

Day 1 - Friday 7 December

Opening Session – Welcome

Professor Barry Ife, Vice Principal of King's College welcomed all delegates to the meeting. He stressed his support for the study of languages in general, and underlined the fact that King's will continue to play a key role in both teaching and research in this area. He pointed to the success of the long-established degrees in languages, language teaching and the courses run at their own Modern Language Centre.

Ray Satchell, Chair of AULC then welcomed attendees and presented the agenda for the day.

Communications within AULC

Ray Satchell and Rob Kennedy outlined proposals for facilitating greater communication between members. Rob had done a lot of work towards streamlining the JISCmail service, which should contain an up to date list of members and SIG's.

English as a Lingua Franca

Dr. Jenny Jenkins from King's College, London presented a detailed and entertaining talk on the developing and changing role of English. She highlighted the fact that English no longer belongs to the English, and that new distinct forms are developing which may have to gain acceptance such Euro-English which have as their role English as a Lingua Franca.

The Importance of Foreign Language Learning in the UK and Ireland

The German Ambassador, His Excellency Dr Hans-Friedrich von Ploetz talked with great enthusiasm and personal insight into the issues of foreign language learning. Being a consummate linguist himself, he showed great concern at what he perceived to be the worrying state of languages in the UK. For this reason he and the French and Spanish Ambassadors are campaigning for the importance of language learning to be stressed at all levels of education.

General Meeting

Communitec Project

Nick Byrne and Matt Sowter presented the ILT funded project which aims to help language teachers develop their technical skills. Further information:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/Depts/language/Communitec/communitec.htm>

SIGS meetings

Please go to website for further details on these meetings.

<http://www.aulc.org/minutes.html>

CERCLES report

Mary Ruane from UCD delivered an upbeat report on the growing membership of this European wide organisation. Mary revealed details of the forthcoming conference in Paris from September 19th to 21st, which promised to be as rewarding as the previous Antwerp event in 2001. She also discussed details regarding the Council of Europe Language Portfolio produced under the aegis of CERCLES based on the version developed by David Little of Trinity College, Dublin.

www.cercles.org

Saturday, Saturday 8 December

DIALANG

Steve Fligelstone from Lancaster University presented a talk on the diagnostic language tool funded by the European Union. Further information from:

www.dialang.org

New TV and online materials from the BBC

David Wilson showed us new developments from the range of new language programmes and online support. Further information from:

www.bbc.co.uk/education/languages

EYL update

Pat Simple from CILT brought us up to date with the success stories of this particular event. Further details from:

<http://www.eyl2001.org.uk/>

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Language Merry-go-round

Please go to website for further details of this event.

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Closing plenary