

# UKLA update for CLIE meeting November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004

I have selected some activities which relate to English [L1] EAL and Community Languages:

## Conferences:

**NATE/UKLA joint conference with an ICT theme** speaker: Tim Shortis  
Parkside Community College, Cambridge Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 2004

**Directors of their Own Words** speaker Helen Wolstencroft  
Canterbury Christ Church University College, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2005

**Dyslexia Friendly Learning** speaker Neil McKay  
Edge Hill College of Higher Education, Ormskirk 16<sup>th</sup> April 2005

**International Conference Closing the Gap: Literacy for All** focusing on issues relating to literacy and social inclusion, equity and diversity.

Speakers include: Barbara Comber, University of South Australia and Shuaib Meacham, University of Delaware  
University of Bath 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> July 2005

## Research:

- The report from the joint teacher/practitioner research project with the Primary National Strategy **Raising Boys' Achievements in Writing** is now available free to UKLA members. There have been a series of dissemination conferences for Strategy Managers in Leeds, Birmingham and London [one still forthcoming on November 22<sup>nd</sup>] and two for HE colleagues on November 9<sup>th</sup> [London] and 11<sup>th</sup> [York]. The full report will soon be available on the UKLA website: [www.ukla.org](http://www.ukla.org). Case studies and planning exemplars from the project are available on the Primary National Strategy website: [www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/primary/literacy](http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/primary/literacy)
- The QCA funded research project report **More than Words** is now available from UKLA and QCA and as pdf. We shall soon be beginning a second phase of the research into multimodal texts focusing on narrative and non-narrative production of digital multimodal texts.
- A successful e-communication project in south Sheffield **Beyond the classroom walls - electronic communication between schools** is in its final stages and will be written up towards the end of this year. We are also working on a scheme which will formally recognise the achievements of 'young' researchers.
- A teacher/practitioner research project **Drama and Writing** based in Canterbury is in process of being written up.
- The collaborative production funded by TTA of web-based resources for those in their first year of teaching is well under way and materials will soon be available on the web and on paper.

## Special Interest Group

Kate Pahl and Carol Taylor of Sheffield University are developing work on Adult, Family and Community Literacies. They report regularly in the UKLA newsletter *Literacy News* [which is accessible through the UKLA website].

## Teacher/practitioner magazine

The first issue of the jointly edited [with the English Association] **English 4-11** will be available in late November. Free to UKLA members; by subscription to the English Association.

Contact UKLA on [www.ukla.org](http://www.ukla.org) or [admin@ukla.org](mailto:admin@ukla.org)

# Activity report from the Association for Language Learning

## General

- ALL continues to be represented on various national bodies (e.g. UCML, NALA) and consulted by organisations such as Becta and DfES, and its language committees meet regularly to discuss matters of interest and recommend actions.
- ALL and CILT are working together on a survey, Language Trends 2004. This aims to provide a snapshot of language trends in the 14-19 sector in the UK at the start of the academic year. We are collecting data (both qualitative and quantitative) on the current situation in 14-19 age group in schools and colleges. The results of this survey will be announced at the Language Show on Saturday 6 November at 1pm.
- ALL has organised language taster sessions at the Language Show in November.
- A DfES consultation is ongoing for KS2 languages, and we have asked ALL members to help us in formulating a response.
- There is a funding "crisis" for languages in adult education. The National Learning and Skills Council's new strategic and funding priorities (with greater emphasis on basic skills and ESOL and level 1 and 2 qualifications) are being interpreted by the autonomous regional LSCs in ways which will have a negative impact on foreign language learning in AE. The trend will be for "recreational" language courses (and most fall in to this category) to be offered on a full cost recovery basis. Adult learners are likely to vote with their feet. ALL's AE Special Interest Group will release a report in early November - "Lost in Translation" – which considers the current state of languages in AE in the maintained sector. Anyone who would like a copy mail [lindap@all-languages.org.uk](mailto:lindap@all-languages.org.uk)

## Events

- All has run several events, e.g. Language World, German Day, Austrian Day, and has a Spanish Day planned for 13 November.
- Next year's Language World conference will take place from 1-3 July at the University of Kent at Canterbury. The theme is 'Creating opportunities'. A call for contributions was sent out recently. Deadline for contributions is 15 November (by email to [SharonC@ALL-languages.org.uk](mailto:SharonC@ALL-languages.org.uk) with an 80 word abstract).
- ALL, CILT and UCML have been successful in a bid to DfES for funding for a suite of events for languages in 2005, an important year for us. Several major events in 2005 will be promoted jointly, and the year will be a celebration of languages, entitled 'Languages 2005'. Language World conference will also benefit from some of this additional funding.

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