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Dear colleagues,

I hope this message finds you well and that you're enjoying a restful and inspiring summer, whether you're taking time off, engaged in creative work, or preparing for the busy year ahead.

Below you'll find a few updates and I'll send a more detailed newsletter at the beginning of term.

Regional Assembly

We are pleased to confirm that the GEECT Regional Assembly will take place on 28th and 29th October 2025 in Guadalajara, Mexico, during the CILECT Congress. We look forward to welcoming members for two sessions of discussion, reflection, and planning for the future of our regional association.

GEECT Elections

You will have received the recent communication from the Executive Director regarding the upcoming elections (see also below). All GEECT Board positions — with the exception of the Chair — will be open for election.

We strongly encourage you to consider standing for election to the Board. In particular, as the current Vice Chair/Treasurer is not eligible for re-election, it is especially important that we identify candidates with the appropriate skills and experience to take on this key role. We also hope to achieve a broad geographical and gender balance in the composition of the Board, and would welcome nominations that support this goal.

If you are interested, please submit following documents to the executive director, Dr. Stanislav Semerdjiev, executive.director@cilect.org by September 26.

1. Written Bio (up to 500 words underlining experience relevant to the position for which you are applying)
2. Written Statement of School Endorsement (from the respective school in which you work)
3. Video Statement of Intent (up to 5')

Please cc your e-mail to GEECT Chair Barry Dignam, barry.dignam@iadt.ie

Minor Statute Changes

As you might remember we updated the GEECT statutes during the Beijing Congress. We're proposing a few very small corrections to bring us in alignment with the CILECT statutes and a couple of typographical glitches. You can find the proposed statutes with [changes marked-up](#) and the proposed statutes [in a clean copy](#). Please let me know by 2nd September if you have any observations / comments on the proposed changes. As the proposed changes are superficial and if there are no substantial queries we're proposing to take the changes in one motion.

Briefing of "Research in Films Schools" results

Louna Lambert and Barbara Turquier from La Fémis will host a meeting on Friday, September 26th 1200-1300 (Paris). This is to feedback on the

important research they have been doing with the support of GEECT members on “Research in Film Schools”. Here’s a link to the meeting. <http://bit.ly/3Hlb75k>

Reminder: Let's Talk Water Film Prize, dl. August 15, 2025, late dl. September 15, 2025

This is a kind reminder of the Unesco-supported film prize themed "Back to Our Future,"

We invite filmmakers to create short films (documentary, fiction, or animation) that showcase ingenious water management technologies which have sustained civilizations. We're also seeking films about how these historical water management systems can offer solutions to today's climate challenges.

Competition details:

- \$USD 10,000 in prizes for 3-5 minute films about traditional water management systems
- Focus on ancient water technologies and how they inspire modern solutions
- International screenings in Brasilia, Paris, and the 2026 World Water Forum
- Submission deadlines: August 15 (normal), September 15 (late), via Film Freeway

<https://letstalkaboutwater.org/>

<https://letstalkaboutwater.org/film-prize-25/>

PÖFF Shorts Industry Shortcut Nov. 14-15, 2025, Tallinn, Estonia

The organisers have requested to distribute information on The Shorts Industry Shortcut (SIS) which is PÖFF Shorts’ industry arm, a stimulating and inspiring platform for emerging filmmakers with the aim to further the careers of future generations of filmmakers and guide them on the short film circuit.

The programme starts off with a panel on the topic of “Boutique Short Film Festivals.” It will be followed by a “Festival Programming 101” with four short

film programmers demystifying the programming process, along with a speed-dating session between short film professionals and filmmakers in attendance; Go Long! Lectures bridging the gap between shorts and features, a practical short film distribution session, as well as a brand-new workshop for Estonian Emerging Producers. The two-day industry events will be rounded off with masterclasses by established filmmakers from both the animation and live-action branches.

Film Students In Focus, Nov. 15th at BFM

will include following

Case Study: “We Beg to Differ” by Ruairi Bradley

Case study of his film, how he got from the idea to a finished film that is currently having a very successful festival run.

Festival Etiquette – Do’s & Don’ts

Lecture on how to get your film to a festival, how to navigate the short film festival circuit and how to make the most of your time while attending a festival (networking, taking part in industry events, pitching your projects/ideas).

Screening + practical exercise + discussion

Screening of short films by participants of the Estonian Emerging Producers workshop followed by a discussion and a practical exercise on how to make a distribution plan and festival strategy for one of the films screened.

Accreditation Information

All the events of PÖFF SIS are accessible only with accreditation. To film students, we offer a special Industry Student accreditation, which also gives access to all the festivals: PÖFF, PÖFF Shorts and Just Film as well as the Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event open events.

Industry Student accreditation costs 75€ (the cost will be 100€ on Oct 1st, and 150€ from Nov 1st). The right is given only to an agreed list of students, which will be checked during the application confirmation process.

For more information about the Shorts Industry Shortcut and accreditations, please contact

Tara Karajica, Head of Shorts Industry, tara.karajica@poff.ee

Mari Liis Keevallik, Head of PÖFF Shorts, mari.keevallik@poff.ee

That's all the news for now. Enjoy the rest of the summertime.



Barry



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