

2/06/2017, LANGS Meeting Minutes, University of Dundee, Dalhousie Building, Dundee

- Ann Robertson, Chair, welcomed everyone.
- Attendance and apologies - attached
- New members introduced:
 - Fernando Leon-Solis – University of West of Scotland
 - Lucie Maupetit – 1+2 PanTayside staff tutor
 - Gerry McIntosh – British Council, taking over from Lynsey, Project Manager for the Language Assistants programme in Scotland
 - Lisa Hanna – PT Modern Languages at Clydeview Academy.
 - Charlie Foot – Bili
 - Julie Bartholome - SCIS
 - Susan Appleby – High Life Highland
- Leaving members recognised and thanked – Judith Boulton-Jones, Caroline Gordon, Julie-Anne Mackenzie.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Pages 1 to 3 of previous minutes were accepted as a correct record. Page 4 to be amended.

2. Update from Chair

2 people were nominated, Bethan Owen and Robert Dalzell. Robert was flattered and thanked the group for the nomination but decided to decline the role.

Robert was thanked for his role as Vice Chair of LANGS.

Bethan Owen accepted the role, therefore she will be the new Chair of LANGS.

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3. Key National Messages

Toria Fraser, Scottish Government.

- Toria shared the results of LA surveys. All 32 authorities have replied. However, it was mentioned that the survey was quantitative rather than qualitative.
- ADES Implementation Group - Laurence Findlay is joining Louise Glen as co-chair of the implementation group
- Julie-Anne MacKenzie, SCILT produced seven models for timetabling in Secondary for L2 and L3.

Framework and toolkit to be launched in autumn.

Louise Glen, Education Scotland

- Benchmarks have been published. If there are glitches, feedback will be welcome and they will be altered in about a year's time.
- Regional events: Events have already taken place in the Northern Alliance. It is a national expectation that PTs and timetablers attend the LA event. Another languages teacher can come instead of PT.

Fhiona Mackay, Director SCILT

- The CLPL menu is updated every year but for the coming session a new format will be offered: LAs will be offered a series of support twilight, 7 events for secondaries. Support to re-evaluate the S1 syllabus with primary practitioners to join. DOs asked to support with the uptake.
- SCILT's Strategic Plan and Annual Report to be published on the SCILT website within the next 2 weeks.
- Open University/Edinburgh College initiative with SCILT – view to roll out a pilot course the coming year. Participating teachers have been identified from several local authorities for the pilot. The registration process is being undertaken by the OU. The course will be a mixture of language learning and pedagogy. It will include online and face-to-face interaction. Cost: £250/person. Aimed at beginners to take them to A1/A2 level. Offered in French/German/Spanish.

Tamsin Johnson, Fife Council

- French Fun for Families in Fife – Online family course for the children and their family. It consists of 6 lessons. 785 families have signed on. Free pilot in French just now. Another 6 additional lessons will be available at the end of the course.

Jane Byers, SEET

- 124 took part in Euroquiz 2017. The team from Comely Park Primary School (Falkirk) were crowned Euroquiz Champions 2017.

Sylvia Warnecke, Open University

- YASS, S6 students can study for free via Open University. They can learn an additional language at the Senior Phase.
- Scots will be available in the autumn (Scots Language/culture, media, political environment, pop culture, etc.) – Practitioners will be able to use the resources directly in the classroom.

Liz, British Council

- Education portfolio programme
- MLAs – closing date was a couple of days ago but open to requests until the autumn.

- Also looking for case studies where programmes like E-twinning or Erasmus + have improved attainment in schools as BC are looking at encouraging schools to be bolder with size and scope of projects.

Thomas Chaurin, Institut Français

- Conference on multi-lingual language policies, 3rd June, University of Dundee.

Charlie Foot, Founder of BILL

- Free online resource – This tool connects students from around the world on a regular basis.
- Teachers set up tasks on a weekly basis. Everything is overseen by the teacher. Login details can also be shared with parents.

4. Keynote: Primary Languages in Initial Teacher Education

Angela De Britos (SCILT)

Shared the report: Summary of Languages and Pedagogy in Scotland's Initial Teacher Education Primary Programmes.

Based on recommendations #20, 21, and 23 which are pertinent to Initial Teacher Education.

Angela focused her presentation on undergraduate programmes in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling, Strathclyde and UWS, reflection on UG provision, Postgraduate programmes and reflection on PG provision.

Do Coyle (SCDE) (Scottish Deans of Education Group)

The group includes teachers, educators, academics and researchers.

Local Authority funded initiative. Do thanked Michael Wood, Dundee City Council, for his support.

The group has 2 goals:

- a) National Teacher Education Framework for Languages
- b) LENS (Languages Education National Support) digital tool to provide theoretical principles and guidelines

Do focused her presentation on Language of schooling, IDL, Linking Literacies and Languages and the National Framework for Languages (Initial) Teacher Education. She also reinforced that we need to make sure that all teaching students are leaving with a Languages Portfolio (e.g. EPOSTL, Pepelino). This would need to be linked to the GTCS standards.

LENS – Languages Education National Support

This tool will focus on the nature of languages, successful language learning, pluriliteracies, pedagogies and teacher professionalism.

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NB: slides will be shared

5. Short presentation

UCMLS action plan update and ITE – Marion Spöring and Hannah Doughty

Our actions in support of Scotland's 1+2 Language Policy have the overall aim to help change attitudes to language learning.

- 1+2 Cross-Sector Collaborative Action Plan *Looking Back Moving Forward Towards 2020 and Beyond* available here: http://bit.ly/UCMLS_ActionPlan2017

Looking back:

- SCILT led: Business Brunches, Mother Tongue Other Tongue poetry competition, Word Wizard spelling competition, Language Linking, Global Thinking. increase of number of events and regional outreach
- National cross-sector conferences at the University of Strathclyde in May 2013, 2014, 2015
- UCMLS led: establishment of 4 regional hubs (Central, North, East, West) with cross-sector meetings held twice annually in September and January/February respectively
- Liaison with SCDE (Scottish Council of Deans of Education – previously Scottish Teacher Education Committee aka STEC) to enable cohesion within and between university departments
- A national event was held on 9 September 2016 at the University of Dundee, where we took stock of 1+2 from a cross-sector perspective.
- On 29 November 2016 we held a further national event at Atlantic Quay, in collaboration with Education Scotland. This time we invited Associate Professor Angela Scarino to talk to us on the different language curriculum frameworks arising in Australia.
- We also conducted two consultative online surveys for teachers in 2016 and 2017. Several people/ organisations have contributed brief 'thought pieces' which you find in the appendices.

Marion Spöring, Chair UCMLS, University of Dundee

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6. Breakouts

A. Languages at UWS

Dr Fernando Leon Solis, Head of Languages at UWS.

BA level:

- Languages taught: Spanish/French/German
- Compulsory in Year 1, it becomes an option in Year 2.
- Year 3, all students engage with the critical analysis module. Students can select one of 5 areas including languages.
- Year 4, if students write their dissertation on a language topic, they graduate with a BA (Hons) Education with Languages.
- Mobility – 1 week visits to Primary schools in Spain and France; 2 months Erasmus placements (Spain & France)

Post-Grad level:

- 12 hours of MFL (same number of hours for all curricular areas in Primary) Modern Languages by popular demand – No study abroad.
- Refrewshire Council – Teacher Training (Train The Trainer model) and Language Ambassadors (Erasmus students from France, Spain, Germany and Denmark)

B. Initial Teacher Education at the University of Glasgow

Dr Hazel Crichton and Mr Francisco Valdera-Gil – The School of Education

Modern Languages preparation for 1+2

Undergraduate:

- Year 3
 - 16 weekly lectures of 1 hour
 - 40 hours for specialist Modern Languages study (French and Spanish) (same amount of hours as the rest of the curricular areas)
- Year 4 –
 - 10 weekly lectures of 1 hour
 - 20 hours for specialist study (about 25 students)

Post-graduate Primary provision:

- 18 weekly lectures
- Content: Blend of theory and language development in Spanish and French
- PGCE – Masters level certificate (60 Masters credits)
- 3 modules over 15 months
- GTCS professional recognition accredited

Challenges

- Students' level of language
- Students' level of confidence
- Actual practices in some schools
- Local Authority's 'regulations' about who can teach languages

7. Local Authority Network

- Reflective questions
 - Existing cross-sector partnerships
 - Examples of good practice
 - Areas for future partnership
 - Barriers/support
 - Inter-authority groups

30 min inter-authority discussion

Good practice:

- PKC link with Perth College : 5 week course for beginners / 3 weeks progressing in French. IT link could maybe be used in other authorities with geographical challenges.
- St Andrew's linking with businesses
- BookBug sessions in Fife

Future partnerships: University students to attend CLPL offered by Local Authority

- Today's breakout sessions were very interesting. It was nice to hear what universities have to say but it would be beneficial for each authority to be able to have their local university represented.
- Business partners too as well as Early Years representatives.
- We would like to widen the Market Place
- Workshops: Once a year, in the afternoon instead of LA network.
- Cultural organisation should get more time during the LANGS meetings

Focus for 2017-18:

- Digital tools to support partnerships/communication
- Cross-sector partnerships (Focus on Engagement and Research)
- Raising attainment for all/Closing the attainment gap
- Languages and heritage

8. Future meetings:

Friday, 10 November 2017 – University of Strathclyde

Friday, 2 March 2018 – tbc

Friday, 1 June 2018 - tbc