

## Committee for Linguistics in Education (CLiE)

### Meeting 102

1.30 – 4.45, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2012

King's College London, Department of Education & Professional Studies,  
Waterloo Campus, Franklin Wilkins Building (Waterloo Bridge Wing)

### Minutes

#### 1. Membership and apologies

**Present:** Esther Daborn (BAAL, Chair), Graeme Trousdale (LAGB, Secretary), Urszula Clark (BAAL), Dick Hudson (LAGB), Charlotte Franson (NALDIC), Vivienne Rogers (LAGB), Keith Davidson (NATE), Simon Coffey (BAAL), Jo-Ann Delaney (NATECLA)

**Apologies** received from: Sue Ellis (UKLA), Melissa Cudmore (BC), Mahendra Verma (Co-opted), Caroline Coffin (BAAL), Willem Hollmann (LAGB), Wasyl Cajkler (Co-opted), Nick Mair (ISMLA), Jonnie Robinson (BL), Kate Board (CfBT), Nicole King (HEA), Patricia Ashby (LLAS), Catherine Walter (Co-opted), Terry Lamb (Co-opted), Dan Clayton (Co-opted).

See also item 2 for another membership issue.

#### 2. Minutes of Meeting 101

It was agreed to attempt to recruit a member of ALL to serve as a representative on CLIE (**Action ED**). A minor correction has been made to item 5; otherwise the minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### 3. Matters arising

- 3.1 Re. a representative from the new Teaching Agency: this matter is to be carried forward by ED (**Action ED**)
- 3.2 Re. a précis of the BAAL Good Practice Guide being uploaded to the CLIE website: this has now happened.
- 3.3 Re. a position paper on phonics for the CLIE website: ED is to check with SE and CW to see whether this is progressing (**Action ED**). One question is whether what is currently there on the CLIE website on phonics could be adapted.
- 3.4 Re. HEI hosting of round 2 of UKLO: see item 6 below.
- 3.5 Re. list of modern language training providers: VR was unable to locate her original list. SC is on an email forum (one which was previously hosted by CILT) which could be used for publicity. SC agreed to provide further information to ED (**Action SC**).
- 8 Re. BSL campaign support: there has been little progression on this issue at present. It was agreed that the committee will wait and potentially lobby later at an appropriate time. No further action is required at present.
- 9.1 Re. CLIE webmaster: VR has agreed to take over the webmaster duties.

- 9.2 Re. CLIE website as portal: it was agreed that no further action is required at present, as this was not deemed directly relevant to CLIE business.
- 9.3 Re. BAAL's media officer: ED met Tony Foster at the recent BAAL conference. BAAL has twitter account, and Tony Foster is in discussion with WH on this.
- 9.4 Re. HEA funding for CLIE tweets: this item is to be carried forward to the next meeting (**Action WH**)
- 9.5 Re. linguistics A-level: see item 5.
- 9.6 Re. MFL/Linguistics research digest. Jim Houghton (who stood in as ISMLA's representative in Nick Mair's absence at the CLIE 101 meeting) was contacted by SC, as agreed. SC is developing some ideas with e.g. French Institute. VR offered to help with work on French morphosyntax. It is likely that there will be something on French as 'pilot', which will hopefully be applicable to other languages. SC to discuss with DC on English Language research digest, and possibly Tim Shortis/Julie Blake on Alltalk/BT project. (**Action DC, SC, VR**)
- 9.7 Re. HEA funding: no further action on this is possible at present, since as yet no response has been received from the English Subject Centre
- 10.3 Re. HEA sponsored event at CLIE: as 9.7

#### 4. Reports

Members received reports from some of the organisations represented on CLIE.

#### 5. CLIE representation to exam boards for A-level review, and an A-level in Linguistics

5.1 Since WH was unable to attend this meeting (though he did send a written report for this item), it was agreed that this item would be discussed again at the next CLIE meeting.

5.2 SC reported that he had met with Brian Street, who developed an A-level in Anthropology. SC made available Brian Street's report to CLIE, noting that Brian Street had written a report (for *Anthropology Today*) about how the A-level in Anthropology began. It appears that it took between three to four years to develop, and there are currently about 600 students taking the qualification, in 25 schools. KD observed that The Anthropology numbers are good so far, but would need to increase significantly to be viable long term

5.3 KD observed that this discussion needs to be considered alongside the general A-level reforms and the possibility of the Baccalaureate. He raised the issue of an AS-level qualification in Linguistics, particularly whether this could be developed as a standalone qualification.

5.4 UC drew the committee's attention to an ESRC project about teaching quantitative methods to UG social scientists, and wondered whether an A-level in linguistics could include something on quantitative methods?

5.5 DH noted differences between the development of two different kinds of A-level: one driven largely by HE (e.g. in Anthropology) and another driven largely by teachers (e.g. in English Language). He also observed that the situation regarding the A-level in Linguistics has changed now that we have UKLO.

5.6 VR made the point that via modern foreign language teachers, it might be possible to get both maintained and independent schools to engage with developing a syllabus for a linguistics A-level, while GT wondered

whether an online textbook could be developed for UKLO training, and which could subsequently morph into a book for an A-level in Linguistics. 5.7 CF noted that the qualification could be also very helpful for language awareness, and has the potential for substantial relevance to EAL issues. 5.8 UC noted that consultation on A-level reforms was rather subdued at present, and UC will report further on this at the February meeting.

**(Action UC).**

5.9 CF pointed out that the DfE is also looking at the primary English curriculum and this too likely to be happening at a slightly later stage than was previously envisaged.

5.10 Summing up, ED suggested that some sort of CLIE position paper on these issues should be drafted by UC and WH, in time for discussion at the February meeting. Some sort of CLIE position paper on these issues might then be uploaded to the CLIE website **(Action UC and WH).**

## 6. UKLO

6.1 GT reported that the BA grant report is drafted and will be discussed among UKLO committee members; anything of relevance to CLIE will be reported at the next meeting. ED wondered whether the British Council might be interested in sponsoring future research associated with UKLO that might lead eventually to an AS level linguistics **(Action: ED to contact MC to discuss).**

6.2 GT also reported on the success of the UK team at the IOL in 2012, and the usefulness of using UG students from Edinburgh as mentors for the IOL team.

6.3 Looking forward to the 2013 competition, it was reported that 321 schools registered as of November 9<sup>th</sup> 2012.

6.4 VR noted that external publicity for 2013 competition has been sent. **(Action: VR to send GT material re ALL sponsorship)**

6.5 On HEI offers to host round 2 of the competition, Aston is to offer R2 for 2015.

6.6 ED congratulated all those involved in the success of UKLO.

## 7. CLIE profile, Twitter, webpages

7.1 J-AD noted that she tried to follow CLIE on Twitter and there appeared to be a problem. **(Action: J-AD to contact WH and discuss what might have gone wrong, and how we might fix it.)**

7.2 ED wondered whether LAGB/BAAL might also add a 'follow CLIE on Twitter' link to their own homepages, and recommended that further suggestions regarding our Twitter presence could be made to WH as they arose. **(Action: VR will add 'Follow us on Twitter' to CLIE website.)**

7.3 On the subject of the website, there was some discussion of ED's paper emailed to committee. ED noted that we are responding and interpreting policy, not producing it; this issue might be focused on a little more, and we could extend and more sharply define the groups that might find features of CLIE useful. It was observed that we would need to check that this is consistent with terms of reference for CLIE. **(Action ED)**

7.4 Some features of the website that were considered helpful to develop are:

1. Position on policy

2. Knowledge about language
3. Linguistic diversity in the UK?

7.5 In connection with these matters, ED suggested that Claire Acevedo might be invited to a forthcoming meeting to talk about her work (**Action ED**).

7.6 It was also agreed that members of the committee might welcome a slot to talk about their own current projects (e.g. UC's work on West Midlands English, and DH's project on grammatical terminology for the revised National Curriculum).

## 8. Asset Languages campaign

In the absence of TL, This item is to be carried forward to the February meeting.

## 9. AOB

The possibility of inviting Filippe Nereo, Discipline lead for Languages at the HEA, to CLIE was discussed. Mr Nereo has worked on a languages newsletter for HEA (**Action ED**).

## 10. Next meeting

The next meeting of CLIE will take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at the British Council.

## 11. Visiting speakers

Members of the committee were grateful to Adrian Blackledge and Angela Creese (University of Birmingham) who travelled to London to present their research. The title of their presentation was 'Translanguaging as pedagogy: what do mainstream schools have to learn from community language teaching?'