

IAFL Policy on regional conferences

One of the primary goals of IAFL is the encouragement of meetings and seminars where topics in forensic linguistics can be discussed. As part of this commitment the IAFL facilitates the organisation of the biennial meeting. The IAFL executive committee, however, wishes also to encourage further meetings, which may be smaller in scale and may be designed to attract delegates on a regional rather than a worldwide basis.

The IAFL executive welcomes discussions with any members thinking of arranging regional meeting and can offer different types of support to such meetings.

Where regional meetings fall at a minimum of six months distance from the biennial meeting the following kinds of support may be possible:

1. **Use of the IAFL name** – Where the IAFL executive committee expresses its support for a regional meeting, and with the explicit agreement of the executive, the organisers may choose to use the IAFL name and branding using a formulation similar to one of the following:
 - a. The South Pole Regional Forensic Linguistic conference supported by IAFL.
 - b. The 2015 IAFL Antarctic Regional conference.

Whether or not there are other regional conferences being run in any given year, the executive committee will not agree to the naming of a regional conference as e.g. “The 2020 IAFL conference” (or similar) as this formulation will be reserved to refer only to the biennial conference.

2. **Financial support** – Financial support will only be offered to a regional conference where the conference offers discounted registration fees to members of IAFL in the order of one year’s membership fee. By negotiation the cost of discounted registration for members can be supported from IAFL funds.
 - a. The IAFL executive can offer direct financial support to a regional conference to cover specific identified expenses e.g. the travel costs of a named plenary speaker with a reputation in forensic linguistics and can pay expenses directly to the speaker.
 - b. The IAFL executive may also offer to fund a number of student memberships to encourage the attendance of students to the regional conference, conditional on evidence of those students actually attending.

IAFL support is not limited to these suggestions and members should feel free to bring to the executive committee any further ideas of how IAFL resources can be used to encourage regional meetings.