Early Career Representative - Communications

This position will play a key role in supporting the VP – Communications, and the elected ECR will be an important part of the Communications Committee. As such, he/she will support the VP in overseeing the development and establishment of an effective communication strategy for SIL, provide supervision of SIL regular communication activities, as well as provide oversight and support to the SILNews Editor and coordinate content creation with the SIL Secretariat. He/She will be asked to contribute insights into how communication functions may support the SIL business and revenue model in the future.

Along with other elected ECRs on the SIL Executive Board, this person will also be called to form and supervise the Early Career Researchers Committee, bring forward the voice of early career researchers and students in our field and represent their interests through all decisions made by the Board and its committees. He/She will assume leadership in integrating ECRs into SIL activities.

The 3-year term for this position will start in August 2021 at the end of the SIL 2021 Congress in Korea. The expected time commitment for Early Career representatives is approx. 10 hours/month, divided between official Board duties and committee steering and membership. Eligible are SIL members that are students at the time of application and those that have received their PhD degree not more than 5 years ago. Candidacies from female applicants and early-career researchers in low to middle-income level countries are strongly encouraged.

1) General moral and legal duties of board members:
   a) Understand the legal duties for Board members of a US not-for-profit corporation (501 (c) -3)
   b) Oversee the running of the Society
   c) Read and know SIL Statutes, minutes of meetings, Inland Waters journal, SILNews, website
   d) Participate in on-line board meetings (6-8 per year) and e-mail correspondence, and be present physically at one face-to-face Board meeting per year if the conditions permit it
   e) Be proactive and engaged in formulating SIL’s strategy for the future
   f) Be proactive and engaged in implementing our decisions
   g) Participate in SIL Congress, related Board meetings and General Assembly held at that time (virtual participation is planned for 2021 and physical presence will be required for 2022 and onwards)

2) Duties of individuals:
   a) Be in charge and take responsibility over SIL committees you co-chair (approx. 4 hours/month)
   b) Participate actively in at least one other committee or Working Group (approx. 2 hours/month)
   c) Promote SIL and SIL membership within your own networks, take active role in increasing SIL visibility
d) Provide content for SILNews twice a year

3) **Opportunities for board members**
   a) Opportunity to take part in steering an active change, to be a leader in limnological science
   b) Exemption from SIL congress registration fees
   c) Inclusion in the “SIL Scholars” directory; become a resource for potential speaking opportunities as an official SIL representative and act as mentor and expert during SIL events

**Mandate of the Communication Committee**

- Communicate the role of SIL as an important society for freshwater science and all related fields and contribute to securing our international leadership on these topics.
- Facilitate active engagement amongst SIL members, officers and broader audience.
- Design efficient channels for communication of relevant information from the Society and of educational and event programs
- Design system for collecting and disseminating audience-generated content.
- Create and coordinate a working network with other international and national societies linked to water issues
- Coordinate the work of social media volunteers
- Contribute to content creation for all channels
- Oversee the implementation and upkeep of technological platforms supporting SIL content broadcast and two-way communications

**NOTE:** The previously identified mandate of the SIL communication committee will need to be updated by the newly elected VP and ECR.

**Mandate of the Early Career Researchers Committee**

This committee will be comprised of all ECR members of the SIL Boards and volunteers and together, they will ensure that the interests and the voice of students and ECRs from all over the world, and particularly from countries with emerging economies, is being included for all considerations. They will develop programs for early-career researchers in conjunction with the Communication and Education committees and will oversee existing mentorship programs. The committee may take on the following tasks:

- Develop ways for ECRs to become active within SIL and by engaging ECRs to take over roles with the Society
- Contribute to the engagement of ECRs in Inland Waters (e.g. efforts to increase its IF, become AEs, submit articles, organize special issues), SILnews, SIL congresses, SIL Working Groups SIL networks and social media
- Coordinate continuous ECR contributions to SIL communication pathways
○ Develop and coordinate ECR formats on SIL congresses, e.g. short courses or career events.