

CONFERENCES

Joint ECML/ICC Conference – A Great Success

Delegates and organisers of the ICC annual conference were well pleased with both content and organisation of this event, which was a joint effort, bringing together the European Centre of Modern Languages, the ICC, the Arbeiterkammer of Styria and the Center für berufsbezogene Sprachen, Austria. The overarching topic was *Intercultural Communication* and was dealt with from various aspects by over 10 speakers/animators. In addition, ample room was given for all organisations represented to present their latest language related projects to a wide, European audience.

For those who did not have the opportunity to attend the conference and for those who wish to catch up on workshop/topics they missed, documentation is available on the ICC website at: http://www.icc-europe.com/AGM_2005/Documentation/doc.htm



*ECML Director, Adrian Butler,
opens ECML/ICC conference*

ICC AGM

The ICC AGM was held immediately before the Annual Conference and was attended by 26 delegates. The main topics covered during this year's AGM were: the election of the chairperson and board members (see results below), the strategic planning of future projects and activities of the association (including the role of the ICC as an accrediting body), and future activities of the association with particular reference to special interest networks. The minutes of the AGM have been approved by the member organisations and are available on the ICC website. http://www.icc-europe.com/AGM_2005/Minutes_10.3.05.doc
One major issue dealt with by the assembly was the proposed changes to the ICC statutes. This concerns the term of office of ICC executive board members. A rolling system of appointment of board members will be implemented, whereby two of the six board members will be re-elected every two years. For details see the ICC website.

ICC Executive Board Members

Chair
Gerd Egloff Technische Universität Darmstadt(DE) (Retires March 2006)
Bernd Rüschoff (from March, 2006) Universität Essen (DE) (Retires by rotation March 2009)
Board members
Jurek Czyzowski University of Information Technology and Management (PL)

(Retires by rotation March 2006)
Franz Mittendorfer Center für berufsbezogene Sprachen (AT) (Retires by rotation March 2006)
Mike Makosch Migros Genossenschaftsbund (CH) (Retires by rotation March 2007)
Ulla Nissen Folkuniversitetet (SE) (Retires by rotation March 2007)
Dina Markopoulou Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs (EL) (Retires by rotation March 2008)
Beate Blüggel Deutscher Volkshochschulverband (DE) (Retires by rotation March 2008)

More information about the Board can be found under http://www.icc-europe.com/ICC_Board.htm

PROJECTS

DiLaPort

The DiLaPort project (Digital language Portfolio for Vocational Purposes) is now in its final year and has gathered a considerable body of illustrative material linked to the digital language portfolio. The materials are intended to familiarise teachers and learners with tasks which may be set to provide evidence of language competence at various levels and for different vocational contexts. A presentation of DiLaPort was made at the Graz conference and is to be found under the conference documentation at http://www.icc-europe.com/AGM_2005/Documentation/DILAPORT.pdf

The draft DiLaPort can be seen at <http://www.dilaport.utu.fi/>. The DiLaPort project partners intend to apply for accreditation from the Council of Europe for their digital language portfolio in October 2005.

LINGUAPEACE EUROPE

LINGUAPEACE EUROPE (for details see <http://www.linguapeace-europe.net>.) has made a major step forward by welcoming the German Ministry of Defence and its Federal Language School as a partner in the project. Apart from the obvious increase in competence with the regard to the German language, the new German partner will bring many decades of experience in the field to bear in the project.



“Project co-ordinator Boian Satchev (right) and Ministry Representative, Friedrich Holländer, sign agreement of co-operation”

BEATRIC

The main objective of BEATRIC is to provide a matrix for the comparison and inclusion of vocational qualifications in the European Union within an overall framework. In the first stages of the project, until spring 2005, the project partners are gathering and comparing information regarding the different ways in which member states record, certify and accredit vocational competences in their respective countries.

The role of the ICC within this project is to provide information on the vocational education and training schemes run in Germany as well as proposals concerning evaluation, certification and accreditation of vocationally oriented language skills.

<http://www.beatric.net>

The ICC and Teacher Training / Qualification

EUROLTA

Following the recommendations of ICC EUROLTA experts, the ICC Executive Board accepted the proposal that EUROLTA certification may be granted to applicants who are able to present a dossier of their professional achievements which correspond to EUROLTA requirements. This means that colleagues with proven professional experience need not attend training courses at accredited centres, provided that they can furnish evidence of their theoretical and practical abilities (which must also include teaching samples).

The dossiers of teachers wishing to acquire this kind of accreditation must be submitted to an accredited EUROLTA centre, which will assign a tutor/supervisor to the applicant to review his/her dossier. Further information can be provided by the ICC Head Office in Frankfurt.

CLTC Accredited

Within the context of the EUROLTA scheme, the Corporate Language Teaching Certificate submitted by Phillip's Learning Systems/Skylight/Henkel/3M was accredited by the ICC Executive Board in Spring of 2005.

This qualification represents a useful, additional module to the EUROLTA suite of qualifications, concentrating on the use of blended learning in corporate language teaching environments.

For full details of this interesting new module, visit the documentation of the ICC conference in Graz on the ICC homepage http://www.icc-europe.com/AGM_2005/Documentation/Timothy_Phillips.pdf.

Further details may be obtained from Timothy Phillips at timothy.phillip@phillips_learning.com.

Co-operation between ICC and International House World

On the eve of this year's AGM and annual conference, ICC EUROLTA experts met with the teacher training co-ordinator of International House World (IHW) to discuss the possible co-badging of IHW teacher certificates with EUROLTA. General agreement was reached amongst the experts that the aims and objectives of the EUROLTA Certificate and IHW's first teaching certificate are congruent and basically cover the same ground. The issue has now been referred to the relevant boards of the ICC and IHW for further consultation and ratification.

The inclusion of the IHW teaching certificate under the umbrella of EUROLTA would strengthen the position of both certificate systems and increase their general currency throughout the world. IHW is an association of over 135 schools in 35 countries. Further details can be seen under www.ihworld.com.

Teacher Training courses at Lancashire College, Chorley, 2005

The Teacher Training Course English for Occupational Purposes 2005 will take place in Chorley (England) from 27.08.05–09.09.05.

The application form to register for the course as well as the programme and joining instructions on how to get to Lancashire college, is available under <http://www.icc-europe.com/seminar.htm>

Closing date for applications: 8 July 2005

ICC Mediates Work Placements for Polish Teachers

At the request of member organisation, University of Applied Sciences in Rzeszów, Poland, the ICC Head Office has helped to set up work placements for language teachers in Rzeszów who are to train public administration staff in

languages relevant to their tasks with regard to initiatives of the European Union/European Commission.

The teachers will attend an induction course at Lancashire College, Chorley, and be placed in public administration offices throughout Lancashire for two weeks in July. The course will be accompanied by a tutor, who will provide language guidance and background information on language requirements related to administrative procedures in Brussels.

ICC Membership

The following organisations became members of the ICC from January 2005.

Kielikoulutuskeskus Language Centre Turku Polytechnic Turku Finland www.turkuamk.fi
Public Services Language Centre Riga Latvia www.vmc.lv
Edexcel International London UK www.edexcel-international.org
Centre for the Innovation of Vocational Training and Adult Education (CINOP) Hertogenbosch The Neatherlands www.cinop.nl
C.A.T.S. Computer Assisted Training Systems GmbH Wiesbaden Germany www.corporate-english.com
Public Services Language Centre Vilnius Lithuania www.vikc.lt
International House London London UK www.ihlondon.com

They received a warm welcome at the AGM in Graz and, as can be seen from their professional profiles, will offer a great enrichment to the network. Some of the highlights of this year's ICC conference were provided by the representatives of three new member organisations, Marianne Driessen from CINOP, Minna Scheinin from Turku and Barry Tomalin from International House ICC Europe

London.

Unfortunately, the ICC also lost members in 2005. They were:

die Sprachwerkstatt Polsko-Niemiecki Instytut Wroclaw Poland
Akademie J.A. Komenského PRAHA Czek republic
Wyzsza Szkoła Administracjin (WSA) Bielsko-Biała POLAND

Staff at Head Office – News

After three years at Head Office, Sonja Schurig will be leaving to accompany her husband, Martin, who is taking up a post in the German diplomatic service in Russia. We are all very sorry to lose her and we will miss her professional competence, intercultural sensibility and good humour. We wish her and her husband success and happiness for the future.

Stepping into Sonja's shoes is Maria-Nicolina Steinbömer, who, together with Cristina Gracia, will see to the day-to-day administration of Head Office, including the servicing of current projects and membership affairs.

Maria-Nicolina Steinbömer has a university degree in English, French and Spanish literature and has worked in public relations, event management as well as organisation of management and teacher training.



ICC Head Office hours are:

Monday-Thursday: 09:00 – 17:00

Friday : 09:00 - 15:00

N.B. Tony Fitzpatrick will be absent from the ICC Head Office from the 18th of April until the 6th of May 2005.