

Babel moves into overdrive

Frans De Laet

Editor in chief

Starting with its January 2017 edition, *Babel* will be appearing every two months. This is the first time in more than sixty years of publication that FIT's academic and scientific journal has appeared six times a year. *Babel* thus joins the high-frequency elite among John Benjamins' publications.

That, we know, is by no means the sole measure of the highest standards. The idea of increasing publication frequency developed slowly but it highlights, to our undeniable satisfaction, the growing interest in *Babel*, and the importance many authors and researchers seemingly attach to the possibility of publishing the results of their research, in particular among the vast community brought together by FIT. We offer our heartfelt thanks to John Benjamins Publishing Company, trusting that with six numbers a year we shall be even better able to fulfil the Federation's mission, to be the voice of associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists around the world.

Over the past three years our annual page-count has risen from around 500 in 2014 (vol. 60) to some 700 in 2016 (vol. 62). We hope that with 900 pages available in 2017, we shall be able not only to offer a broader range of articles, but also to give even greater prominence to FIT's own events..

That will not be easy, as we are all too aware, and we are relying on the understanding both of our readers and of our authors, particularly during the transition phase.

A number of changes go hand-in-hand with this new initiative. One of them is collaboration with a second editor-in-chief. It is thus with pride on behalf of *Babel*, and personal gratitude for her commitment, that I welcome as co-editor in chief Professor Meifang Zhang of the University of Macau. Unanimously recognised and appreciated throughout the world of translation and interpreting, she will undoubtedly leave her mark on the future development of *Babel*.

The Editorial Board will likewise be expanded. FIT's Executive Committee is currently considering the composition of a Standing Committee on *Babel* to consolidate the new organisation.

Enough of fine words. Let us trust that practical implementation of the plan goes forward without a hitch. Our readers, for their part, can look forward to many hours of enriching reading.