

TISLR 10 2010 Evaluation Summary on the basis of the on-line questionnaire

What the organisers did well in relation to TISLR 10:

- Overall the conference was seen as worthwhile and most people took away positive things from it.
- Direct communication was seen as worthwhile, and interpreter coordination was considered very good.

COMMUNICATION RECOMMENDATION:

Continue the direct communication policy at TISLR 11.

What the organisers could have done better in relation to TISLR 10:

- Not enough time for networking (esp. during the conference but also before – a meet and greet for participants new to the field was suggested).

SOCIAL ACTIVITY RECOMMENDATION: Have a preconference informal gathering specifically aimed at people new to the field, and ensure some 'old hand' academics attend.

- Not enough time or space for posters.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME RECOMMENDATION:

- a. allow ample room for people to mingle amongst posters
- b. allow enough dedicated time in the programme for the poster session(s).

- Schedule was too rushed, not enough breaks. Mixed views on parallel sessions though most did not like them.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME RECOMMENDATION:

- a. schedule should allow adequate time between presentations,
- b. ample networking opportunities
- c. try to avoid parallel sessions

- Many felt the posters were better quality than the talks
- Too much research already published, requests for hot off the press research.

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- a. Investigate ways to ensure that presented work has not been published before the conference
- b. Ensure the talks are more significant contributions than the posters
- c. Ensure a variety and balance of theoretical perspectives is included.

- Hotels and venue were not conveniently located for travelling between
- The projectors and lighting weren't great - it was hard to see slides from mid-back of room. Rooms were not ideal for viewing - too large and flat.

VENUE RECOMMENDATION:

- a. Ensure venue has room large enough for poster sessions
- b. Ensure all rooms have good sightlines and lighting
- c. Choose hotels nearby.

- Requests for handouts or copies of slides after the conference.

WEBSITE RECOMMENDATION: all handouts and slides should be uploaded to a website after the conference, and all attendees made aware of this.

- The cultural activity was not seen as worthwhile
- Requests for better preparation by presenters
 - o re: incorporating video data into presentations, size of fonts on slides, speed of presentations and preparation for interpreters
 - o The talks were hit or miss, many were too fast and/or too dense with information
 - o Requests for more signed presentations

PRESENTER GUIDELINES RECOMMENDATION:

- a. Ensure that guidelines for presentations are made clear (including the need to make PP presentations clear and legible)
- b. Instruct chairs to manage presentations well.

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Feedback from suggestions from SLLS for future TISLRs:

- An advanced workshop before the conference (and possibly a recommended reading list beforehand) is recommended.
- An introductory course in sign linguistics before the conference was not seen as something desirable in future
- The suggestion of live captioning was not really seen as worthwhile.
- **PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATION:** An advanced sign language linguistics workshop/summer school might be popular.

Other:

- The way most people found out about TISLR was from friends or colleagues. SLLING-L and the TISLR website were more important than finding out through SLLS.
- Need more support for involvement by researchers from developing countries

Proposed actions from the SLLS board:

- Feedback about organisation will be passed to the organisers of TISLR 11 and included in guidelines for TISLR organizers.
- The organizers will be encouraged to organize an advanced workshop with possibly a reading list.
- TISLR posters are being archived on SLLS website and will continue to be
- The board will investigate whether handouts/slides from presentations can be archived.
- SLLS will make more effort to publicise TISLR 11 through its website/networks
- The board will investigate whether researchers from developing countries could possibly be given the chance of a bursary