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Subject: LSA education committee  
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Dear Nicola,

I'm on an LSA committee called 'Language in the School Curriculum', currently chaired by Carolyn Adger. I checked with her, and she was enthusiastic about sharing info. with LAGB and CLIE; so I'm appending the minutes from the meeting (copied also to Dick Hudson).

Her email, in case you want to contact her, is Carolyn@cal.org

best wishes

nigel Fabb

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Meeting of the Language in the School Curriculum Committee  
Linguistic Society of America  
January 8, 1999  
Los Angeles, CA

Maya Honda, Chair, opened the meeting by asking for introductions. The following committee members and guests introduced themselves

Sharon Klein	Maya Honda
Jean Acevedo	Joseph Subbiondo
Cecile McKee	Johanna Rubba
Robert Bayley	Jule Gomez el Garcia
Elizabeth Traugott	Patricia Leek
Wayne O'Neil	Jean Mulder
Carolyn Adger	Rebecca Wheeler
Ed Battistella	Donna Christian
Edith Moravcsik	

Jean Mulder, Director of the Language in the School Curriculum project in Australia, described the program's genesis and progress so far. The project represents a collaboration between the Australian Linguistic Society and the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Its purpose is to increase awareness and understanding of language and the English language in the school curriculum by increasing teachers' knowledge about language, developing curriculum, designing materials, and establishing partnerships to support the effort. The project is timely in that Australia has a new national curriculum that calls for students to develop linguistic knowledge. An early focus of the project has been building relationships with educators and government departments of education, examining the school curriculum, conducting needs assessment, and participating in meetings about language policy. International links are being developed as well. The project is developing a resource manual for teachers on language knowledge for early literacy learning that will become a principle document for teacher education in the State of Victoria, and an English language curriculum for eleventh and twelfth grade focusing on language and communication, language change, language in society, and language in use.

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The curriculum is being pilot tested over 1999-2000.

Elizabeth Traugott distributed fliers developed by LSA that address questions about language from lay audiences: e.g., Is English changing? Why can't computers use English? LSA invites feedback on the fliers, particularly concerning their appropriateness for a general audience. These fliers are intended for broad circulation--high school counselors, undergraduate advisors, doctors' offices, public libraries, etc. They can be used as press releases for newspapers. LSA invites feedback on the fliers, particularly concerning their appropriateness for a general audience. LSA is working on a distribution strategy and is eager to connect with other organizations that might be interested in them. Committee members suggested the National Council of Teachers of English and the National Network for Education Renewal. Fliers can be ordered from the LSA directorate, and the texts are available on the LSA web site. LSA solicits questions for future fliers.

Other suggestions for spreading linguistic knowledge were raised including guest columns for newspapers addressing language in local issues, infomercials, and radio talk shows.

The LSA web site has been upgraded, and LSA requests suggestions for it.

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