

## Presidency

### Profile

Presidents of ALL come from differing backgrounds and sectors. They all have certain features in common:

- a passion for language teaching and learning
- proven success in their chosen field, e.g. classroom teaching, teacher training, research, creation of language teaching resources
- experience of working at local, regional or national level in the support of languages education
- the ability to represent and inspire ALL members
- a desire to further the aims of the Association and to support language teachers.

While the function of President is to act as a figurehead for the Association, the role brings with it significant responsibility, both moral and legal. The President is an officer of the Association and a trustee. He / she sits on the Management Board of the Association. This Board is responsible for the financial health, business, staff management and good governance of ALL and trustees are personally liable for its finances. However, trustees are protected by insurance and provided they act within the law any liabilities are covered.

### Term of office

Elections for President will take place every two years in the late spring/early summer.

The successful candidate will serve a term of office totalling three years.

The cycle allows for:

Year 1 is an induction phase as President Elect starting the September following the election

Years 2 and 3: President

All nominees will receive papers describing the commitment of the role prior to agreeing to stand for election.

A plan will ideally be drawn up by each President, in negotiation with the Director / Board, to provide a focus to his / her role. The plan should take account of, and fit in with, the organisation's overall strategy.

### President Elect

It is not assumed that a President Elect would necessarily have recent experience of serving on Association committees or in other groups.

It is expected that he / she would be in sympathy with the Association's views and able to pursue the Association's cause in public.

During the year as President Elect he / she will:

- Meet the President
- Meet the Director
- Meet ALL staff
- Receive induction in the roles of Trustee and President
- Sit as an observer on Management Board
- Sit on the ALL Council
- Attend Language World
- Attend other meetings of ALL groups as appropriate

The President Elect may have an action plan, to be discussed and approved by the Board with advice from senior staff, for his/her year of office, reflecting the personal expertise of the President Elect as well as ALL objectives. Examples of activity could be

- attending and / or giving talks on themes identified in the presidential plan, at ALL events and those of other organisations
- visits to public bodies, partner organisations, cultural agencies etc.
- time at the office
- substituting for the President in a public forum as appropriate

## **President (two years)**

During the year as President he / she will:

- Become an ALL trustee
- Attend Management Board meetings
- Represent ALL as appropriate
- Assist in the planning of Language World in each year of office and host and attend the event
- Chair the ALL Council
- Contribute to publications
- Be proactive in developing membership
- Attend branch and network events
- Brief incoming President (year 2)

## **Nature of the roles**

Both roles within the Presidency are voluntary positions. Individuals taking on these roles will need to be able to devote adequate time and energy to the position and those in full-time employment may wish to consider carefully whether they will be able to juggle both their paid job and the commitment asked of an ALL President.

A minimum of 10 days a year are needed to attend Board and Council meetings and in reality this is often closer to 12 days a year when extra meetings are taken into account. Although some of these meetings (at least 2 a year) are on Saturdays, others are on weekdays.

Presidents are also expected to attend Language World in both years of their presidency, a commitment of around 2.5 days, one of which is a Saturday.

There are no remuneration or secondment arrangements for these roles. All out-of-pocket expenses are covered as are certain costs to attend conferences and other professional events. Accommodation is provided for Language World and other meetings where long distance travel is necessary.