



Paris – Left Bank from
Pont de la Concorde

EAQUALS Special Interest Projects (SIPs)

The **Budapest EAQUALS Workshop** (15-17th November) saw an extremely successful launch of EAQUALS' latest initiative: Special Interest Projects (SIPs for short). Many of the over 70 participants commented on the quality of the networking and the efficiency and sheer fun of working intensively in a small group on a topic of choice. Impressive progress was made, action plans were reported on, and there will be an update at the AGM in Paris (23rd-25th April 2008):

- **Teacher Training** (coordinator Pat Lodge): plans for and progress with materials for 6 training sessions on aspects of English pronunciation, plus 5 sessions of a "Teacher Toolbox" relating especially to communication and management in the classroom.
- **Training Academic Managers** (coordinator Jo Raskin): Checklists to assist Academic Managers with student feedback, course- planning

and assessment were prepared in 4 languages, with other areas planned. The SIP also reminded members that six seminars packs for manager training can already be downloaded from the EAQUALS website:

<http://www.eaquals.org/members/seminars/dvlpmt/prtp/partmat.pdf>

- **Translation** (co-ordinator Maria Matheidesz; French - Valérie Clochard; German - David Kirwan): The EAQUALS flyer, poster and other marketing tools were translated into French; a German report writing aid for non-native speakers was completed, and an EAQUALS multilingual glossary was started with 300 entries for English, French and German.
- **Quality Management Guide** (coordinator: Maria Matheidesz): Seven processes were mapped out: General management; Financial management; Course organisation; Internal self-audit; HR;

ADDING VALUE IN LANGUAGE EDUCATION

2008 Conference & AGM

Wed 23rd - Fri 25th April
Paris, rue St Jacques,
Quartier Latin (nearest
metro: RER Luxembourg)

Wed. 23rd: inspector training
and meetings

Wed. 23rd 17.00: meeting for
EAQUALS members

Thurs. 24th 09.00-16.30:
Discussion forum and AGM

Thurs. 24th 17.00 EAQUALS
Conference opens – non-
members welcome
20.00 Conference dinner

Fri. 25th EAQUALS Conference

Sat. 26th Optional tour

Contact: aandor@eaquals.org
BOOK YOUR HOTEL SOON
(see next page)

Safety and security, and Customer care. A 'flowchart wizard', and templates for student handbooks, Staff handbooks, and schemes of work are in preparation.

- **European Language Portfolio implementation** (coordinator: Laura Muresan): participants shared information about ELP implementation in seven countries and prepared a questionnaire on ELP use for distribution to Members and members of Associate Members.

Progress report on SIPs (continued)

- **Can-do Descriptors Review** (coordinators Brian North for descriptors, and Darren Shaw for curriculum implementation): a draft 2nd edition of the EAQUALS/ALTE ELP checklists, clarifying and simplifying the originals, will be prepared for Paris, together with draft checklists for Business Language. The CEFR Curriculum Self-Help Guide is being further developed with practical case studies from EAQUALS members in different contexts: primary/secondary, adult education, and university.
- **Qualitative research or 'Qualisearch'** (coordinator Oya Basaran): The group brainstormed four key areas of enquiry, and then focused on: "Exploring the image of quality in students' minds," formulated the research question: ("What are language learners' perceptions of quality in an EAQUALS school?") and developed the questionnaire to generate the data to answer it.
- **Accreditation of Teacher Training Courses** (coordinator: Michael Carrier): building on preparatory work by the Executive Committee, the group outlined a Scheme to accredit pre-service teacher training, based upon the principles of the EAQUALS Charters and Inspection Scheme. The principle of EAQUALS accreditation of teaching training courses will be put to members at the AGM in Paris.

New Members

Four EAQUALS Full Members who have joined since the AGM in Krakow, were represented in Budapest. We wish them all a warm welcome:

- **Avo-Bell**, Sofia, Bulgaria, providing a range of English and teacher training courses.
- **Liden & Denz**, St Petersburg, Russia, providing intensive courses in Russian.

- **Intercollege Kielce**, Poland providing a range of extensive language training services.
 - **Inlingua, Basel**, Switzerland, providing mainly company training in a range of languages.
- More information about these and other members who have joined EAQUALS in 2007 can be found at <http://www.eaquals.org/news/newmembers2007.asp>

Other News

EAQUALS Inspections in 2007

52 inspection and advisory visits have been made in the year or are imminent. These have involved 39 different inspectors. The new inspector-training programme is now established, and will continue in Paris.

Macmillan English Campus

8 EAQUALS Members in 7 countries are taking advantage of EAQUALS' agreement with MEC to offer their students access to this exciting blended learning platform for English. If you wish to join them, please contact Richard Rossner.

ICEF Fair Berlin

For the first time, EAQUALS had a stand at this large event in early November, where about 30 EAQUALS full members were also represented. The 1,600 school representatives and agents received the new EAQUALS Guide for Agents. If you need copies contact Anna Andor. 15 potential new members contacted Richard at the stand.

ISO

On 11-12 November work began on the proposed new standard for non-formal education and training. Richard Rossner represents the UK on the working group, with 13 other country delegations, including Japan,

SOME RECOMMENDED CONFERENCE HOTELS

Hôtel de Suez - 31 Boulevard Saint-Michel, 75005 Paris

Tél.: + 33 1 53 10 34 00

Fax: + 33 1 40 51 79 44

Single : €75 ; double : €85 .

Walking distance to venue: 14 mn.

Le Home Latin - 15/ 17 rue du

Sommerard 75005 Paris

Tel: + 33 1 43 26 25 21

Fax: + 33 1 43 29 87 04

Single : €85 Double : €106

Walking distance to venue : 15 mn.

Hotel Cujas Pantheon - 18 rue

Cujas - 75005 Paris

Tel: + 33 1 43 54 58 10

Fax: + 33 1 43 25 88 02

Single : €71-77, Double : €89-92

Walking distance to venue 10 mn.

Residence du Palais - 78 rue

d'Assas 75006 Paris

Tel: + 33 1-43-26-79-32

Fax: + 33 1 43 54 60 61

Single : €62 ; Double : €72

Walking distance to venue : 12 mn.

Hôtel St Pierre - 4, Rue Ecole de

Médecine 75005 Paris

Tel + 33 1 46 34 78 80

Fax: + 33 1 40 51 05 17

Single : €76 ; Double : €86

Walking distance to venue: 19 mn

the USA and Australia. EAQUALS has liaison status.

Leonardo Project: teacher training in using digital media

EAQUALS is a partner in this project, which involves 9 other organisations. Seth Dickens, CLM Bell Trento, is playing an important role in developing on-line courses on such topics as wikis, social book-marking, and RSS feeds. EAQUALS members are invited to nominate staff to take part in the piloting of the courses later on. For more information, please contact Richard Rossner.

Warm Christmas and New Year greetings!

Brian North and Richard Rossner