

Recommendations for establishment of an academic association for luminescence and ESR dating

Working group members

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Brief background information

- The LED conference has been our tradition for the last ~40 years, without a professional association.
- During the LED2017 meeting in Cape Town, strong support has been made by the participants to establish an academic association.
- The participants agreed to set up a working group (WG) to prepare for an academic association for the LED and that members should be nominated in a bottom-up process.
- The WG members have been nominated from the regional LED meetings and it was formed in June 2019.
- The WG has discussed essential points to set up an association and has summarised recommendations.

Discussion points

- 1) Name of the Society
- 2) Logo of the Society
- 3) Mission and Duties of the Society
- 4) Means of Dissemination of the Society
- 5) Financial and Legal Arrangements of the Society
- 6) Structure of the Society
- 7) Administration of the Society

1) Name of the Society

Society for Luminescence and ESR Dating
SLED

2) Logo of the Society



3) Mission and Duties of the Society

1. To serve the common interests and facilitate the cooperation of researchers working in luminescence and electron spin resonance dating;

- by facilitating communication among laboratories and members within the community;
- by encouraging good practice and ethical behaviour within research;
- by supporting the establishment of new laboratories;
- by aiding coordination of 'big data' or meta-analysis studies.

2. To improve the quality of luminescence and electron spin resonance dating;

- by encouraging development of calibration standards;
- by providing a forum for establishing and revising reporting standards;
- by acting as a focus for inter-lab comparison initiatives.

3) Mission and Duties of the Society (continued)

3. to provide a global forum for luminescence and electron spin resonance dating researchers through publications and meetings;

- by promoting and ensuring the continuity of the triennial conference known as 'The nth Luminescence and Electron Spin Resonance Dating Conference'(LED);
- by selecting the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee for each triennial conference and selecting the mode of publication, the refereeing standards, and the publishers of the Proceedings of each triennial conference;
- by supporting the organization of the triennial conference, including associated workshops and training opportunities;
- by encouraging organization of regional meetings, workshops and other events to foster interaction and research in luminescence and electron spin resonance dating;
- by maintaining Ancient TL as the official journal of SLED for providing publication and information platform relevant to the community;
- by promoting and facilitating the inclusion of young researchers within the dating community and the SLED itself.

3) Mission and Duties of the Society (continued)

4. To improve visibility and recognition of luminescence and electron spin resonance dating research among the broader scientific community and funding agencies;

- by holding sessions at other interdisciplinary conferences or arranging joint meetings with related geochronology and other applied dating societies;
- by education of the public about luminescence and electron spin resonance dating;
- by production of white papers to influence funding agencies.

The activity of SLED shall solely be for scientific and educational purposes and not for profit.

4) Means of Dissemination of the Society

- Ancient TL is the official journal of SLED.
- The society supports costs to maintain Ancient TL.
- Where future LED proceedings are to be published should be discussed by the elected steering committee.

5) Financial and Legal Arrangements of the Society

- The membership fee should be reasonably low. The membership is individual membership only, and the annual fees of ~20 €//\$ for professionals and ~10 €//\$ for students are suggested.
- SLED accepts donations.
- SLED should be registered in a country with a stable currency and where many members can be expected - registration in Germany has been suggested.
 - With the relatively low membership fee the expected annual budget of the SLED would be ~5-10 k €//\$.
 - The budget will be mainly utilised e.g. for maintaining the Ancient TL and SLED website, developing calibration standards, and preparing for laboratory intercomparison.

6) Structure of the Society

- SLED will start from a small steering committee of 7 members including; president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, 2 ordinary members and the editor of Ancient TL.
- The steering committee is responsible for appointing the editor of Ancient TL.
- At least one early career researcher should be elected into the committee.
- SLED will set up an advisory board outside the committee to provide wider representation.

7) Administration of the Society

- The election of the steering committee will be held every three years (around the time of the LED).
- The election will be held in the two categories; 1) the President and 2) other members (for vice president, secretary, treasurer, and 2 ordinary members) and one can nominate oneself for both categories.
- The SLED strongly encourages ECR to stand as a candidate of the committee.
- If the president-elect is also listed as Members, he/she will be removed from the list.
- If there is no ECR member listed in the top 5 of other members, the top candidate of ECR will be elected.
 - More than 1 ECR members could be elected if they are in the top 5.

Next Steps

- Among the members of the WG, Mauro Fasoli, Sebastien Huot, Jintang Qin and Jingran Zhang will form the election committee.
- Nomination of candidates for the steering committee and the election will be held in October/November 2021.
- Delegates who are registered to the LED2021 meeting and wish to join the society are invited to vote for the steering committee. Individual exception will be extended to those individuals who can produce a valid reason to the election committee.
- Roadmap to establish SLED will be announced by the elected steering committee.
- SLED will be established in early 2022.