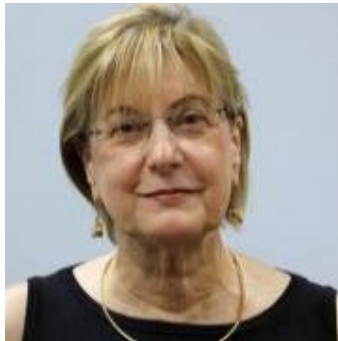


In memoriam

Professor emerita Leslie Banks-Sills



With my greatest sorrow I have to announce that Leslie passed away on Sunday, September 20th. I was a bit speechless after being informed on Sunday that Leslie was in very serious condition and then on Monday that she passed away. My admiration for her has no limits, she was a great woman, such a good friend and the best ever ESIS president on top of her brilliant academic career. She put us back on tracks after 2010 when we were moving in the wrong direction. Now it is time to recover from shock, to remember her forever and to celebrate her life.

Time we spent together is so precious, not only during conferences and meetings, but even more during a coincidental joint stay at Tenerife a few years ago. There was one memorable evening when Leslie, Zvi, Snezana and I had dinner together on the occasion of their anniversary. We discussed a lot of issues, especially about music. Also, our visit to Israel in 2017 (ExCo meeting) was unforgettable. We have talked, we have walked and we visited significant and lovely places, and we also enjoyed our meeting, as well as all other meetings, since she created an atmosphere of a big, happy family which is how ESIS functions today.

Two weeks ago we had the ECF25 conference and promoted her as one of four Pillars of ESIS. Also in my introductory speech on ESIS history I said in front of 600 people that in my view she is the best ever ESIS president. I also wrote this in the paper that should be published soon in PSI. Thus, the following sentences, extracted from the paper, will be the official history of ESIS:

..." If not for itself, ECF18 in 2010 was a great event because a new President was elected, the one who put ESIS back on track, Leslie Banks-Sills. The only President with two consecutive terms, with energy and willingness to serve for 8 years. If I have to choose, she is the best ever President. She left a completely stable and very strong Society to her two Vice-President, subsequent Presidents, Francesco Iacoviello and myself."...

My thoughts are with Zvi and Leslie's family with my strongest feelings and love for her.

Aleksandar Sedmak