

CONFERENCES



2006 Annual Conference in Riga, Latvia

In 2006 the ICC will continue its tradition of visiting a new member organisation in a new country to enable established ICC member organisations to get to know the new members. The ICC 2006 annual conference will be held in Riga, Latvia, in co-operation with our Latvian member organisation, the Public Services Language Centre.

The Minister of Education and Science, Professor Ina Druvieta, has been approached with a view to organising a joint conference, and first reactions have been positive.

VOLL Conference in Friedrichshafen

Responding to a number of requests from ICC member organisations, we intend to stage a conference on accreditation, validation and certification of foreign language competence for occupational purposes in Friedrichshafen, Germany, from 25 - 27 November 2005.

Host organisation is the Claude Dornier Schule, and our Dutch member, CINOP, the Centre for Innovation in Vocational Education, is cooperating to ensure the relevance and coherence of the event.

In order to be able to judge the kind of response we can expect for this conference, we mailed member organisations, ministries and important multipliers. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

We expect contributions for the conference programme from the Council of Europe, the European Commission, CEDEFOP, national and regional ministries of education as well as from colleagues directly involved in accreditation, evaluation, testing and certification in this area.

One of the main aims of the conference is to propose “bridges” between different branches of training and education in VOLL (e.g. vocational schools, adult and continuing education and universities of applied sciences). For further information please have a look on our web-site under “Events”.



Friedrichshafen, Lake Constance

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¶ The preliminary programme can be seen on the ICC website.

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ICC Accreditation Committee

10 – 11 June, 2005 saw the first meeting of the ICC Accreditation Committee in Frankfurt.

The aim of the meeting was to form a recognition scheme as mandated by the ICC AGM in Graz. The task of the group was to generate proposals for a recognition scheme to be run by the ICC.

The ICC Executive Board received the recommendations of the committee on 11 June and agreed that a ICC recognition scheme would focus on issues of internal consistency, academic value and international transferability and repeatability, initially within Europe but eventually beyond.



ICC Accreditation Committee with Board members Konstandina Markopoulou, Mike Makosch and Ulla Nissen and

The next meeting of the committee will take place in September, when a number of schemes submitted by member organisations will be vetted.

ICC Executive Board Meeting

The ICC Executive Board Meeting met from 11 - 12 June, 2005 in Frankfurt. The minutes of the meeting can be read by members on the ICC website under: [Information for Board Members](#), using a password issued by the ICC Head Office. [ADDRESS](#)

PROJECTS

EUROVOLT in VLE bid successful

EUROpean VOcational Language Teaching in Virtual Learning Environments is the title of a successful LEONARDO project bid made by the Viennese Adult Education Association with the aid of the ICC. The “kick-off” meeting will be held immediately after this year’s EUROVOLT conference in Krakow in August. The project will showcase samples of good practice, where vocational language teaching programmes have been tailored to the needs of online training. Further information can be obtained from project coordinator, Inge-Anne Koleff at inge-anna.koleff@vwv.at



The DiLaPort (Digital Language Portfolio for Vocational Purposes) project is progressing well and the Head Office has invited all ICC member organisations to visit the project website at <http://www.dilaport.utu.fi> in order to download the pilot version. This tool should prove useful to all ICC member organisations, concerned with vocational language training.

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The DiLaPort project partners intend to apply for accreditation from the Council of Europe for their digital language portfolio in October 2005.



The ICC has negotiated for the Bundessprachenamt (the official federal government language training centre for the German armed forces and other government offices) to become a partner in the LINGUAPEACE EUROPE project (for details see <http://www.linguapeace-europe.net>). This will ensure the quality of the German materials produced and will provide greater face validity of the project in the eyes of end users. Project activities

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are on schedule, and the twelve language glossary of peace-keeping terms has already been created by the partners and collated by ECET, the project promoter and one of the Bulgarian ICC members.

BEATRIC

One of the main obstacles for persons wishing to work or attend schools in another country in the European Union, or to move from one sector to another in the labour market, is the difficulty of having their qualifications and skills recognised and accepted. BEATRIC sets out to help standardise the way in which information is presented in the new EUROPASS, making it easier for potential employers to understand the nature of an individual's qualifications and experience.

From 20 - 21 May the ICC hosted a meeting of the "Analysis Team" of the BEATRIC project in Oberursel. The main issue was to analyse a chart of the key skills & competences of an Assistant Hospitality Manager as a model for the *Certificate Supplement* of the EUROPASS which the coordinator OEEK (The Centre for Vocational Education and Training in Greece) had prepared and to which eight project partners had contributed.

More information about the project can be found under <http://www.beatric.net>

PRACTICERT

Practicert (*Accreditation and Certification of Work Related Qualifications during Job Placements*) was completed this year and the project outcome accepted by the European Commission. For further information, see <http://www.practicert.org>

MOBILICERT

Unfortunately, MOBILICERT was not selected for EU financing. This is most disappointing because MOBILICERT has great potential, particularly given the extensive and experienced partnership which had agreed to co-operate in its execution. As in previous cases where project applications were turned down, the

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reasons given for rejection were imprecise and unsatisfactory for the partnership.

However, the ICC Head Office is endeavouring to put together an alternative project outline which can be borne by the partnership alone.

SWEDEX

Folkuniversitetet, the coordinator of the Swedish ICC committee, has taken on the responsibility of marketing and further developing the SWEDEX suite of examinations in Swedish as a foreign language. Folkuniversitetet has commissioned the production of a set of examinations at levels A2 and B1 on the CEF scale, thus ensuring that potential candidates will be well served over the next few years.

In order to guarantee cross-rater reliability, Folkuniversitetet has initiated a cascading system of examiner training starting in Sweden. Two successful and effective sessions for multipliers from throughout Europe have already been held with the support of the Swedish Institute.

The day-to-day administration of the exams has been taken on by the Examinations Office of the Lower Saxony Association of Adult Education (Landesverband der Volkshochschulen Niedersachsens).

Full information can be downloaded from the dedicated SWEDEX website at: www.swedex.org.

accueil

The **accueil** suite of examinations is now run by Swiss member organisation, hfthun = Hotelfachschule Thun, and is being constantly updated. One of the latest moves is to explore the need expressed by *Flying Teachers* and others to provide testing materials for the hospitality industries at Level C1 of the CEF. For further information, visit the accueil website at www.accueil-language.com or contact Karin Schächtele at: Karin.Schaechtele@hfthun.ch.

Teacher Training Courses at Lancashire College, Chorley, 2005

The traditional Teacher Training Course in *English for Occupational Purposes* will take place in Lancashire College, Chorley (England) from 27.08.05–09.09.05.

Closing date for applications was 8 July 2005. Response has been very good with participants coming from Germany, Italy, Latvia and Turkey. There are still two places free on this course.

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 from Rzeszów who are to train public administration staff in languages relevant to their tasks with regard to initiatives of the European Union/ European Commission.

From 18 –29 July 2005 the teachers will stay at Lancashire College, Chorley, and be placed in public administration offices throughout Lancashire. The work placement will be accompanied by a tutor, who will provide language guidance and background information on language requirements related to administrative procedures in Brussels.

This is a new venture for the college and for the ICC, and may provide an interesting model for other member organisations wishing to provide this kind of service / training for their teaching staff.

News from member organisations

It is with great sadness we have to report that Martin Sunderland, who was a member of the ICC through his organisation "Corporate English", died on Sunday, 15 May, during a trip to Shanghai.

http://www.icc-europe.com/News/Obituary_Martin.pdf

General

Post of General Manager of the ICC

For almost 25 years Tony Fitzpatrick has been associated with the development and running of the ICC. In June he expressed his wish to the ICC Executive Board that he would like to retire from October 2005. We would, therefore, like to draw your attention to the vacancy for the post of General Manager of the ICC, which is to be filled from October this year. We would be grateful if you would circulate this information to suitable candidates.

http://www.icc-europe.com/Jobs/ICC%20General%20Manager%20Adv_05.07.05.pdf

Head Office News

We would like to improve services offered to our member organisations and wish to canvas your opinion, suggestions and ideas. Please give us your views on:

- A chatroom offered to members, open for discussions on certain issues
- Having the possibility to present yourself or a special project of your organisation on a "special interest page" on the ICC web-site
- receiving once a year a package from the ICC with material informing you on our work
- a database of vacancies in the language teaching world
- access to a database of addresses of top tutors for different foreign language teaching fields

We would be very grateful for your contributions under icc_europe@compuserve.com

ICC Head Office hours

Monday-Thursday: 09:00 – 17:00
Friday : 09:00 - 15:00.