



Participant's report to National Nominating Authorities and National Contact Points on workshops

1. Reporting

Name of workshop participant	Dr. Candy (Mary) Fresacher
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E-mail address	c.fresacher@kabsi.at
Title of ECML project	LACS
ECML project website	http://lacs.ecml.at
Type of the event	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central workshop in Graz
Date of the event	10-11 December 2009
Brief summary of the content of the workshop	Language teaching associations and collaborative support
What did you find particularly useful?	Meeting people with the same objectives and areas of concern on an EU basis
How will you use what you learnt/ developed in the event in your professional context?	I will contact those people who I worked with during the conference, I hope to use/do more research through the organization and perhaps look for projects to work with in association with the ministry of education.
How will you further contribute to the project?	As I only attended one day this was not discussed but I hope to get the relevant reports and to disseminate them to our members.
How do you plan to disseminate the project? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To colleagues - To a professional association - In a professional journal/website - In a newspaper - Other 	As editor of our journal I will write an article on what went on at the workshop as I think it is important and interesting information for our members to know about. I will also put this report on our TEA website at www.tea4teachers.org . I have already reported to my board on the various aspects of the workshop that I thought would be of interest to them. We also send out an electronic newsletter and I may add an article to one of the upcoming monthly reports.

2. Informing the public

Text of about 200 words in your national language(s) to be used for dissemination (on websites, for journals etc.) with a focus on the benefits for target groups

The LACS project started in 2008 and will continue until 2011 with the mandate to see what collaborative support can be found between the various language teaching associations of EU countries. The objectives of the various associations are much the same and yet most seem to have similar problems with: financing, decreasing membership and the active participation of individual members. The associations seem to be run by enthusiastic and dedicated leaders interested in furthering the goals of language teaching on all levels. The question remains what the best methods to do so could be. Some associations are involved in policy making at the government level and are even asked to contribute to important decision-making processes such as new curricula. Others are historically not involved in this type of activity. The UK association, with 6,000 members, has become involved in projects which have helped both its financial status and the acquisition of members. Yet the numbers of the organisation need to continue to rise in order to keep up the funding of the projects. An interesting aspect of associations involved in research has made me, in particular, think that this is something my own association might like to get involved in. Perhaps we can find out about exciting new ideas in teaching language through some form of research survey. Also it seems important to disseminate information about the ECML and the various resources it can offer our members. My first thought is to have someone from ECML come and talk about the institute at our upcoming conference in April 2010. The workshop brought together many people and gave them the opportunity to network in a very concrete way in order to exchange ideas. I believe that this is just the beginning of collaborative support and that continued cooperation would involve these people working together over a longer period of time exchanging ideas and assisting one another.