



## NOTES FROM THE NZALT EXECUTIVE MEETING 28 - 29 July 2007

---

Below is a summary of the main points covered at the NZALT Executive Meeting in Christchurch on 28 – 29 July 2007. A full copy of the minutes is available to paid-up members by emailing [nzalt@paradise.net.nz](mailto:nzalt@paradise.net.nz)

### NEWS

**International Languages Week – 19 – 25 August** What is your school doing?

Visit the website for ideas. <http://www.international-languages-week.org.nz/>

**Jingle Competition** The much-awaited Jingle 🎵 competition – A great opportunity to showcase your students and hold your own competition for International Languages Week! Your students create a jingle about International Languages and can win CD vouchers. There is one entry per level per school. These are due by the end of the term. Entry forms on the website or from me Prices kindly sponsored by Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education [www.sasakawa.co.nz](http://www.sasakawa.co.nz) .

**Subscription** – In response to your questions at the last Executive meeting from 1 June this year, members have been sent an electronic receipt for online payments.

**AGM – Main issues discussed:**

**Election of Officers** – Our own Adèle Scott is the new President of NZALT and Anne Jacques is the senior Vice President. I am sure Adèle will continue to promote and represent languages in the enthusiastic way she always has.

All regions have the same Regional Officer retain their role on National Executive.

**General Business:** Discussion on lack of consultation of Cabinet over Native Language speakers being awarded NZQA scholarships from next year. A motion was passed for Exec to take some action on this. Watch this space a letter has already been drafted to the Minister.

**Badges:** A reminder that Regional Officers still have some of these left. If you are interested, please get in touch with your Regional Officer. Prices: \$2 each

## NZALT AWARDS

**FIPLV award** – This is awarded to Language teachers in recognition of outstanding contribution to Language teaching. If you have some one worthy of nomination you will need their details, reason for award, outline of their career and contributions, citation of no more than 300 words and a photo. Visit the website for the form and send to Sue the Secretary by 20 October.

<http://nzalt.org.nz/events/index.shtml#FIPLV>

**Asia Wise** – This fund has been wound up and superseded by others.

**PD award** – To assist in Language Teachers to attend PD or research.

<http://nzalt.org.nz/support/pd-award.shtml>

**Primary/Intermediate** – Adèle Scott has compiled the results of the online survey and these will be presented at Massey Langsem and will be available to other members later. As a result of the findings NZALT is introducing a Speak Up Award for Primary/Intermediate teachers of up to \$300 for Year 7 and 8 to further their international language study. Applications and further details are available on [www.nzalt.org.nz](http://www.nzalt.org.nz) and will be considered at our October Executive meeting. Teachers must be a 2007 member.

**Executive PD** – To maintain the health of our organisation, Executive will be undergoing Professional Development from an outside provider and will take a fresh look at what we are currently doing as part of our October meeting. Watch this space!

**NZQA – More moderation** – In line with Government's increased accountability with NCEA, there will be a need for more moderators in some language areas. Some of the new moderators' roles will not only include moderating, but other aspects as well. Watch the Gazette for more details.

**Scholarship** – In response to Human Rights rulings you will have received a circular from the Minister of Education about Scholarship in 2008 being opened up to “native speakers”. To try and make this fairer to non-native speakers, NZQA has made the first section's questions and answers in English, which will be 8 out of 24 marks. The decision was made by the Minister without consultation with NZQA, MOE or NZALT. Watch this space.

**Ministry of Education** – Visit [www.tki.org.nz](http://www.tki.org.nz) . The Languages communities will be updated as a “one stop shop” for Language teachers, showing links to associations, scholarships and awards

available to all teachers of Languages. There is also a link there to “Lead space” which features research from principals.

Most schools are part of the “Digital Learning Objects” project where there are interactive activities available in all subjects areas using Username and Password. This is called “Digistore” on the website. You can check which schools are already registered. Ask your principal who has the information. There will be a plenary at Massey Langsem on this.

**Curriculum Project** Rosemary Erlam and Joanne Le Métails have written about the implications of the draft curriculum on the curriculum documents Visit

[http://www.tki.org.nz/r/nzcurriculum/references\\_e.php#learning-languages](http://www.tki.org.nz/r/nzcurriculum/references_e.php#learning-languages) for information for the changes required in your Language under the New Curriculum. Eventually Achievement Standards will be brought in line with the curriculum as well.

Niuean has been launched this month and a draft of Latin this year, Tokelauan will be introduced too.

**Curriculum exemplars** The question has been raised by Exec to the Ministry whether Curriculum Exemplars will be made available in Languages. Watch this space. A lot of the recently produced publications in other learning areas have taken 5 years to develop.

## PUBLICATIONS

**New Zealand Language Teacher** Our annual peer-reviewed journal is currently looking for contributors for December on learning of languages other than English. Articles of 1500-4500 words can be submitted to Dr Martin East [meast@unitec.ac.nz](mailto:meast@unitec.ac.nz). Guidelines are on our website <http://nzalt.org.nz/whitepapers/NZLT.shtml> and we look forward to your contributions.

**Polyglot** Have you tried something new in the classroom, gone on an interesting trip? The deadline is 10 August. Do you know some one who wants to advertise? Information to your Regional Officer or to the Editor: Gayleen MacKereth: [mackereth.g@gmail.com](mailto:mackereth.g@gmail.com).

## SLAs

**Special Project Award** Consider how we could help your Language Association on a specific project or PD and apply. We have no current applicants so talk about it with colleagues before our October meeting and post your application. The last award went to NZAFT to help them produce a DVD for better classroom practice with the French curriculum. For more info: <http://nzalt.org.nz/support/spa.shtml>