



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
The Moray House School
of Education

Unintended Consequences?

The Governance of Modern Foreign Language Learning in Scotland (1962-2014)

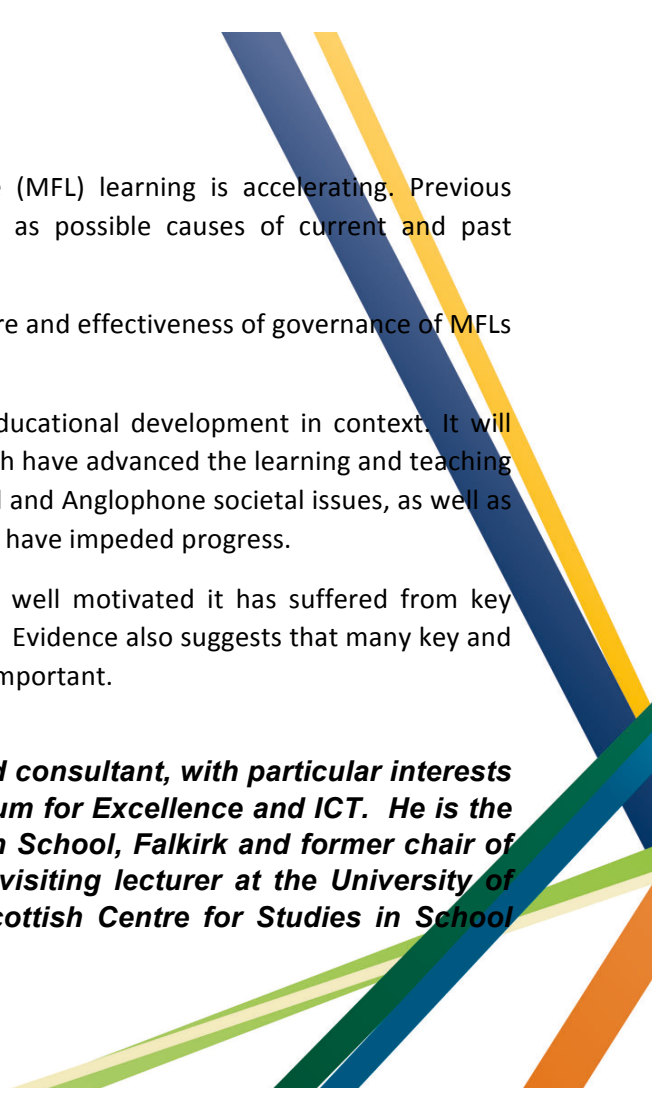
15.00-16.00 Wednesday 27th May 2015
Paterson's Land, LG34

Dr Jim Scott*

Please **RSVP** to the Moray House School of Education via: etl@ed.ac.uk

Booking is essential to ensure a place

A drinks reception will be offered after the event from c.16.00 in Paterson's Land, G43



Statistics suggest the decline in modern foreign language (MFL) learning is accelerating. Previous research has examined learning, teaching and motivation as possible causes of current and past declines.

This research provides new insights by investigating the nature and effectiveness of governance of MFLs from governmental to school levels over 50 years.

This study is novel in setting the governance of a major educational development in context. It will consider the political, economic and educational factors which have advanced the learning and teaching of MFLs and look at the challenges – attitudinal, motivational and Anglophone societal issues, as well as the consequences of political and educational agency - which have impeded progress.

The findings suggest that while MFL governance has been well motivated it has suffered from key problems around vision, planning, coordination and practice. Evidence also suggests that many key and elite governance actors do not believe that learning MFLs is important.

****Jim Scott is an educational lecturer, researcher and consultant, with particular interests in educational leadership and governance, Curriculum for Excellence and ICT. He is the former head of Perth High School and Graeme High School, Falkirk and former chair of several national educational committees. He is a visiting lecturer at the University of Dundee, a course facilitator and lecturer at the Scottish Centre for Studies in School Administration and owner of ELLC Consulting.***