

BALEAP NEWSLETTER, NO.2. OCTOBER 2002.

BALEAP EXECUTIVE AND BUSINESS MEETING

These meetings will be held on November 22nd at the University of Westminster, London. The executive meeting will start at 10.00am and the business meeting at 2.00pm. Agenda items will include Mike McCarthy talking to the meeting about the TESOL International Research Foundation for English Language Teaching, and the voting on nominations for Incoming Chair, Publications and Publicity Officer. We will also be voting on nominations to the BAS Committee and will also be voting on three new applications for institutional membership.

We hope to see as many institutional members represented as possible at the meeting. An agenda will be sent out shortly – please contact me to add agenda items.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO ALAN BARR

Alan has recently retired from his post at Glasgow University. I am sure that all BALEAP members will join me in thanking Alan for all his work with BALEAP over the years and in wishing him a very enjoyable retirement. Alan was part of the original SELMOUS group and was Chair from 1995-97.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new members Mark Lassman, Barry Bennett, Susan Barwick, Alison James and Frederick Fearn.

Our associate membership continues to grow and continues to diversify, both in terms of geography and areas of expertise. We have members who live and work in countries such as Brunei, The Netherlands, Greece, France, Oman, Finland, and Sweden. As for areas of expertise, one of the main reasons for joining BALEAP is of course for individual EAP practitioners to develop their teaching and research through connections with other BALEAP members, both as individual EAP teachers and also as representatives of EAP departments in HE institutions. However, BALEAP also has associate members who do not teach EAP, but who see a link between their career (for example editing or translation) and the field of EAP and Academic Literacy, or have talked to BALEAP members and see an overlap with our work and their own area of research. Other members work in areas such as EFL and TESOL or a related field and join BALEAP as a way of connecting with people in the field and finding out more about EFL and EAP.

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BALEAP PROFESSIONAL ISSUES MEETINGS

The last Professional Issues Meeting (PIM) was held in conjunction with The Scottish Association of TEFL (SATEFL) at Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh and organised by Olwyn Alexander. The subject of the PIM was 'EAP methodologies'. The one-day conference was extremely interesting, not least because it was an opportunity for dialogue and debate between different sectors involved in EAP and EFL. One specific and fruitful example of this was a discussion on a crucial area of commonality between EFL institutions and universities: the role played by IELTS. One thread of

this debate was the different perceptions of students, EFL institutions and universities, on the purpose(s) of IELTS – as an effective preparation for HE courses, or as a type of entrance exam to university.

The next PIM will be at the University of Kent in November – see the BALEAP website for details.

BALEAP ACCREDITATION SCHEME

With record numbers of students attending UK pre-sessional courses this summer, it has been an extremely busy time for everyone involved in running such courses - especially for those in the 11 institutions that have also undergone a BALEAP assessment visit. However, two significant changes in the BALEAP Accreditation Scheme (BAS) have been implemented recently to ease some of the workload connected with assessment visits. From July 2002, a successful outcome from an assessment visit will mean that it will be four years before the next visit is due, rather than every three years. A major development for the BAS is that for institutions with current English in Britain Accreditation Scheme (EiBAS) status, a BALEAP partial assessment visit is now available. These visits relate only to the BAS criteria not fully covered by the EiBAS Scheme, amounting to about half of the full BAS assessment. The visit will normally last one day, and a successful outcome will lead to full BAS accreditation on the new four-year assessment cycle. This summer, three BALEAP institutions have undergone partial assessment visits.

For more information about BALEAP Accreditation Scheme, please contact Roger Smith at: Language-Centre@bristol.ac.uk

THE 2003 BALEAP CONFERENCE

The conference will be held in Southampton from 10 to 12 April 2003. The theme is "Developing Academic Literacy". The theme should be interpreted as broadly as possible, so as to include work with EFL as well as EAL/ ESL and native speaker students. Although it is expected that many papers will address issues of reading and writing for academic purposes, the theme will also encourage papers on genre analysis, assessment and evaluation, criticality, learner autonomy and the use of technology.

The Deadline for abstracts of no more than 250 words is the 29th November 2002. Abstracts should be sent by e-mail or by post to:

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Further details about the conference will be published on our website at BALEAP.org.uk

JOURNAL OF EAP

Most BALEAP members have now received their first volume of the Journal of English for Academic English, published by Elsevier. Volume 2 will be out at the end of the year. Abstracts and tables of contents of Elsevier journals are available via their Science Direct website on SocSciNet. From here you can view contents and abstracts such as www.socscinet.com/lingustics/asw/index.html
www.socscinet.com/lingusitics/jeap/index.html

THE 2003 EATAW CONFERENCE

The European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing and the European Writing Centres Association are holding a second joint Biennial conference from 23 – 25 June 2003 in Budapest. The conference theme is ‘Tutoring and Teaching Academic Writing’. Full details of the conference are available at www.ceu.hu/eataw/
For enquires and to submit proposal email to eataw@ceu.hu

APLIUT CONFERENCE REPORT

Attached to this newsletter is a short report on the APLIUT (L’Association des Professeurs de Langues des Institut Universitaire de Technologie) conference, which took place in Lyon, France in June. Alex Ding, a BALEAP member who works at Nottingham University, attended the conference.

MICHIGAN PRESS ESL BOOKS

Martin Hewings at Birmingham has asked me to let people know that that the Michigan Press ESL books, including the growing EAPP series are now available in the UK from the English Book Centre in Oxford.

Jeanne Godfrey, BALEAP Chair.