

Statutes of the ICLA Short-Term Committee on Digital Comparative Literature (DCL)

Preamble (The foundation, the intention and the purpose)

The DCL Committee was established following its inaugural online meeting on April 15, 2024 and approval by the ICLA Research Development Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to promote the development and use of digital tools (such as distant reading, multilingual text corpora, GIS mapping, and data visualization) for the comparative study of literature

Article 1 (Position within ICLA, responsibilities, annual reports)

The DCL Committee is accountable to the ICLA Executive Council and submits an annual formal report on its activities.

Article 2 (Composition)

The DCL Committee shall consist of a minimum of eight members and shall strive for a balanced representation in terms of region, gender, ethnicity and professional development.

Article 3 (Membership: nomination, election, term of office, mandate)

The Committee shall consider any participant on a sponsored panel at ACLA, ICLA or ESCL as a member of the Research Committee if they so wish. Additional members may join the Committee based on their profile, CV, references and letter of commitment. New memberships are approved by a majority vote (see Article 6). Membership is valid until the end of the three-year term of the DCL Committee.

Article 4 (Chairperson, Co-chairs, and Secretary)

The Chairperson and the Secretary (who can also be supported by up to two Co-chairs) shall be elected for three years. Their election is subject to ratification by the ICLA Executive Council.

Article 5 (Business meetings of the Committee)

The DCL Committee shall meet in person or online as necessary (at least once per year); in any case, it should meet prior to the General Assembly at the ICLA International Congresses.

Article 6 (Voting)

Votes shall be decided by a simple majority of the members present at a meeting. The quorum shall consist of half of the Committee members present or represented plus one member. A vote on an urgent matter or on a matter arising between Committee meetings may be conducted electronically and decided by a simple majority of the existing members.

Article 7 (Responsibilities of Chairperson, Co-chairs, and Secretary)

The Chairperson, the Co-chairs, and the Secretary shall lead the discussion on the mission and vision of the Committee and shall ensure that it is preserved throughout its existence, they shall oversee its membership and liaise with the ICLA Executive Council.

Finally, they shall be jointly responsible for the finances. They shall draw up the budget, which must be approved by the Committee. They propose applications for grants and their use to the Committee. They examine and approve the financial reports of those who have received the funds granted.

The Committee is free to receive grants from private, regional, national or international organizations, provided that the acceptance of such grants does not conflict with the ICLA Constitution and is approved by the Committee.

Article 8 (Funding)

Available funds shall be deposited in one of the ICLA accounts maintained by the Treasurer of ICLA.

Article 9 (Activities, research, dissemination)

The activities of the DCL Committee include the convening of conferences and workshops, the publication of articles, the creation of text corpora, the development of applications for computer-assisted analysis of literary texts in different languages, and the management of the Committee's website.

Members are expected to participate in the activities of the Committee in the following ways:

- Attend annual meetings/workshops of the Committee, normally at least 2 during the 3-year term.
- Constructively contribute to the ongoing business of the Committee outside of the annual meetings, in support of the Chairperson, Co-chairs, and Secretary.

Article 10 (Amendments to the Statutes)

A motion to amend these Statutes must be made by at least two members of the Committee and submitted to all members of the Committee at least one month prior to the date of the next meeting. Voting on the Rules shall be in accordance with the provisions of Article 6.

Any amendment to the Statutes must be approved by the ICLA Executive Council.