ReCALL **13** (1): 132–136. Printed in the United Kingdom
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EUROCALL Annual Report 1999/2000

Headquarters and Secretariat

EUROCALL continued to operate from the Language Institute at the University of Hull. The former CTI Centre for Modern Languages became part of a much larger Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies, in turn part of the Learning and Teaching Support Network (LTSN) funded by the UK Higher Education funding bodies. The team at Hull is responsible for aspects of the Centre's activities relating to communication and information technologies (C&IT), and consists of June Thompson, Fred Riley and Julie Venner who serves as EUROCALL membership secretary. We were pleased to be joined in May 2000 by Janet Bartle who is the Academic Co-ordinator, C&IT for the Subject Centre.

Executive Committee

Members of the Executive Committee for the period in question are listed below. Members of the Committee attend two meetings a year, normally at the expense of their own institution but with assistance from EUROCALL if they have no other source of funding. In between meetings, discussion is carried out through a closed e-mail discussion list. Committee members also serve on the Academic Advisory Panel of EUROCALL's journal, *ReCALL*, and on the scientific committee for EUROCALL conferences. EUROCALL does not pay any fees for the services of its committee members.

Ms Françoise Blin
School of Applied Languages (SALIS), Dublin City University

Mrs Nicole Chénik (co-opted)
UFR Informatique de Gestion, Université Paris IX Dauphine

Dr Thierry Chanier (co-opted)
Laboratoire d'Informatique de Besançon, Université de Franche-Comté

Prof Graham Chesters (elected)
Institute for Learning, University of Hull

Prof Graham Davies (elected)
Commercial Development Unit, Thames Valley University

Dr Philippe Delcloque (elected)
School of Management, University of Abertay Dundee

Dr W E Ditters (observer – 2001 conference organiser)
TCMO, Nijmegen University

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0958344001001215 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Dr Ana Gimeno (elected)
Departamento de Idiomas, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia

Prof. Dr. Michael Goethals (observer – 1998 conference organiser)
Faculty of Arts, K.U. Leuven

Mrs Lis Kornum (elected)
Christianshavns Gymnasium, Copenhagen

Dipl.Math. Stephan Pohlmann (observer – co-ordinator of national representatives)
Universitaet Rostock

M. Joseph Rézeau (elected)
Département d'anglais, Université de Rennes 2

Prof. Dr. Bernd Rüschoff
Universität Gesamthochschule Essen

Mrs June Thompson (elected)
The Language Institute, University of Hull

Membership

Total membership of EUROCALL remained virtually static, at 438. This was the second year following the introduction of recruitment of members via the annual conference, and the rate of retention of these new members is an issue being addressed by the Executive Committee. Table 1 gives a breakdown of the countries represented. EUROCALL continues to operate a reciprocal arrangement with affiliated associations such as CALICO, so that members of these associations are entitled to certain EUROCALL benefits and vice-versa.

Finance

Income of £20,000 in membership fees and £4,500 in profits from the Besançon conference meant that there was a surplus of £6,696 over the year. This was carried forward to bring the total held in reserve to £34,419. However, this figure did not reflect the true picture as the costs of *ReCALL* Vol 12, for the calendar year 2000, were not included due to the different accounting periods of EUROCALL and Cambridge University Press. An operating deficit of £2,600 was thus budgeted for the financial year 2000/2001.

Publication

During this year, members received two issues of *ReCALL* as usual, but the calendar year 2000 marked the start of an arrangement whereby Cambridge University Press publishes *ReCALL* on behalf of EUROCALL. Thus, Volume 12 Part 1, May 2000 appeared in a new format. EUROCALL members will also have electronic access by password to *ReCALL* via CUP Journals Online.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0958344001001215 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Table 1. *EUROCALL members by country at 31 July 2000*

Country	Corporate	Individual	Total
Argentina	0	1	1
Australia	1	5	6
Austria	0	3	3
Belgium	10	20	30
Canada	1	9	10
Chile	1	0	1
Czech Republic	1	1	2
Denmark	1	7	8
Finland	5	8	13
France	7	50	57
Germany	7	30	37
Greece	0	13	13
Hong Kong	1	0	1
Ireland	11	7	18
Israel	1	4	5
Italy	4	12	16
Japan	0	17	17
Korea	0	1	1
Netherlands	9	10	19
New Zealand	1	1	2
Norway	3	6	9
Peru	1	0	1
Portugal	2	2	4
South Africa	0	1	1
Spain	2	12	14
Sweden	6	3	9
Switzerland	5	7	12
Turkey	1	0	1
United Kingdom	43	60	103
USA	1	18	19
TOTAL	125	313	
GRAND TOTAL			438

CUP are investing considerably in the marketing of *ReCALL* through library subscriptions, and it is hoped that this partnership with a prestigious publisher will benefit EUROCALL and increase the circulation of *ReCALL*, as well as continuing to improve the quality of its content. A new Editorial Board was established in advance of the new arrangement. This comprises:

Editors
Graham Chesters and June Thompson, University of Hull, UK

Reviews Editor
Janet Bartle, University of Hull, UK

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Editorial Board
Angela Chambers, University of Limerick, Ireland.
Carol A. Chapelle, TESL/Applied Linguistics, Ames, IA, USA.
Françoise Demaizière, Université Paris 6/7, France.
Robert Fischer, Southwest Texas State University, TX, USA.
Nina Garrett, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA.
Michael Levy, University of Queensland, Qld, Australia.
Peter G Liddell, University of Victoria, Canada.
David Little, University of Dublin, Ireland.
Sue K Otto, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA.
Dieter Wolff, Bergische Universität, Wuppertal, Germany.

Members are also able to access a wide range of relevant resources via the EUROCALL website, including the *Online Software Database* at http://www.hull.ac.uk/cti/resources/searchdb.htm and *Internet Resources for Language Teachers and Learners* at http://www.hull.ac.uk/cti/langsite.htm as well as *Software Reviews*, a *CALL Bibliography* and a regularly updated *Calendar of Events*, all available at http://www.hull.ac.uk/cti/. Members may also link into the information and resources available at the Subject Centre website at http://www.lang.ltsn.ac.uk/

Information service

Enquiries and visitors

Over the year, the Hull team dealt with 65 enquiries from EUROCALL members and received 10 visitors who spent time, usually relating to their research, examining software and publications in the dedicated CALL libraries held at Hull.

Discussion list

Approximately 230 members were registered as users of the discussion list. Much of the material posted to the list related to the provision of information. There were a few instances where the list was used for the promotion of commercial services or products, which is not to be encouraged. However, it is felt that the disadvantages of the occasional misuse of the list are outweighed by the fact that the list is 'open', without the need for a moderator.

Website

The EUROCALL website acquired the new domain name of www.eurocall.org and since the departure of Kylie Baxter has been maintained by Fred Riley. Templates were provided so that the designers of national/regional EUROCALL websites could maintain the EUROCALL house-style. Since the new association with the LTSN Subject Centre, EUROCALL members now have direct access to a wider range of language-related information via the EUROCALL website.

Regional representatives

The list of national / regional representatives, who act as contacts in their own particular regions, to stimulate relevant activity locally and to promote membership of EURO-

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CALL, has gradually expanded. Françoise Blin was succeeded as Co-ordinator by Stephan Pohlmann who was elected to serve for the year 1999/2000. Communication takes place via a dedicated discussion list and progress has been made in establishing local websites. The representatives meet annually at the conference to share ideas, and the Co-ordinator of the representatives is co-opted onto the EUROCALL Executive Committee as an observer.

Conference

A highly successful annual conference was held at the Université de Franche-Comté, Besançon, organised by Thierry Chanier. The quality of presentations was generally thought to be high, and a selection of these was published in *ReCALL* volume 12 part 1, May 1999, the first issue published by Cambridge University Press, comprising 120 pages.

Research

The Joint Policy Statement, formulated in the previous year, was translated and adapted for use in different regional contexts. The statement is available to EUROCALL members at http://www.hull.ac.uk/cti/eurocall/research_policy.htm

In order to encourage newcomers to research in the area of CALL and TELL, the Executive Committee held discussions resulting in the establishment of an annual EUROCALL Research Award, to be awarded for the first time in 2001.

Special Interest Groups

The InSTIL SIG has become well-established, with a successful pre-conference workshop held in Besançon. Full information may be found at the website http://dbs.tay.ac.uk/instil/. A new SIG in Language Processing was instigated during this year and a website for the group is under development.

The János Kohn Scholarship

The new scholarship to commemorate the name of Janos Kohn was advertised during the year. The scholarship enables a young Hungarian teacher or researcher to participate in a EUROCALL conference by providing funds to cover travel costs to and from the conference, accommodation and meals at the conference, and the registration fee. There were four applicants in 1999/2000 and the scholarship was awarded to Peter Gal from the University of Veszprem, for attendance at EUROCALL 2000 in Dundee.

Affiliations

Contact with major national and international associations such as CALICO, IALL and ATELL has been maintained and strengthened. A preliminary meeting was held in Besançon in September 1999 with a view to working towards a second WorldCALL conference in 2003. EUROCALL's membership of the European Languages Council also continues.

JUNE THOMPSON
Secretary, EUROCALL

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