

## ESLA Task Forces

- ✓ high-performance team working on a specific task in a specified time frame
- ✓ each TF will have short, tangible goals.
- ✓ working language is English
- ✓ TF will consist of 3 up to a maximum of 6 people.
- ✓ It is strongly encouraged that delegates form part of a task force. Other members of the member association, as well as non-SLTs, may be nominated for the task force provided they satisfy the criteria for the specific task force.
- ✓ TF members are required to have expertise or special interest in the task at hand and be able to dedicate time to the task force.
- ✓ duration of each TF is one year to reach the set objective, unless specified otherwise.
- ✓ It is foreseeable that certain task forces will require more than one year, e.g. Congress task force.
- ✓ Specific requirements will be listed for each TF so that member organisations can nominate candidates accordingly.
- ✓ ESLA covers travelling and accommodation expenses for up to two physical meetings per calendar year.
- ✓ A maximum of two individuals from the same ESLA member association are allowed in each task force.
- ✓ Members may propose new task forces. The board evaluates the proposals on the basis of the current vision, mission and objectives of ESLA.

### **HOW TO APPLY TO BECOME MEMBER**

- ✓ **Send a nomination letter from the member association; AND**
- ✓ **Short CV, explaining motivation and personal assets for the task.**
- ✓ **Deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 [gen.sec@eslaeurope.eu](mailto:gen.sec@eslaeurope.eu)**

## Educational Standards including the Common Training Framework (CTF) Task Force

### Background

European Union Directive 2013/55/EC (The Recognition of Professional Qualifications) allows Member States to decide on a common set of minimum knowledge, skills and competences that are needed to pursue a given profession through a Common Training Framework. To be adopted the framework must combine the knowledge, skills and competences of at least one third of the Member States. Professionals who have gained their qualifications under a Common Training Framework will be able to have these recognised automatically within the EU.

During the CPLOL EGA in October 2016, a vote was taken on whether CPLOL should work on a Common Training Framework for our profession. More than 9 members (which is the minimum required) had voted in favour. Although this has been high on our agenda, due to the restructuring of our organisation, other items took priority. Now we can focus more on this matter, especially from feedback given during the on-to-one meetings of the ESLA Chair with the Chairs and Presidents of our member organisations.

## **Main goal of the TF**

- To work towards achieving CTF for Speech and Language Therapy

## **TF Duties**

- Network and make necessary contacts to gather information about and requirements to set up CTF (CEPLIS can be very helpful)
- Liaise with other TFs who may be able to provide necessary data
- Prepare any necessary documents for ESLA members to present to relevant authorities in their local discussions. It is envisaged that these discussions will include the relevant Ministries and Universities/higher education institutions offering SLT programmes.

## **Recommended TF Qualities**

- Commitment and passion for the task and topic
- Good networking and writing skills
- Candidates with a diverse set of skills, professional backgrounds and sets of knowledge
- are appreciated.

## **Other assets**

- Experience in networking with EU bodies and institutions
- Being already active in advocating for the profession and client/patients

***It is envisaged that this TF will be active for a minimum of two years. It is highly recommended that candidates can commit themselves to the full term to ensure a steady and continuous process of achieving the CTF.***

## **Comparative data for European SLT associations - EU funds project proposal Task Force**

### **Background**

One of the strengths of ESLA is its networking opportunities. It wants to provide its members with actual data, statistics and information about the current situation of the Speech and Language Therapy profession in Europe. Several ESLA member organisations, as well as outside organisations, often reach out to ESLA for information. We do have some preliminary data but it is not enough. This information will help ESLA continue working on its vision to be the authoritative voice of Speech and Language Therapy in Europe and work on improving the status of the profession across the whole of Europe.

### **Main goal of the TF**

- Evaluate EU funds opportunities and work on a proposal to seek funds to enable ESLA to carry out research to collect data about the profession in Europe to have a unique pool of data.

## **TF Duties**

- Research about the various EU funding opportunities and evaluate the best strand for an application for EU funds
- Network and contact any other organisations and institutions to help them reach the aim of the Task Force.
- Liaise with the ESLA Board as well as other TFs and ESLA members as required to ensure that the research addresses all the different areas of our profession.
- Draw a proposal for EU funds.

## **Recommended TF Qualities**

- Commitment and passion for the task and topic
- Good networking and writing skills
- Candidates with a diverse set of skills, professional backgrounds and sets of knowledge are appreciated.

## **Other assets**

- Knowledge of EU funds
- Experience in networking with EU bodies and institutions
- Being already active in advocating for the profession and client/patients

*This Task Force will be in charge of drawing a proposal and preparing an application for EU funds. Eventual implementation of the project will be the task of another Task Force in the eventuality that the application for funds is successful.*

## **Development of information sheets on communication disorders team**

This team will be a sub-group of the existing SLT Day and SLT Awareness TF and will further enhance the work of the TF as per details listed below.

### **Background**

We are aware that there is a lot of information readily available about communication and swallowing disorders. However, we are often asked for official information and documentation from ESLA on different areas. We thus propose to draw up information sheets about various communication and swallowing disorders. This information may also make reference to recognised and reliable information sources.

### **Main goal of the subgroup**

To create information sheets on communication and swallowing disorders.

### **Duties**

- Compile information sheets on various communication and swallowing disorders
- Liaise closely with the SLT Day and SLT Awareness TF
- Information sheets should be concise and have the same layout.

### **Recommended TF Qualities**

- Commitment and passion for the task and topic
- Good teamwork
- Candidates with a diverse set of skills, professional backgrounds and sets of knowledge are appreciated.

### **Other assets**

- Experience in preparing awareness materials
- Being already active in advocating for the profession and client/patients

## Testimonials from current Task Force members

*“Being part of the SLT awareness TF was a great learning experience. The great teamwork motivated me to keep giving my utmost even when deadlines were a bit tight. I made new friends and started to appreciate more the different perspectives of speech therapy in different countries. I feel that this task force was an enjoyable experience because I feel I have positively grown in character and professionally” .*

**Daniela Vassallo, Malta; European Day & SLT Awareness TF.**

*"Being part of a task force has helped me to develop important team working and leadership skills and gain experience of event organisation on a larger scale than I was used to" .*

**Mark Jayes, UK; Congress TF.**

*“When I saw the description of the Additional revenue task force, I decided to join. Not just because, but I wanted to contribute my own experience on the field of fundraising. Sometimes it is very difficult to provide ideas to support the work of a huge organization, but there is also a lot of work to be done.*

*The Board has not the physical time to finish all the work, to fix all the problems, to develop the organization, to create ideas, because the members of the Board – they are also people, with their own families, patients, problems.*

*So do not hesitate to join those task forces, you feel you could help, even is with just a small step ahead. Because we all need to feel ESLA is doing all the best to support the SLT profession all over the Europe”.*

**Nina Jordonova, Bulgaria; Additional Revenues TF.**