

Forensic Speech Science Committee Report 2024

We began the year as planned by welcoming several new members, including two student members, to the Committee. While we have enjoyed some interesting discussions, it has been difficult to keep up regular meetings due to time zone differences and everyone's busy-ness.

We carried out part of our planned outreach program, presenting a webinar hosted by ASSTA. Titled 'Are you forensic-curious?', it featured 5 minute 'tasters' in which each member expressed why they found forensics interesting and important, followed by general discussion. The webinar was very successful and enjoyable, and those who attended appreciated it, though sadly the audience was rather small.

We did prepare a special workshop for the SST tutorial day, and were granted funding for this (thanks to those who facilitated this). However in the end we withdrew the workshop, in view of the amount of work involved in organising it, and the possibility it might again attract only a small audience.

We are however once again holding a forensics special session during the regular program – though with forensics being so interdisciplinary, arguably it might be better to scatter forensics around the disciplinary sessions that best suit their topics (e.g. acoustics, AI, sociophonetics, psycholinguistics, voice quality, etc).

Thanks to everyone who has been involved with FSSC and our activities. We look forward to regrouping in 2025!

Helen Fraser, Chair