



NOTES FROM THE NZALT EXECUTIVE MEETING 29 – 30 March 2008

Below is a summary of the main points covered at the NZALT Executive Meeting in Wellington on 29 – 30 March. A full copy of the minutes is available to current members by emailing nzalt@paradise.net.nz

NZALT Conference, 6 – 9 July 2008 Go to <http://www.nzalt.org.nz/conference/> to register now! It is \$400 for a great PD opportunity and it's your conference!

The conference will be held at Wellington Girls' College in Thorndon, Wellington.

Language sections include: Year 7/8, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Latin, Samoan and Spanish and some Te Reo Maori sessions for non-fluent speakers.

An area will also be available for Year 7/8 resource making.

Conference Subsidies

1. By being a current member of NZALT you already save \$100 ! (registration is \$500 if you are a non-member)
2. Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education offers subsidies for Japanese teachers attending conference. Visit their website www.sasakawa.co.nz for information.

AGM This will be held 9 July at National Conference in Wellington and will include nominations of Executive Officers (see below), changes in membership structures, results of the NZALT surveys on Scholarship – as requested by members in the AGM in 2007 and details on Executive's Strategic Plan.

Nominations for NZALT Executive Officers are now being accepted

This is an exciting PD opportunity to be involved in Languages at both national and regional level. Each Executive position is available except for Treasurer and President. Please contact me if you are interested in nominating someone to be Massey's new Regional Officer so we can arrange a regional election before Conference.

Nominations are welcome for all positions, but in particular we are looking for a secretary, vice president and Regional Officers for Auckland and Otago/Southland. The following Regional Officers are willing to continue in their role and will seek re-election: Christchurch/Nelson, Victoria, Massey and Waikato. There are three two-day meetings a year as an Executive plus time you are involved in tasks in relation to your Executive portfolios. If you are interested in any position please contact the President of NZALT : Adèle Scott, a.j.scott@massey.ac.nz.

A list of portfolios is on <http://www.nzalt.org.nz/about/portfolios.shtml> .

Ask another member to nominate you – by using the nomination form on this link:

<http://www.nzalt.org.nz/about/downloads.shtml>. All nominations need to be received by the current secretary Sue Sutherland by 24 May.

National French Immersion Weekend – Ruth Bouchier, the National Advisor is organising a French immersion weekend in collaboration with the French Embassy to coincide with the weekend of National Conference 5-6 July. More information through the NZALT listserve or contact your Regional Officer.

Next NZALT Executive Meeting As always the current Executive will take the opportunity to get together during conference time. Once on the 6th July when we will farewell any outgoing Executive members and again after Conference on the 9th July when new members will be welcomed.

Membership Membership figures from 2007 are summarised below :

NZALT PAID-UP MEMBERS 2007			
Region	2007	%	2006
Auckland	157	34.5%	170
Waikato	63	13.8%	64
Massey	54	11.8%	44
Victoria	60	13.1%	69
Canterbury/Nelson	92	20.2%	72
Otago/Southland	29	6%	40
TOTAL	455		459

Category	2007	%
Ordinary	261	58
Prim / Intermediate	64	14
Part Time	97	22
First Year	19	4
Journal	8	2

Membership refunds As part of our membership incentive scheme, six lucky members have been drawn from those who had paid their 2008 sub before 1 March 2008. The following members will receive a refund of their subs for this year.

Ngaire Hickey, Avonside Girls' High School, Christchurch
Elin King, Awatapu College, Palmerston North
Heather Reeves, Avondale College
Raewyn Birss, James Hargest High School, Invercargill
Pip Feast, Cambridge High School, Cambridge
Florence Barber-Voillaume, Diocesan School for Girls, Auckland

Representation of Year 7/8 teachers on NZALT Executive We are looking at ways of achieving greater input from Year 7/8 teachers, as 14% of our membership comes from the Primary/Intermediate sector.

Research on Scholarship and First Language Speaker issue

NZALT research findings will be presented at AGM in Wellington.

The Executive were very pleased to have representation from two key partners in Languages at our March meeting: Margaret Hardiman (representing the Ministry of Education) and Frances Salt (representing ERO).

Ministry of Education Your school should have received a wall planner for "Learning Languages". If not here is a link to order one: orders@learningmedia.co.nz or phone 0800 800 565. Item No:11282. You can also download a version: <http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/content/download/624/4203/file/Wallchart%20version%204.pdf>

Two important documents you may wish to refer to online for the overall thoughts behind looking at the Ministry's direction in general: www.schoolsplus.govt.nz/discussion-document/index.html and for Maori education: <http://kahikitia.minedu.govt.nz/default.htm>

The Ministry is currently working on its Pasifika Education Plan.

The Learning Languages area is found on pages 24-25 and the Achievement Objective on page 44 of the New Zealand Curriculum and teaching programmes should be based on these.

The Ministry are using the following initiatives to equip teachers for Learning Languages: running Teacher Professional Development (TPDL) Years 7-10 teachers around New Zealand. It is also offering the AFS Language Immersion Experiences for teachers and students: <http://www.tki.org.nz/e/community/language/> with a similar project for Te reo Maori teachers in English medium schools.

Other initiatives

Language Advisors, Technology in Learning Languages (TILL), Digital Learning Objects www.tki.org.nz/f/digistore with May/June updates, Chinese language assistants in Rotorua, CORE Education working in Auckland and Christchurch, Development of Guides to Teaching and Learning (TL) – aligning each language with New Zealand Curriculum (NZC), Development of Learning Languages Series for the rest of Pasifika Languages and New Zealand Sign Language, Alignment of Achievement and Unit Standards with NZC, Ongoing research including Intercultural Teaching and Learning.

Some interesting websites: Team Up www.teamup.co.nz/WhatChildrenLearn/default.htm, Education Counts (Stats and research) www.educationcounts.govt.nz

Education Review Office The session centred on schools' readiness to implement the new learning area with Frances being very keen to keep us informed about ERO's role. Initially, ERO asks schools what they are doing with regard to the implementation of quality languages programmes. Questions may vary over the next three years as the 2010 date gets closer and the requirements for schools' changes from 'working towards' to something stronger (fingers crossed). It will also be publishing as good Learning Languages practices. One of Frances' messages was to encourage HODs to get languages to appear as a school key focus /strategic goals.

Certificates of Excellence A reminder that these are available free of charge to NZALT members, for students with high achievement in NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3. Please send any further Certificates of Excellence forms by the end of Term One.

Professional Development Award Members are reminded that NZALT offers professional development support through a number of awards (see website). Uptake has dropped in recent years. Information about awards available through NZALT is to be disseminated to National Advisers, Regional Facilitators, National Coordinators of Facilitators and Ministry of Education.

International Languages Week – 17 – 23 August. What is your school doing this year?

Visit the website for ideas. <http://www.international-languages-week.org.nz/> and keep photos etc to supply for articles for NZALT publications and news.

Website www.nzalt.org.nz Visit the website and keep up-to-date with what our organisation is doing on your behalf. Conference updates and AGM remits will be posted on the website.

PPTA Professional Development Conference In April your executive is representing you at PPTA Professional conference with a presentation on the New Learning Area and afterwards at the Subject Association Forum where

they (Adele and Anne, supported by President of GANZ, Gunhild Litwin) will be talking about our Strategic Plan and of course the new learning area.

Auckland Langsem This will be in September this year – other regions do not hold Langsems in a Conference year.

Polyglot & New Zealand Language Teacher Journal In NZALT's effort to decrease paper waste and also due to increased printing costs it has been decided to trial Polyglot as a member only password protected online version this year. It will be the same magazine, but you will be able to download it as an entire copy or as chapters/articles in December. This will avoid any delays in getting it to you.

The New Zealand Language Teacher will remain as a hard copy magazine, delivered by regular mail. Members are reminded to update their membership details if they change, as we have copies of NZLT returned because of incorrect postal addresses.