

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2024**



Integrating Content and Language in Higher Education

#### To all members of the Association

The board is pleased to present its eighth annual report to the members, covering the period of July 2023 to June 2024. Just like in the preceding years, our association has been very busy and involved in a range of activities and initiatives.

As our much-improved website (www.iclhe.org) contains the relevant information in quite some detail, we're keeping this report short. We first provide an overview of our ICLHE events, and then zoom in on a few crucial topics, all of which include a call for action, inviting all ICLHE members to share their ideas and get engaged!

Ute Smit, Association Chair



## The ICLHE year (July 2023-June 2024) in fast motion

- Newsletter Issue 26, Fall 2023, including a spotlight interview with Charla Schutte, the coordinator of the new DACH Regional Group
- Symposium 2023: "ICLHE: Taking Stock and Looking Forward" (2+3 November, Vienna), including our 2023 AGM.
- **Webinar with Zohra Labed**: "The Englishization of Algerian higher education through ICLHE" (10 January)
- Webinar with Maria Noelia Ruiz-Madrid & Enzo Boggio López: "Unlocking lecturers' multimodal competence in LREs in EMI contexts" (26 January)
- Newsletter 2024, Issue 1 (Winter), including a spotlight video with content teachers and their reflections on ICLHE
- Webinar with Olivia Mair: "First-year students in an EMI programme. Developing international mindsets" (22 February)
- The 6th ICLHE East Asia Symposium (20 April, The University of Niigata Prefecture, Japan)
- Newsletter 2024, Issue 2 (Spring), announcing Mahboubeh Rakhshandehroo as new board member responsible for RGs & SIGs
- The 5th Spain RG Symposium (13-14 June in Universidad Politécnica de Catalunya, Barcelona (Spain).
- Newsletter 2024, Issue 3 (Summer), also expressing our heartfelt commitment to ICLHE 2025 in Porto Alegre.

#### **ICLHE** webinars









Newsletters and Spain RG Symposium

## The board members

The present board (elected at the AGM on 20 October 2022 for a twoyear period) consists of nine members. As Annette Bradford stepped down in February this year, we co-opted **Mahboubeh** 

**Rakhshandehroo as a new board member**. The only other changes concerned some of our portfolios, which we realised needed further specification.

Here is a list of names and present tasks (for short bio-blurbs see our website.

Chair: Ute Smit

Secretary: Emma Dafouz

Treasurer: Patrick Studer

Responsible for SIG &RGs: Mahboubeh (Maha) Rakhshandehroo

Website & Newsletter: Jenny Valcke

Social Media: Julie Walaszczyk

Webinar: T.J. Ó Ceallaigh

Compliance Officers: Robert Wilkinson & Anja Schüppert





ICLHE Board 2022-24:
Jenny, Julie, Bob, Anja
(standing); TJ, Patrick, Ute,
Emma (sitting); (photo taken
in Vienna 2023),
Maha (above)

We had regular meetings during the year, one onsite before the 2023 Symposium in Vienna and seven online. Besides the many administrative issues that come with an association, our main concern is to support the association and its members in further developing our ICLHE-related interests.



As any association can only be as good as its members, we invite all ICLHE members to become actively involved in the ICLHE topic/s that is/are closest to your heart.

### Send your suggestions and ideas to info@iclhe.org!



# **Important administrative matters and compliance**

As the <u>Membership Report</u>, <u>Financial Reports</u> and <u>Auditors'</u> <u>Reports</u> provide detailed accounts of these important topics, here are only **some key pointers**:

- ICLHE can report **an increase in membership**, resulting in **213 members** by the end of June 2024. At the same time, there is a relatively high number of unpaid memberships and thus a reduction in the funds ICLHE could procure during the last year.
- Despite this reduction in income, our finances have developed fine insofar as income less expenditure has again enabled **a small growth in the financial reserves**.
- From the perspective of compliance, **no substantive issues occurred during the year.** As our compliance officers Anja Schüppert and Robert Wilkinson confirm, this is good news: it shows that ICLHE and its Board comply with the administrative and legislative requirements stemming from its registration under Dutch law.

### Note (in support of Calls for Action):

While our finances are limited, our budget includes **some financial support for ICLHE activities**. More specifically, there are **small running cost grants for each RG and SIG**, which may help towards maintaining the group, organizing meetings or contributing to honoraria to invited speakers.

## THE WEBSITE

The ICLHE website remains a vital platform that demands continuous attention. Keeping it current and relevant is a collaborative effort that requires contributions not only from the Board but also from the entire membership. Our website features a variety of resources that we hope will be valuable for members to explore and engage with.

### Website Revamp for 2024:

This year, significant web development work has been undertaken on the WIX platform to improve functionality and user experience. **Key structural changes include**:

- Enhanced Payment Methods: Integration of credit card options for a smoother transaction process.
- **Webinar Management**: Development of a comprehensive system for webinars, covering announcement, registration, recording, and broadcast—all through WIX.
- **Visual and Design Updates**: Refreshing all website photos and design elements to ensure a modern and cohesive look.
- Member Zone Enhancements, including:

Discussion Forums: Creation of dedicated forums for each Regional Group (RG) and Special Interest Group (SIG). These forums are linked to social media and the news page, fostering better communication and visibility for ongoing activities.

### **ICLHE ACTIVITIES**

ICLHE offers various platforms to share information and activities & events to get engaged:

- The Newsletter appears four times a year and provides brief information and spotlight interviews. All current and past newsletters are available through the member zone (for members only) <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. ICLHE is also active on social media and sends out mailchimp messages.
- In our **series of webinars** of 60-90 minutes each we aim to present **hot topics and up-to-date information**. When speakers consent (and the technology doesn't let us down), we also record the webinars for our members who couldn't attend the event itself. For more information see the <u>webinar web page</u>.
- The format of SIGs & RGs allows for smaller networks to develop (see the SIGs & RGs web page). Presently, there are the PhD SIG (Special Interest Group) and the RGs (Regional Groups) for Spain, Italy, East Asia and, most recently, DACH (German speaking regions). Initiated at the 2023 Symposium, we've been developing a further SIG, focusing specifically on content teachers and their voices, perspectives and needs in ICLHE. We hope to formalize this SIG in the coming months.

- Once a year, there is a larger ICLHE event, either a symposium or a conference, which also features our AGM.
  - The 2023 symposium titled "ICLHE: Taking stock and looking forward" took place at the University of Vienna on 2 & 3 November 2023. Structured as a partially hybrid event, it combined streamed lectures with on-site workshop sessions that the 48 participants could take part in. After Robert Wilkinson's plenary address on "ICLHE, looking forward backwards: A mixed metaphorical journey", invited speakers (Tom Morton, Emma Dafouz & Elena Orduna, Miya Komori-Glatz & Ute Smit, Inma Fortanet-Gómez & Noelia Ruiz-Madrid) informed us of their recent and ongoing projects. In an Early Career Research Session, we learnt about 11 PhD projects in pitch talks followed by engaging poster-based exchanges. The second day put the association centre stage:

In addition to the AGM and a session updating us on the RG&SIG activities, all participants were involved in lively and enriching discussions on ICLHE educators' professional development and other emerging topics. We highlighted the need to reach out in new ways to content specialists, to ICLHE realities in languages other than English, and to new ICLHE settings in e.g. MENA (Middle East and North Africa) and Latin America.



- The **2024 Symposium** will take place at the Hochschule Rhein/Main in Wiesbaden, under the title "**Bridging the gap: The ideal and the reality of teaching content through L2 in higher education**" on **10-11 October 2024** for more information see <u>the symposium website</u>. The ICLHE AGM, scheduled for the second day, will also include the elections for the new board all members are welcome to attend!
- The 8th ICLHE Conference in 2025 will be coordinated by Ana
   Luiza Freitas and Simone Sarmento and take place at the UFCSPA
   (Universidade Federal de Ciências da Saúde de Porto Alegre),
   Brazil, from Sept. 24 to 27, 2025. More details will be announced
   during the 2024 Symposium.

Wiesbaden 2024



### **CALL FOR ACTION**

We encourage **all members to update their profiles** so that the ICLHE community can learn more about your work and interests. For **guidance on how to access the Member Zone** or **update your profile**, please watch the **following tutorial videos**:

- How to log into the Member Zone <u>watch this video</u>
- How to update your profile watch this video

All ICLHE members are whole-heartedly invited to **share your ideas**! Your active participation helps strengthen our community and enhances the value of our collective resources:

- Anything for the Newsletter, send to news@iclhe.org.
- When you want to suggest a **webinar**, either with yourself and/or somebody else, please contact TJ (**tjoceallaigh@ucc.ie**).
- Do get involved in all **SIGs and RGs** that are relevant to your work (see <u>website</u>). Should you wish to kick off **a new group**, let Maha know at **prakhshandehroo@gmail.com**.

The Board is very interested in hearing from members about **possible venues for ICLHE Events in 2026 and 2027**. Potential hosts may submit proposals to **info@ichm.org** for either a symposium or a conference for either year.

Our association and its activities and events past, present and future are only possible because of the enthusiasm, commitment and hard work of so many people - a heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you!

On behalf of the Board of the ICLHE Association,

Chair