

Annual report of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters for 2015

Olli Martio

Activities during the year 2015, the 108th in the Academy's history, were dominated by internal reorganizations and numerous meetings. In the course of the year the Governing Board appointed a committee to examine the working of the subject groups and their procedures for choosing new members and to propose changes where necessary. The chairman of the committee was the Academy's vice-chairman, Kirsi Tirri. A meeting of the groups' officials was arranged on 14th September 2015 at which practically all the groups were represented and a lively discussion was held. Written answers were requested to a range of pertinent questions. A report on the discussions and details of the proposals made by the committee are to be found on the Academy's website. The Group Reorganization Committee will continue its work in 2016, the main purpose being to re-activate the subject groups. The Jurisprudence Group arranged a two-day seminar of its own, entitled "Legal Research 2015" on 26-27th May.

The Working Group on Grants set up by the Governing Board in 2014 continued to function in 2015, suggesting a number of changes to existing practises regarding the awarding of grants. These will be considered further during 2016. The principles for

distributing grants from the Väisälä Foundation were revised in autumn 2015 so that they would be open to applications in all branches of the mathematical and natural sciences. The Governing Board was not unanimously in favour of these changes, however, and the situation aroused some comment from members. The matter will no doubt be discussed further in the spring meeting of 2016. Another significant change has been the decision to transfer the awarding of longer-term post-doctoral scholarships to the pool established for that purpose by the Council of Finnish Foundations. This affects the work of both the Väisälä Foundation and the Eino Jutikkala Fund. The Academy's representative on the committee of the postdoctoral pool is Kirsi Tirri, with Kaisa Nyberg as her deputy.

The grants awarded from the Väisälä and Eino Jutikkala funds in 2015 went predominantly to postgraduates, but the total sums awarded did not increase relative to previous years on account of the Academy's contribution to the separate post-doctorate pool. The numbers of applicants increased considerably, however, especially in the case of the Väisälä Foundation, on account of broadening of the eligible fields of study. Approximately 10% of the applications to the Väisälä Foundation were successful,

and approximately 5% of those to the Jutikkala Fund. The grants made from the Academy's Mathematics Fund were chiefly intended to support conferences to be arranged by Finns in Finland or participation in conferences held abroad. The Academy also continued to administer the assets of the Emil Öhmann Foundation and the Hilikka and Otto Brusiin Foundation, grants from which could be applied for in conjunction with those from the Jutikkala Fund. The Emil Öhmann Foundation supports studies in German language and culture. Awards for legal studies and research from the Hilikka and Otto Brusiin Foundation are made only every second year, and none were made in 2015. Further details of the grants distributed by the Academy are provided below. The total sums awarded have regularly been in excess of two million euros, over 90% of this money going to young scholars. The Governing Board also made a decision to take into account the insider regulations now included in the laws governing foundations when awarding grants, and noted that expert advisors in the selection process should be made aware of this.

The Finnish Academy of Science and Letters has been attempting for some years now to increase its influence in matters of international science policy. Its official contacts with joint international organizations for academies of science take place through the Council of Finnish Academies, but it has also adopted a more active role recently in such matters as the drafting of scientific reports on behalf of international bodies, chiefly for submission to political decision-makers within the European Union. The Academy considers it important that Finns should be involved in drawing up such reports, especially when they deal with matters concerning Finland, and is of the opinion that the best way of doing so is by pro-

viding financial support, in the form of grants or by employing assistants, to enable Finnish scientists and scholars to take part in this work. This will also improve their visibility on the international scene. In accordance with this, the Academy offered in 2014 to act as coordinator responsible for the report by the European Academies' Science Advisory Council (EASAC) on "Boreal Forests". The project began in 2015, and the Academy arranged a meeting on 26-27th May on its own premises for the planning of the report. It also held a meeting entitled "Energy Dialogue in Europe - Science providing advice to policy-makers" for the general public at the House of Science and Letters on 4th May and provided the EASAC with a venue for its Energy Panel on 5th May.

The key figures in the drive to help in drafting international scientific reports are naturally those Finnish scholars who occupy positions in international organizations that allow them to influence decisions made at the early stages in planning such reports. In the above instance it was the Academy's chairman Eva-Mari Aro who was active within the EASAC. Since there are a number of Academy members who are in such positions, and since the European Union sets great store by the publishing of these reports, it is important that influential Finnish scholars should be aware of the Academy's possibilities for supporting their activities in this field.

The Finnish Academy of Science and Letters has continued its tradition of presenting prizes to distinguished scholars. Its Academy Award for 2015 went to Pertti Kansanen, professor emeritus of education at the University of Helsinki, and the Jutikkala Prize for the humanities to Professor Mikko Myrskylä, who, having specialized in sociology, demography and statistics, is currently head of the Max Planck Institute



Suomalainen Tiedeakatemia järjesti 4. 5 seminaarin "Energy dialogue in EU – Science providing advice to policy-makers" yhteistyössä European Academies' Science Advisory Councilin kanssa. Asiantuntija-paneelissa puhuivat (vas.) professori Jaana Bäck, Dr., Director William Gillett, professori Janne Hukkinen ja Dr. Michael Ornetzeder.

On 4th May the Academy held a joint seminar on "Energy dialogue in the EU – Science providing advice to policy-makers" together with the European Academies' Science Advisory Council. The panel of experts comprised (from the left) Prof. Jaana Bäck, Dr. William Gillett, director of the EASAC Energy Programme, Prof. Janne Hukkinen and Dr. Michael Ornetzeder.

for Demographic Research and a research professor in demography at the London School of Economics. The 2015 Väisälä Prizes were awarded to Risto Korhonen, professor of mathematics at the University of Eastern Finland, and Mika Sillanpää, professor of physics at the Aalto University. The Academy also recommended a number of Finnish scholars for international scientific awards.

The Academy held an unusually large number of meetings during 2015. As is customary, two of its regular monthly meetings were devoted to the distribution of grants and prizes from the Väisälä Foundation, the Eino Jutikkala Fund and the Emil Öhmann Foundation and to the presentation of diplo-

mas to its newly elected members. In each case some of the persons concerned presented papers on their own fields of research. The theme of the February meeting was "Blood pressure and cholesterol" and that of the March meeting "A good life - a good person". In May there was an excursion to Turku, where Jussi-Pekka Taavitsainen arranged a programme on the history of Turku Cathedral and the group also visited the Tuorla Observatory. An especially popular event was the October meeting, held on Helsinki University's Kumpula Campus in collaboration with the Italian Embassy, when the theme was "The Brilliance of Science – the Role of Women in International Science".

The Academy Club for Young Scientists entered its seventh year in autumn 2015. The club is intended to provide young researchers with an opportunity to tell others, and the public at large, about their field of study, and its members are selected for a period of one year. The timing of this selection process was altered in 2015 to coincide with the election of new Academy members. Many academies of science and letters in other countries now have similar activities for young scholars. The Club's meetings and the papers presented at them are videoed and made available on YouTube in order to reach a wider audience. In addition, a general meeting of Academy members was held in November at which the theme was "Young researchers", providing former members of the Club for Young Scientists with an opportunity to recount how their research careers had developed since that time, after which there was a panel discussion on the role of young researchers.

The Academy's Property Management Group and Publishing Committee continued to function in the manner laid down in the Academy's regulations. Similarly, the custom of distributing a letter to members was continued, as was the work of re-de-

signing the Academy's website, which was scheduled to be available by spring 2016.

Governing Board

Eva-Mari Aro continued as chairman of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters in 2015, with Kirsi Tirri as vice-chairman. Olli Martio continued as secretary-general and chairman of the Publishing Committee, Pekka Ilmakunnas as treasurer, Erkki Hollo as secretary of the Section of the Humanities and Olavi Nevanlinna as secretary of the Section of Science. Pertti Haapala, Anne Kovalainen and Jukka Seppälä continued as ordinary members of the board, but Kimmo Kontula's three-year period of office came to an end and Tomi Mäkelä was elected as a new board member at the spring general meeting.

The Governing Board held 11 meetings in the course of the year.

Revision of the Academy's Regulations

A revision of the regulations governing the activities of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters had been under consideration for a couple of years and the process was

The Governing Board 2015

Member	Position	Term of office
Eva-Mari Aro	chairman	11.4.2014–31.12.2015
Kirsi Tirri	vice-chairman	11.4.2014–31.12.2015
Olli Martio	secretary-general	11.4.2014–31.12.2015
Pekka Ilmakunnas	treasurer	11.4.2014–31.12.2018
Erkki Hollo	secretary, Section of Humanities	11.4.2014–31.12.2018
Olavi Nevanlinna	secretary, Section of Science	11.4.2014–31.12.2018
Pertti Haapala	member	11.4.2014–17.4.2015 and 18.4.–31.12.2015
Kimmo Kontula	member	11.4.2014–17.4.2015 and 18.4.–31.12.2015
Anne Kovalainen	member	11.4.2014–17.4.2015 and 18.4.–31.12.2015
Tomi Mäkelä	member	18.4.–31.12.2015
Jukka Seppälä	member	11.4.2014–17.4.2015 and 18.4.–31.12.2015

completed in 2015 after several plenary meetings and approved by the Finnish Patent and Registration Office on 11th May 2015. The most significant innovation was the change from one annual general meeting to two such meetings, in autumn and spring, the autumn meeting being chiefly intended for the election of new board members and approval of the budget and plans for the coming year's activities, and the spring meeting for examining the previous year's finances and electing new Academy members.

The new regulations also altered the status of the secretary-general, who is no longer a member of the Governing Board, nor is he or she elected by a general meeting of the Academy but is to be appointed by the Governing Board and need not necessarily be an Academy member. This implies in effect a changeover to a more managerial role. The new secretary-general appointed in autumn 2015 to serve in this capacity from the beginning of 2016 is Professor Pekka Aula. The existing secretary-general, Olli Martio, resigned at the end of 2015.

Publications

The publication activities of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters are overseen by its Publishing Committee, the deliberations of which have been devoted in recent times to the notion of a more open publications policy, a matter in which the Academy has been a pioneer in Finland. One of the committee's current plans is to make the Academy's various series of publications more freely available.

Olli Martio, secretary-general and editor-in-chief of the two *Mathematica* series, continued to serve as chairman of the Publishing Committee, with Raija-Leena Punamäki, representing the *Statements of Opinion* se-

ries, as vice-chairman. The other members were Jaakko Hämeen-Anttila, chief editor of the *Humaniora* series, and Pekka Hakamies, chief editor of *Folklore Fellows' Communications* (FFC). Dr. Mika Koskenoja, editorial secretary of the *Mathematica* series, continued to act as the committee's secretary. The *Geologica-Geographica* series was discontinued in 2015, as repeated efforts had failed to attract sufficiently high-calibre material for publication. The purpose of the Publishing Committee is to coordinate the Academy's publishing activities in the *Mathematica*, *Mathematica Dissertationes* and *Humaniora* series, the two FFC series and the *Statements of Opinion* series. The Publishing Committee met three times during the year.

The joint publications committee of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters and the Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters met once during the year and elected Jaakko Hämeen-Anttila of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters as its new chairman for a three-year period. Dr. Mika Koskenoja is also the secretary of this committee.

As in previous years, the Academy continued to publish under the titles of *Annales Academiae Scientiarum Fennicae*, *Folklore Fellows' Communications* (FFC) and *Kannanottoja (Statements of Opinion)*. The *Mathematica* series and its subordinate series *Mathematica Dissertationes* are open access features on the Academy's web pages and were accessed more than 12,500 times in the course of the year. The FF Network magazine is likewise freely accessible on the FFC series website, and plans are being made for releasing the FFC and *Humaniora* series on the Internet in the same way.

The *Kannanottoja (Statements of Opinion)* series is also available on the Academy's website and was accessed frequently in 2015, with almost 1,300 readers consulting the various statements during the year.

A total of 51 research papers were published in 2015, amounting to 2,684 pages, as follows:

- *Mathematica*, 46 papers, 1003 pages
- *Humaniora*, 3 papers, 873 pages
- FFC, 2 papers, 808 pages

Also published during the year were:

- FF Network magazine, 2 issues, 48 pages
- Vuosikirja – Year Book 2014, 180 pages

The Academy received 129,700 euros in government assistance for its publishing work, and incomes from the sale of publications amounted to 22,572.75 euros (as compared with 29,388.56 euros in 2014). Distribution of the Academy's publications on an exchange basis took place through the Exchange Centre for Scientific Literature run by the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies. The Academy had 393 overseas exchange partners at the end of 2015 (as compared with 506 in 2014), and a total of 701 copies of publications were sent out in this way (902 in 2014).

Academy publications have also been on sale through the Tiedekirja (Scientific Books) company at Snellmaninkatu 13 in Helsinki, but sales at the Gaudeamus company's new Kirja&Kahvi (Books and Coffee) bookshop on the premises of the University of Helsinki Central Library in the Kaisa building have been discontinued.

Staff and administration of assets

The Property Management Group which advises the Governing Board on financial matters, monitoring the development of its assets and managing its investment portfolio, consisted of the chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer and secretary-general together with Erkki Hollo. Antti Tanskanen acted as an expert advisor to the group for the early part of the year, after which he resigned

and was replaced by Timo Viherkenttä. The group held two meetings during the year. The Academy's assets were in the hands of Nordea, Union Bancaire Privée and Local-Tapiola Asset Management. A significant proportion of the assets of both the Academy itself and the funds administered by it (the Vilho, Yrjö and Kalle Väisälä Foundation, the Eino Jutikkala Fund and the Mathematics Fund) are invested in shares in Finnish listed companies, but investments have increasingly been made in overseas companies, financial markets and bonds. This diversification of the Academy's investments has increased the role of their appreciation in value as far as the ability to award grants is concerned.

The total value of the investments held in the name of the Academy and its various funds at the end of 2015 was around 107.6 million euros and the book value of its property holdings approximately three million euros, whereas in the previous year its investments had amounted to 97.5 million euros and the book value of its property holdings to about 4 million euros. The foundations administered by the Academy accounted for 3.4 million euros of its property holdings in 2015. The Academy owns the premises at Mariankatu 5 in Helsinki where its offices and the meeting room of the Governing Board are located, in addition to which the Väisälä Foundation together with the Emil Öhmann Foundation owns office space in a building administered by the housing company Asunto Oy Helsingin Bulevardinaukio and the Eino Jutikkala Fund owns an apartment in Eira. During 2015 the Väisälä Foundation sold its 20% share in a property at Unioninkatu 30 which it had owned jointly with the Alfred Kordelin Foundation, the Finnish Literature Society and the Niilo Helander Foundation, which similarly relinquished their shares in the property. The to-

tal annual yield from the Academy's assets, including both dividends and increases in share values, was of the order of 10% (as opposed to 7.5% in the previous year).

The auditor of the Academy's accounts and administrative procedures in 2015 was the chartered accountant Markku Koskela, with the chartered accountant Riku Kärnä as his deputy. A financial report and auditor's statement are to be found as appendices to this Yearbook.

The Office Manager during the year was Leila Sarajärvi, M.A., and the Assistant was Nina Rapelo, M.A. The treasurer was Pekka Ilmakunnas.

Committees set up by the Governing board

The following subcommittees or working groups set up by the Governing Board for specific purposes were functioning during the year 2015:

The Working Group on Grants, set up in 2014. Members: the vice-chairman (chairman of the group), secretary-general, Pertti Haapala, Pekka Ilmakunnas, Olavi Nevanlinna and Jukka Seppälä.

The Working Group for the Revision of the Academy's Regulations, set up in 2014. Members: the chairman (chairman of the group), Kirsi Tirri, Pekka Ilmakunnas, Kimmo Kontula and Olavi Nevanlinna.

EASAC Boreal Forest Project Monitoring Group, set up in 2015. Members: Eva-Mari Aro (chairman), the secretary of the Section of Science, the secretary-general and the Office Manager.

The Group Reorganization Committee, set up in 2015. Members: the vice-chairman (chairman of the committee), Anne Kovalainen, Kimmo Kontula, Olavi Nevanlinna and Jukka Seppälä.

The Working Group for Processing Applications for the position of Secretary-Gen-

eral, set up in 2015. Members: the chairman, Kirsi Tirri, Olavi Nevanlinna, Kimmo Kontula and Pekka Ilmakunnas.

Meetings

The Academy held its meetings in the traditional manner on the second Monday of each month in the House of the Estates. The average attendance was 90 persons. No meeting was held in January, which was when the Academy took part in "Science Forum 2015", with a booth in the main building of the University of Helsinki by day and a stand in the House of Science and Letters on "Science Night", 8th January. Section meetings for choosing new members were held in conjunction with the March plenary meeting, and the first autumn general meeting as laid down in the new regulations was held on 9th November. The February and May meetings were devoted to discussions on the opportunities that the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters has for influencing Finnish higher education policy and on the role of science in political decision-making processes, while both the March meeting and the annual meeting in April included discussions of changes to the Academy's rules. The proposed changes were approved unanimously on both occasions.

9th February: Monthly meeting and general meeting of members

- Prof. Kimmo Kontula (Clinicum/Internal Medicine, University of Helsinki): High-blood pressure – a silent threat
- Prof. Timo Strandberg (University of Helsinki, University of Oulu, Helsinki University Hospital): The truth about cholesterol
- A general meeting of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters to consider proposals for changes in the regulations.



Esimies, akatemiaprofessori Eva-Mari Aro ja pääsihteeri Olli Martio ojensivat Suomalaisen Tiedeakatemia kunnia-palkinnon professori Pertti Kansaselle vuosijuhlissa 17.4.

The chairman, Academy Professor Eva-Mari Aro, and the secretary-general, Olli Martio, presenting Prof. Pertti Kansanen with the Academy Award at the Annual Meeting on 17th April.

9th March: Theme: "A good life – a good person"

- Prof. Anne Birgitta Pessi (University of Helsinki): A valuable life – a good person?
- Dr. Frank Martela (University of Helsinki & Filosofian Akatemia Oy): A valuable life – Self-realization and communion with others
- Further discussions on the proposed changes in the regulations were held after the presentation of the papers.

17th April: Annual Meeting

- Prof. Pertti Kansanen (University of Helsinki): The strengths of Finnish teacher training

- Presentation of the Annual Report for 2014 by the secretary-general, Olli Martio
- Presentation of the Academy Award for 2014 to Prof. Pertti Kansanen
- Other statutory matters belonging to the agenda for the Annual Meeting were discussed, together with the proposed changes in the Academy's regulations, which were approved.

4th May Seminar: "Energy dialogue in the EU"

- *Science providing advice to policy-makers"*
- Seminar organized jointly by the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters and the European Academies' Science Advisory Council (EASAC)

- Chaired by Prof. Peter Lund (Aalto University)
- Academy Prof. Eva-Mari Aro, chairman of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters: Opening words
- Prof. Peter Lund (Aalto University): Introduction to the Topic
- Dr. William Gillett, Director of the EASAC Energy Programme: Up-coming Energy Policy Issues in the EU Machine
- Dr. Michael Ornetzeder (Austrian Academy of Sciences): Scientific Policy Advice: the Case of Technology Assessments
- Prof. Jaana Bäck (University of Helsinki): The Role of Forests in Climate Change – European Science Academies Preparing for Policy Advice
- Prof. Janne Hukkinen (University of Helsinki): Science-Policy Dialogue: Getting the Topic, Venue, Time and Intensity Right

6th May: University Renewal – a discussion

- Discussion held in the auditorium of the National Museum of Finland
- Topic introduced by Prof. Tuula Teeri (Rector of the Aalto University) and Prof. Arto Mustajoki (University of Helsinki)
- Further contributions from Prof. Pertti Haapala, (Vice-Rector of the University of Tampere), Prof. Jukka Kekkonen (University of Helsinki), Anita Lehikoinen (Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Education and Culture) and Prof. Jukka Mönkkönen (Rector of the University of Eastern Finland)

11th May: Excursion to Turku: visits to Turku Cathedral and the Tuorla Observatory

- Introduction to the Cathedral and the relics contained in it by Prof. Jussi-Pekka Taavitsainen, Prof. Veikko Anttonen, Aki Arponen, conservator and post-graduate

student, Heini Kirjavainen, post-graduate student, and Panu Savolainen, architect and post-graduate student

- Introduction to the Tuorla Observatory, its planetarium, its bedrock tunnel containing an exhibition of photographs from the European Southern Observatory, and the Opteon Oy polishing workshop which was responsible for the finishing of the main mirror for the world's largest space telescope

26-27th May: Seminar: Legal studies 2015

- A two-day seminar arranged by the Academy's law group for researchers and post-graduate students of law and others interested in legal research
- Held at the House of Science and Letters in Helsinki
- The programme included both lectures and group work

14th September: Welcoming of new members

- Prof. Riitta Keiski (University of Oulu): Sustainable production processes and clean technology – topical themes in environmental and chemical technology
- Prof. Matti Myrsky (University of Eastern Finland): Taxation law as a member of the humanities and social sciences family
- Presentation of membership diplomas

6th October: The Brilliance of Science – the role of Women in International Science

- Arranged in collaboration with the Italian Embassy in Helsinki, held at the Kumpula Campus of the University of Helsinki
- Academy Prof. Eva-Mari Aro, chairman of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters: Opening words
- Mr. Giorgio Visetti, Ambassador of Italy: Ambassador's remarks

- Anita Lehtikoinen (Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Education and Culture): Welcoming Address
- Prof. Angela Bracco (University of Milan and INFN Milan): The Approach and Contribution of Women to the Push for Progress in Science
- Academician Irma Thesleff (University of Helsinki): Towards Gender Equality in Finnish Top Science
- Dr. Fabiola Gianotti, research physicist, CERN director-general designate: CERN – Much More than Fundamental Research

12th October: Presentation of the Jutikkala Prize and grants from the Eino Jutikkala Fund and the Emil Öhmann Foundation

- Prof. Mikko Myrskylä (Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research and London School of Economics): Socioeconomic development, fertility postponement and child outcomes
- Tiina Vaittinen, M.Soc.Sci., (University of Tampere): A study of Filipino nurses as solutions to the Finnish institutional care problem
- Presentation of the Jutikkala Prize to Prof. Mikko Myrskylä
- Distribution of grants from the Jutikkala Fund and the Öhmann Foundation

9th November: Theme: “Young researchers,” and statutory autumn general meeting

- The theme was introduced by a number of former members of the Academy Club for Young Scientists:
 - Janne Tukiainen (research officer, Finnish Institute for Economic Research), Academy Club member (economics) 2009–2010
 - Mikko Tikkanen (post-doctoral researcher, University of Turku), Academy Club member (molecular plant biology) 2012–2013

- Eerika Koskinen-Koivisto, researcher, University of Helsinki), Academy Club member (ethnography), 2014–2015
- This was followed by a discussion led by a panel consisting of the above young scientists together with Prof. Helena Rasku-Puttonen (Vice-Rector of the University of Jyväskylä), and Jouko Väänänen (Dean of the Faculty of Science, University of Helsinki)
- The statutory autumn general meeting dealt with the matters assigned to it under the Academy’s new regulations

8th December: Presentation of prizes and grants awarded by the Väisälä Foundation

- Presentation of the Väisälä Prizes to Professors Risto Korhonen (University of Eastern Finland) and Mika Sillanpää (Aalto University)
- Prof. Risto Korhonen: Differential delay in Painlevé equations
- Prof. Mika Sillanpää: Quantum mechanics in mechanics – the interface between quantum physics and the classical world
- Presentation of grants awarded by the Väisälä Foundation

Membership

The Annual Meeting on 17th April elected 23 new Finnish members and 2 new external members. The new members elected to the Section of Science from Finland were Professors Katri Huitu (University of Helsinki), Hannu Häkkinen (University of Jyväskylä), Kalervo Järvelin (University of Tampere), Riitta Keiski (University of Oulu), Kalevi Mursula (University of Oulu), Jouko Rikkinen (University of Helsinki), Dage Sundholm (University of Helsinki) and Hannu Toivonen (University of Helsinki), Research Professors Ilkka Norros (VTT) and Merja Penttilä (VTT) and Academy Pro-

fessor Kaisa Poutanen (VTT and University of Eastern Finland).

The new members elected to the Section of the Humanities were Professors Risto Heiskala (University of Tampere), Markus Jääntti (Stockholm University), Sanna Järvelä (University of Oulu), Petri Karonen (University of Jyväskylä), Kaisa Koskinen (University of Eastern Finland), Risto Kunelius (University of Tampere), Mikko Mattila (University of Helsinki), Matti Myrsky (University of Eastern Finland), Päivi Pahta (University of Tampere), Helena Rasku-Puttonen (University of Jyväskylä), Johanna Ruusuvaara (University of Tampere) and Marja-Leena Sorjonen (University of Helsinki).

The new external members elected were FiDiPro-Professor Jacek Dobaczewski (University of Jyväskylä/University of Warsaw) and Professor Francesco Sannino (University of Southern Denmark).

The Academy mourned the deaths of the following Finnish members in the course of the year: Yrjö Ahmavaara, Seppo Ervasti, Jaakko Hintikka, Pekka Jauho, Kyösti Kontturi, Erkki Lehtinen, Maija Lehtonen, Tapani Luukkainen, Tuomo Mannermaa, Heikki Räisänen, Erkki Salonen, Antti Siivola, Eero Varis, Kalevi Wiik, Juhani Wirilander and Johan von Wright. News was also received of the deaths of the following external members: Ferenc Gécseg, Dzhangir Kerimov, Endel Lippmaa, Edmund Malinvaud, Vernon Mountcastle, Robert C. Richardson, Jacques Waardenburg and Ants Viies.

The Academy had 716 Finnish members and 173 external members at the end of the year.

Grants and prizes

The **Finnish Academy of Science and Letters Award** for 2015, a sum of 15,000 euros, was presented to Pertti Kansanen,

professor emeritus of education at the University of Helsinki, in recognition of his major academic achievements. The prize was presented to him at the Academy's annual meeting on 17th April.

Grants were awarded by the **Vilho, Yrjö and Kalle Väisälä Foundation** for the 51st time in its history in 2015, the total sum distributed on this occasion being almost 1.5 million euros, in the form of grants, expenses and prizes. A total of 555 applications had been received, representing an overall sum of about 10.3 million euros, about a third more than in the previous year. Eventually it was possible to make awards to only 80 applicants, of whom 44 received post-graduate research grants of 23,000 euros each for full-time scientific work over a period of one year and 14 received grants covering part of a year for the production of a doctoral thesis. Grants for short visits abroad and the inviting of foreign researchers to Finland numbered 24 in all and reached a total value of almost 70,000 euros. No separate post-doctoral grants were awarded this year as the Governing Board had decided that in 2016 the Academy should join the post-doctoral scholarship pool established by the Council of Finnish Foundations.

The applications for grants were reviewed by a working group of 11 acknowledged experts in various relevant fields appointed by the Governing Board. This group then submitted its recommendations to the Governing Board, which made the final decisions. The recommendations also included a small number of reserve applicants as small changes are always possible on account of other instances making similar awards at the same time. One member of the Governing Board declined to handle one application because of a conflict of interests.



Eino Jutikkalan rahaston ja Emil Öhmännin Säätiön apurahanjakotilaisuudessa 12.10. esiintyivät Stefan Stanciu (panhuilu) ja Patrick Vena (kitara).

Stefan Stanciu (Pan-pipes) and Patrick Vena (guitar) performing at the meeting for the distribution of grants from the Eino Jutikkala Fund and the Emil Öhmann Foundation on 12th October.

The Academy continued its custom dating back to the year 2000 of awarding 1–3 **Väisälä Prizes** to distinguished researchers in the fields supported by the Väisälä Foundation who are still at an active stage in their career. This time the Governing Board decided to award two such prizes, of 15,000 euros each, to Risto Korhonen, professor of mathematics at the University of Eastern Finland, and Mika Sillanpää, professor of physics at the Aalto University.

The **Eino Jutikkala Fund** was distributing grants for research in the humanities for the eighth time. Altogether 542 applications were received, covering all the branches of study falling within the scope of the Section of Humanities and amounting to a total sum of about 11.8 million euros. There was thus a slight increase in the number of applicants relative to previous years. Eventually 22 awards were made and a total of almost 440,000 euros was distributed in

grants and expenses. These included 17 grants to postgraduate students for work towards a doctoral thesis and 5 post-doctoral grants. These awards went altogether to six universities in Finland and to three scholars working in universities abroad. Travel grants were awarded to five students working for a doctorate.

The Academy's **Jutikkala Prize** of 15,000 euros for research in the humanities by a scholar at an active stage in his or her career was presented in 2015 to Mikko Myrskylä, Executive Director of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research and a research professor in demography at the London School of Economics. This was the fifth year in which this annual prize had been awarded.

In all cases in which a student working for a doctorate was awarded a research grant, a separate sum amounting to 1,600 euros for a full year's work was paid to the

university in question to contribute towards the expenses involved. The idea is to improve the status of students working for a doctorate in universities and to ensure that they are working under the same conditions as those university employees studying for a doctorate. The recipient of the grant is responsible for paying this sum over to the university.

The **Mathematics Fund**, which chiefly distributes grants to enable Finns to arrange high-level mathematical conferences, distributed a total of 7,981.34 euros for this purpose in 2015. The fund was set up in 1979 to support Finnish research in mathematics and is administered by a body of trustees elected for a five-year period from among the members of the Academy's mathematics group. The trustees in 2015 were Olli Lehto, Olli Martio (chairman), Pertti Mattila, Olavi Nevanlinna and Arto Salomaa.

Academy Club for Young Scientists

The Club for Young Scientists again met 9 times during the year 2015 in the Academy's Väisälä Room. The papers presented and the discussions that followed may be seen on the Academy's website, where they were consulted almost 3,500 times during the year.

The purpose of the club, which began these activities in the academic year 2009–2010, is to give young scientists an opportunity to explain their own research to others working in different fields and to increase interdisciplinary discussions and understanding. Members are selected for one academic year at a time on the basis of recommendations from the Academy's subject groups. Work is now going on to develop this concept further, e.g. by arranging alumni activities of some kind.

Those taking part in the academic year 2014–2015 were:

- Venla Bernelius, Ph.D., University of Helsinki (geography)
 - Tapio Helin, D.Sc. (Tech.), University of Helsinki (mathematics)
 - Linda Henriksson, D.Sc. (Tech.), Aalto University (neuroscience)
 - Pauli Kallio, Ph.D., University of Turku (biochemistry)
 - Pia Koivunen, Ph.D., University of Tampere (history)
 - Emilia Korkea-aho, LL.D., University of Helsinki (European law)
 - Eerika Koskinen-Koivisto, Ph.D., University of Helsinki (ethnology)
 - Hemmo Laiho, Ph.D., University of Turku (philosophy)
 - Ndegwa Henry Maina, D.Sc. (Food Sciences), University of Helsinki (food chemistry)
 - Juha Merilainen, D.Theol., University of Helsinki (church history)
 - Jussi Naukkarinen, D.Med.Sc., Institute for Molecular Medicine (medicine)
 - Pekka Peljo, D.Sc. (Tech.), École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland (physical chemistry)
 - Kirsi Peltonen, Ph.D. (Psych.), University of Tampere (psychology)
 - Maura Ratia, Ph.D., University of Helsinki (English philology)
 - Marjaana Rautalin, D.Soc.Sc., University of Tampere (sociology)
 - Olli-Pekka Saira, D.Sc. (Tech.), Aalto University (technical physics)
- The new members selected for the academic year 2014–2015 were:
- Tuuli Haikonen, D.Sc.(Agr. & For.), Natural Resources Institute (plant breeding and virology)
 - Tuomas Hovi, Ph.D. University of Turku (folklore studies)
 - Alexandros Iosifidis, D.Sc., Tampere University of Technology (signal processing)

- Riku Järvinen, Ph.D., Finnish Meteorological Institute (space plasma physics)
- Tuomas Kosonen, D.Soc.Sci., Institute for Economic Research (economics)
- Marius Lahti, Ph.D., University of Helsinki (psychology)
- Antti Nissinen, Ph.D., University of Oulu (molecular biology, cell biology)
- Paavo Ojanen, D.Sc.(Agr. & For.), University of Helsinki (peatland forestry)
- Adnane Osman, Ph.D., Aalto University (plasma physics, computational physics)
- Antti Räihä, Ph.D., University of Jyväskylä (Finnish history)
- Elina Salmela, Ph.D., University of Helsinki (genetics)
- Juhana Salojärvi, LL.D., University of Helsinki (legal history)
- Tiina Saloranta, D.Sc.(Tech.), Åbo Akademi (organic chemistry)
- Sami Sjöberg, Ph.D., University of Helsinki (comparative literature)
- Tuomas Tallinen, Ph.D., University of Jyväskylä (physics)
- Elisa Uusimäki, D.Theol., University of Helsinki (exegetics)
- Svetlana Vetchinnikova, Ph.D., University of Helsinki (English philology)

International activities

The international activities of the Finnish academies of science and letters mostly take place nowadays under the auspices of the Council of Finnish Academies, the chairman of which was Marianne Stenius of the Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters, with Olavi Nevanlinna of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters as vice-chairman. The Academy's other representative on the council was Eva-Mari Aro.

Eva-Mari Aro was also the representative of the Finnish academies of science and

letters on the board of the European Academies' Science Advisory Council (EASAC), a collaborative body representing the national academies of science of the EU member states, the purpose of which is to place impartial scientific knowledge at the disposal of influential European politicians and decision-makers.

The Baltic Conference on Intellectual Cooperation was held for the 14th time on 20-21st April 2015, hosted by the Latvian Academy of Sciences. The theme on this occasion was "Academies of sciences for research and innovation: past and future". The Finnish Academy of Science and Letters was represented by the secretary-general, Olli Martio. The academy undertook to organize the next conference in the series, to be held in 2017.

It was similarly decided in 2015 that the Academy, in collaboration with the other Finnish learned societies of academy status, will be responsible for organizing an International Seminar on Human Rights in Helsinki in September 2017. Also involved in the arrangements will be the Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina.

Collaboration with the EASAC energy panel continued in 2015, with the Academy responsible for coordinating an EASAC working group set up to prepare a report on "Boreal Forests". A planning meeting for this was held on the Academy's premises on 26-27th May. The leader of the working group is Prof. Jaana Bäck of the University of Helsinki, and the project will obviously be of major significance with regard to policy decisions in the fields of energy and climate change both in Finland and in the EU as a whole.

The Academy recommended a number of Finnish scholars for international scientific awards in the course of the year.

Other activities

The Governing Board was asked to propose members for a number of working groups and committees during the year, and the Academy is now represented in numerous institutions and organizations at home and abroad.

As a member of the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies, to which 270 societies operating in various fields were affiliated by the end of the year, the Academy was represented on its board by **Keijo Hämäläinen** and **Kirsi Tirri**, with **Olli Martio** and **Erkki Hollo** as their respective deputies. Keijo Hämäläinen was appointed chairman of the board in 2015. The Academy was represented at the Federation's spring meeting on 31st March by Pekka Ilmakunnas and at its autumn meeting on 20th October by Olli Martio. Tomi Mäkelä has been the Academy's representative on the organizing committee for Science Forum 2017.

The Academy was represented at the shareholders' meeting of Vaisala Oyj on 31st March by Pekka Ilmakunnas and at the annual meeting of the Finnish Zoological and Botanical Publications Committee on 27th March by Olli Martio, who also attended the annual meeting of the Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters on 29th April.

The Academy was represented on the governing board of the Alfred Kordelin Foundation by Markku Leskelä and **Simo Knuutti**, with **Keijo Hämäläinen** and **Martti Nissinen** as their respective deputies, and in the foundation's science section by Eija Kalso and Seppo Hentilä, with Hilikka Soininen and

Jorma Sipilä as their deputies. Other representatives were **Kirsi Tirri**, with **Leena Syrjälä** as her deputy, in the popular education section, **Heta Pyrhönen**, with **Marjatta Paalander** as her deputy, in the literature section and **Ville Lukkarinen**, with **Annika Waenerberg** as his deputy, in the arts section.

The Academy's representative on the board of the Sodankylä Observatory was **Heikki Nevanlinna**, with **Risto Nieminen** as his deputy. Its representative on the board of the Helsinki University Museum Foundation was **Juha Karhu** of the University of Helsinki and its representatives on the Finnish Zoological and Botanical Publications Committee were **Jukka Jernvall** and **Sinikka Piippo**, while **Tuomas Forsberg** continued to represent the Academy in the Foundation for Foreign Policy Research.

The following members were serving on Academy of Finland research councils at the end of 2015: **Marja-Liisa Helasvuo**, **Matti Laine**, **Aila Lauha**, **Pirjo Markkola**, **Matti Sintonen** and **Juuso Välimäki** on the Council for Culture and Society, **Paula Eerola**, **Juha Kinnunen**, **Juha Pekka Lunkka**, **Jukka Pekola**, **Heikki Tenhu** and **Esko Ukkonen** on the Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering, **Jaakko Kaprio**, **Asla Pitkänen** and **Anu Wartiovaara** on the Council for Health, and **Erkki Korpimäki** and **Lea Sistonen** on the Council for the Biosciences and the Environment. Of these, **Paula Eerola** was acting in the capacity of chairman. The Academy submitted proposals of its own for members of the new research councils beginning their term of office in 2016.