Barcelona	Nuria Bell	Louisa Sadler	–
1996	Praag	Geert-Jan M. Kruijff	Patrick Blackburn	Anne-Marie Mineur
1997	Aix	Philippe Blache	Bill Keller	Alice Drewery
1998	Saarbrücken	Hans Uszkoreit	Maarten de Rijke	Ivana Kruijff-Korbayova
1999	Utrecht	Michael Moortgat	Heinrich Wansing	Amalia Todirascu
2000	Birmingham	Achim Jung	Enrico Franconi	Catherine Piliere
2001	Helsinki	Gabriel Sandu	Marcus Kracht	Kristina Strignitz
2002	Trento	Luciano Serafini	Claire Gardent	Malvina Nissim
2003	Wien	Matthias Baaz	Ivana Kruijff-Korbayova	Balder ten Cate
2004	Nancy	Patrick Blackburn	Antal van den Bosch	Paul Egré Laura Alonso i Alemany
2005	Edinburgh	Fairouz Kamareddine	Paul Dekker	Judit Gervain
2006	Malaga	Ernesto Pimentel	Carlos Areces	Janneke Huitink Sophia Katrenko
2007	Dublin	Carl Vogel	Tomaz Erjavec	Ville Nurmi Dmitry Sustretov
2008	Hamburg	Hans van Ditmarch Benedikt Löwe	Rineke Verbrugge	Kata Balogh

### SC Chairs

- Frans Zwarts (1989)
- Frank van Eynde (1990 – 1994)
- Elisabet Engdahl (1994 – 1996)
- ...
- Eva Hajicova (1999 – 2001)
- Maarten de Rijke (2002 – 2004)
- Michael Moortgat (2004 – 2007)
- Paul Dekker (2007 –)

### SC Secretariat

- Geert-Jan Kruijff (1997 – 2002)
- Willemijn Vermaat (2002 – 2006)
- Sophia Katrenko (2006 –)