

**Nederlandse Vereniging voor Logica en Wijsbegeerte der Exacte
Wetenschappen**

Notulen Algemene Ledenvergadering
28 January 2021, Zoom, 16:00–17:00

Present. Jos Baeten, Nick Bezhanishvili (presided over items 5.–7.), Dick de Jongh, Roel de Vrijer, Kees Doets, Helle Hvid Hansen, KP Hart, Leah Henderson, Leo Horowitz, Rosalie Iemhoff, Dominik Klein, Barteld Kooi, Benedikt Löwe, FA Muller, Jacques Riche, Sonja Smets, Balder ten Cate, Elias Thijssse, Johan van Benthem, Peter van Ormondt (minutes), Yde Venema, Rineke Verbrugge (presided over items 1.–3.), Albert Visser (presided over item 4.).

1. Opening. Rineke Verbrugge opens the meeting and proposes the meeting to be held in English. There are no objections.

2. Minutes of the last General Meeting. The last ALV was held on 26 September 2014 and the preliminary minutes are published on the VvL website. The ALV confirms the minutes of the last ALV by acclamation. Peter van Ormondt agrees to take minutes of the meeting.

3. Reports by the President & Treasurer. The *President* Rineke Verbrugge reports that very few activities took place after the last ALV: *Boole 200*, a celebration of Boole’s bicentenary in Utrecht on 8 May 2015 and a sponsorship of the mathematical logic satellite conference for the *International Congress of Mathematicians* in 2018 held in Niterói (Brazil, August 2018).

The *Treasurer* Elias Thijssse reports that the old bank account at ING has been closed down; the current balance of €4,615.82 will be transferred to a new bank account at SNS Bank. In the years of inactivity no membership fees were collected, so the only income of the VvL was an annual subsidy of €1,000.– from the *E. W. Beth Stichting*. On behalf of the Board of the Beth Stichting, Albert Visser confirms that they will consider continuing this annual subsidy. On the expenses side, the Treasurer reports that the annual liabilities are €100 for bank fees, €270 for the annual DLMPST membership fee, and €20 for the hosting of the website.

At the ALV in 2014, Theo Janssen and Henry Prakken were elected as audit control committee. Janssen was unable to do it and Leo Horowitz replaced him: the accounts were checked by Leo Horowitz and Henry Prakken in 2014.

4. Board Elections Benedikt Löwe gives a brief account of the current situation. The old board consisted of Jan Broersen, Iris Loeb, Benedikt Löwe, Fred Muller, Balder ten Cate, Elias Thijssse, Vincent van Oostrom, and Rineke Verbrugge. All of them had been elected in September 2014 or before. According to the VvL statutes (Article 12.2), Board members are elected for six years and are not re-electable. As a consequence, the mandate of all eight

old Board members has lapsed. According to Article 11.1 of the VvL statutes there is no upper limit for the number of Board members; the President is elected by the ALV (“*in functie gokozen*”). The Board then elects the Treasurer and the Secretary from among their members.

Benedikt Löwe reports that there has been a preliminary meeting on 13 January during which a proposal for the new Board was made. The proposed fourteen Board members are

Nick Bezhanishvili, Jan Broersen, Davide Grossi, Helle Hvid Hansen, K. P. Hart, Leah Henderson, Rosalie Iemhoff, Dominik Klein, Benedikt Löwe, Sonja Smets, Balder ten Cate, Elias Thijsse, Peter van Ormondt, Rineke Verbrugge.

Among this group, Nick Bezhanishvili is proposed as candidate for the office of President. The group communicates that they intend to elect Peter van Ormondt as Treasurer and leave the office of Secretary vacant for a year. The office holders (Bezhanishvili and van Ormondt) consider their offices as transitional and pledge to hold these offices for one year in the hope that a stable new governance team for the VvL can be found in early 2022.

Albert Visser volunteers to chair the election. He proposes in accordance with Article 19.3 that the election be made by a single Zoom vote for the entire proposed ballot. There are no objections. The ALV elects the fourteen proposed Board members and Bezhanishvili as President with 19 votes in favour and no votes against.

The members are asked to volunteer to serve on the new audit committee for the 2021 financial audit. Jos Baeten and Roel de Vrijer are willing to serve and are elected by acclamation by the ALV.

5. Open discussion about future activities. The newly elected President, Nick Bezhanishvili takes the chair and invites members to openly discuss future VvL activities. The following issues are raised and discussed:

- (1) During the first (transitional) year, a number of administrative issues need to be taken care of: the new bank account needs to be established, the archives should be transferred to the ILLC, the website needs to be updated, and the statutes need to be modernised.
- (2) Some newly elected Board members ask about the plans for Board meetings. The President suggests to have a first (Zoom) Board meeting in the next weeks and discuss particulars. He also suggests that particular issues should be considered not by the entire Board, but by subcommittees.
- (3) The VvL plans to organise at least one event in 2021, either in May or in September 2021. This event is likely to be a Zoom event (especially if it is in May).
- (4) The membership list of the VvL does not include all active researchers in logic: the President proposed to proactively promote membership of the VvL. It was also mentioned that the VvL has served as a platform for Dutch alumni in logic in the past and that it could be useful to contact the relevant Master’s and Ph.D. programmes to include invitations to join the VvL. Future events of the VvL should be used to advertise membership of the VvL.

- (5) The newly elected Board reports that there was a decision not to collect membership fees for the calendar year 2021. The President suggests to consider this also for 2022.
- (6) Albert Visser raises the question of the relationship between the VvL and the defunct OzSL. He argues that there is no point in having two separate organisations and that the VvL should take over certain functions that the OzSL had. It is unclear whether the VvL will have any role in the formal organisation of graduate schools. It is proposed that the VvL should become an *extraordinary member* of the *ICT-Research Platform Netherlands* (IPN). The current chair is Catherijne Donker.
- (7) Rineke Verbrugge and Dick de Jongh propose to have a closer collaboration with both the Beth and the Heyting Stichting. This is supported by the members of the Board of both foundations present at the ALV.
- (8) The President asks the ALV to consider the institution of a VvL Prize. This idea is discussed: details would have to be specified in order to position such a Prize within the award landscape and avoid re-duplication of existing Prizes (e.g., the Beth Prize). It is proposed that it is important for the prestige of the Prize that the Prize jury is completely independent of the VvL and consists of researchers of the highest international reputation.
- (9) The President raises the issue of lobbying for logic in the Netherlands. The VvL is officially the national voice of logic in the Netherlands, but is currently not in a position to be heard. Structural decisions in the NWO are often made without any input from the logic community. It is desirable that this changes. Three members of the ALV to serve on a subcommittee to discuss the communications between the NWO and the Dutch logic community: Rosalie Iemhoff, Yde Venema, and Rineke Verbrugge. The President thanks them for their willingness to get involved.
- (10) One of the themes that the new Board wishes to tackle is the role of logic in Dutch secondary education.

6. Any other business. Johan van Benthem urges the new Board to consider outreach events that address the general public. Albert Visser suggests that the VvL could consider a logo design (currently, the VvL does not have a proper logo).

7. Closing. The President closes the meeting.

Peter van Ormondt
Amsterdam, 10 February 2021