

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES PROFESSEURS DE LANGUES VIVANTES

REPORT to UNESCO - 2012

1 Introduction

To continue providing information to UNESCO, FIPLV again has pleasure in submitting its fifteenth annual report on activities, which impinge upon the priorities, programs and projects of UNESCO.

2 Relations

FIPLV enjoys 'consultative partnership' status with UNESCO. This report is again designed to provide for further accountability, as membership extends globally.

3 Procedural Matters

These activities have continued throughout the year.

3.1 Communication

To further ensure reliable communication between FIPLV and UNESCO, FIPLV President, Terry Lamb, is an additional FIPLV contact for UNESCO information.

3.2 Meetings

In 2012, the FIPLV Secretary General attended the UNESCO Budget meeting and discussion on 11 June, as well as meeting with Marie-Ange Théobald and Anna Maria Majlöf (11 June). He also took the opportunity to establish contact with Sabina Colombo, now responsible for NGO relations.

4 Operational Matters

FIPLV has continued to support UNESCO in the organisation of activities, representation and participation, publications and responses. Examples include:

- promotion of *Education in a Multilingual World* for translation into other languages
- informal participation in the Declaration and Program of Action on a Culture of Peace throughout all FIPLV activities
- promotion of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) 2005-2014
- promotion of UNESCO activity more generally (e.g. joint action on literacy) through a dedicated space on the FIPLV website (fiplv.com), as well as through Twitter

4.1 Representation

Members of the FIPLV Executive were active in their participation and activities, which reflected UNESCO priorities. Relations with UNESCO are referred to in all our activities and materials.

4.2 UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)

This became a reference for the discussions within FIPLV and presents an orientation for activities within the Federation, while the Executive Committee has encouraged and supported especially those initiatives and projects at the regional and national level, which would contribute to the success of the UN project.

4.3 Conference Participation and Presentations

FIPLV officers represented FIPLV at conferences and workshops in 2012, where they were able to further FIPLV and UNESCO priorities in formal and informal ways:

- MLTAV Annual Congress, Melbourne (Australia), May 11
- FIPLV World Council meeting, Helsinki (Finland), June 7
- FIPLV World Assembly meeting, Helsinki (Finland), June 7
- FIPLV World Congress, Helsinki (Finland), June 8-9
- meetings of the All Party Parliamentary Group, House of Lords, London (UK)
- meeting with the House of Commons Select Committee on Education (UK) to give evidence on the new secondary curriculum proposals
- presentation of a discussion paper at the Westminster Forum on the new languages curriculum (UK)
- Council of Europe activities, such as meetings of the ECML Professional Network Forum, the project LACS (ECML-funded), the project Maledive (ECML-funded)
- European Commission activities, such as the project Lucide (EC-funded project on languages in urban contexts), the project Language Rich Europe (EC-funded), the MEET campaign (European education), and the EU-China Summit on Languages in Beijing (EC-funded),
- the Speak to the Future campaign for languages (UK)

In addition to representation at conferences and other events, there are the essential responses to requests for presentations, papers and articles. The predictable duplication of content, where the audience is not the same, continues. Presentations which focussed on or referred to UNESCO priorities, included:

- "Promoting multilingualism in schools: issues from research and practice". Keynote, FIPLV World Congress, Helsinki (Finland)
- "Coping with change in the classroom". Paper presented at the FIPLV World Congress, Helsinki (Finland)

- "Developing plurilingualism in schools". Keynote, Romanian launch of the Language Rich Europe Project, British Council, Bucharest (Romania)
- "Transition from primary to secondary language learning: Progression, differentiation, motivation". Keynote, National Conference on Early Language Learning, Norwegian National Centre for Foreign Languages in Education, Oslo (Norway)
- "Transition from primary to secondary language learning: Progression, autonomy, motivation". Keynote paper, Transitions in Modern Languages Conference, Aston Business School, Birmingham (UK)
- "Engaging learners in language learning: learner motivation, learner voice, learner autonomy". Keynote, atb8 Conference, York(UK)
- "Interview with Terry Lamb", in *Synergies Europe*, 6, (Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute, University of Ottawa, (Canada)), 21-24

Some are to be published in the future.

Invitations or offers of future presentations include:

- presentation at the Seventh LKPA International Conference, Klaipeda (Lithuania), June 7-8
- presentations at an international conference, Vilnius (Lithuania), September
- presentation at the LATEUM International Conference, Moscow (Russia), September
- presentations at the University of Bremen, Bremen (Germany), ongoing

4.4 Publications

Monographs or articles, which embraced or impinged upon UNESCO priorities, included:

- Lamb, T.E., Atanasoska, T., Hepp, M., Jönsdottir, S. and Zielinsky, J. (2012) *Learning from each other: A handbook for language teacher associations*. Graz, Austria: European Centre for Modern Languages.
(<http://lacs.ecml.at/Folder/tabid/2643/language/en-GB/Default.aspx>)
- Lamb, T.E. (2012) "Language associations and collaborative support: language teacher associations as empowering spaces for professional networks", *Innovation in Language Learning and Teaching*, 6/3, 287-308
- Lamb, T.E. (2011) "Fragile Identities: Exploring Learner Identity, Learner Autonomy and Motivation through Young Learners' Voices", *Canadian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 14/2, 68-85

- Lamb, T.E. (2011) "Reconceptualising Intercultural Education: A Model from Language Education", *Hermeneia*, a Journal of Hermeneutics, Art Theory and Criticism, 11, 79-87
- "Coping with change in the classroom", *Languages, Culture, Globalisation*, 4-5 June 2011 Vilnius (Lithuania)
- Balboni, P., & Cunningham, D. "FIPLV", *EL.LE – Educazione linguistica. Language Education*, 1:1

Other articles, previously submitted for publication, include:

- Linguistic Dominance and Decline: A Challenge for an International Federation. Paper submitted for CD-ROM publication by QUEST Romania.
- Tribute to Francisco Gomes de Matos

5 Conclusion

The relationship between UNESCO and FIPLV has been fruitful over many years, which FIPLV is desirous of not only continuing, but also expanding.

6 Appendices

Where presentations are published, only the publication is listed in most cases. All are available upon request:

Appendix 1: Balboni, P., & Cunningham, D. "FIPLV", *EL.LE – Educazione linguistica. Language Education*, 1:1

Appendix 2: "Coping with change in the classroom". Paper presented at the FIPLV World Congress, Helsinki (Finland), June 8

Denis Cunningham

Secretary General, FIPLV

31 December 2012