



Integrating Content and Language in Higher Education

Annual Report 2019

Annual Report of the Board to the ICLHE Association

Castellón, 17 October 2019.



To all members of the Association

The ICLHE Association greatly looks forward to the 6th Conference at the **Universitat Jaume I** in Castellón, Spain, during which the Annual General Meeting is held. The Board is extremely grateful to **Inma Fortanet-Gómez** and her team for the excellent work they have done in setting up and managing this Association's Conference. It is sure to be a wonderful opportunity for the exchange of educational experience and research, thanks not least to all the contributors, as speakers, presenters, and contributors.

Symposium Barcelona 2018

This is the third Annual Report the Board presents to the Association and covers the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019. The highlight of the year was the Symposium in Universitat Pompeu Fabra in



Barcelona in October. Over fifty people attended the symposium, which focused on multilingualism and multilingual policies, addressing the singularity of particular academic contexts. Naturally participants also discussed the challenge posed by the continuing growth of English-medium instruction, especially its effects on the domestic languages. What kind of balance would be optimal in what context? The issues are sure to be in the spotlight at the

6th Conference. The Board warmly thanks **Manuel Jiménez** and **Mireia Calm** and their team for the super organization.

SIGs and Regional Groups

One of the objectives the Board had during the year was to stimulate the creation of groups of members with like-minded interests as well as regional groups. The PhD SIG has been ticking along – most of its activities take place during the conference, and it is very encouraging that so many PhD students are presenting here. The PhD SIG would welcome every PhD student in the SIG where information about research practices and methodologies can be exchanged and research progress shared.

The Board congratulates PhD members who have successfully defended their theses during the year: **Samantha Curle**, **Lijie Shao**, **Joan Ploettner**, among others.

Regional groups have been started in Asia and Spain. The ICLHE East Asia Regional group organized by **Annette Bradford** and **Ted O’Neill** held a highly successful one-day symposium in Tokyo in January and they are planning to hold a second one early next year. The Spain group is coming together for the first time at this conference. We look forward to hearing much from these groups, especially as they constitute core regions for the development of education through the integration of content and language – or should we say languages?

Website

After conferences and similar activities, the website should be the most visible face of an educational association like ours. The Board is very happy that during the past year the ICLHE website was

upgraded and the Member Zone created. It was pleasing to see initially plenty of announcements on the website, but increasingly technical issues kept arising. Eventually finding solutions took far more time than our website officer, **Jenny Valcke**, could reasonably invest, as well as becoming more and more technologically complex. The Board opted to hire the services of a technical website



administrator, **Deirdre Curle**, who is now managing the website and the administration side of the membership for the Association. Already we are seeing many improvements, which should now reflect in a better service to members.

The Member Zone exists, but there has been little response so far concerning information from members to place there. There are a few articles in the resources, though calls to members for others have so far met with little response. It would be useful to include a simple list of articles written and presentations given by members: this could be an effective way of disseminating your research and observations among the members of the association.

During this conference, we will live stream the three plenaries via the Member Zone. This can help members who are unable to attend the conference to join in. Visit the Member Zone on the website: <https://iclhe.org/>

With respect to privacy, the Member Zone does not yet include details of members and their ICLHE and related interests.

Moreover, members are encouraged to submit announcements concerning events, developments or publications on the website: info@iclhe.org

Newsletter

Thanks to the Editor, **Inma Fortanet-Gómez**, ICLHE published five Newsletters during the year, with short reports of projects or conferences that ICLHE members were involved in, as well as some publications. One constant has been the regular highlighting of the research work of our PhD students. The Board warmly thanks Inma and the contributors. Newsletters are all available via the Member Zone on the website: <https://iclhe.org/>



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<http://www.iclhe.org>



From EME to SDGs

Over the past academic year, as I have participated in conferences in Swi Belgium, Spain and Germany (see EQUIIP below), I reflected on how En Medium Education (EME) is now seen as a means to initiate reforms i delivery and services of higher education in order to enhance quality. To m is echoed by Hans De Wit et al.'s 2015 definition of internationalisation ' quality is considered as central to enable institutions to "make a mean contribution to society". Quality education is also the title of Sustai

Membership

As expected, membership has remained fairly steady during the year with an uptick in the run-up to the present conference. As a trial, the Board opted for a running year membership system, as opposed to the calendar year. This means membership is for one year starting from the date of payment of the fee. The Board will evaluate the system in the coming months.

The procedures for membership have been upgraded and now is systematized. The membership secretary, **Kevin Haines**, will give more details in his report to the AGM.

Finance

For a fledgling organization, the Association is in a relatively healthy position. Income balances expenditure and enables a small growth in the financial reserves. As the Treasurer, **Ute Smit**, will report in more detail, much of the expenditure has been on necessary administrative matters to ensure that the Association can run smoothly. Such matters have preoccupied the Board during the past year.

At the previous AGM, the Board invited SIGs and Regional groups, among others, to apply for small grants that could be used, for example, to help organize meetings or contribute to honoraria to invited speakers. The Board extends the invitation.

Your Board

During the year, the Board held six online meetings and two face-to-face during the Barcelona Symposium. A glance at the minutes of these meetings reveals the challenge of technical matters in getting things to work! Hopefully, Board members can now devote more time to matters of ICLHE content rather than administration.

The AGM at Castellón will see elections to the Board for the first time since its establishment. The Board looks forward to seeing some new faces from the membership.



Our membership secretary, **Kevin Haines**, is stepping down to focus on work commitments and projects. The Association will join with the Board in warmly thanking Kevin for his steadfast commitment to the Association and his hard work in getting the membership system soundly organized. The technical issues have consumed a lot of time, and hopefully a new membership secretary can now concentrate more on recruitment and matters of content rather than the technology.

Board members are very busy people, often with a multiplicity of commitments to their university and to international projects. The time they can work as volunteer leaders for the Association is naturally limited. It is easy to suggest ideas for what the Association can do, but often in order to do it, someone has to step forward! Both the existing Board and no doubt the new Board to be installed at this AGM would welcome active contribution from members. With this in mind, the Board is hoping to establish committees in the coming months and will reach out to members to serve on these committees.

Overall it is valuable to consider the future directions for the Association. What does the Association do well? What should it be doing, and perhaps more importantly, what should it not be doing? Where do we want it to go from here? Where should we be in five years' time?

Looking forward

Annual reports conventionally focus on the reporting year, but they also look forward to the coming year. The new reporting year has of course begun. You are already enjoying the wonderful hospitality offered by our hosts here in Castellón and the excellent conference they have provided. We are extremely grateful not only to the conference team and the **Universitat Jaume I** authorities, but also to you, the contributors and participants. Together we shall all make the 6th ICLHE Conference most memorable.

We look forward to a new Symposium in 2020. We will shortly be able to announce the venue. The Board will work closely with the organizers in ensuring a super Symposium in the autumn of 2020.

The subsequent ICLHE event will take place in the autumn of 2021, whether it's a symposium or a conference. The Board is interested in hearing from members about a possible venue for the 7th ICLHE Conference.

The coming year will see several publications by ICLHE members. Most notably, we can expect the book edited by **Joyce Kling** and **Slobodanka Dimova**, with key contributions by speakers at the 5th ICLHE Conference in Copenhagen.

ICLHE members should also note the call for a Special Issue of the *European Journal of Language Policy*, edited by **Ute Smit** and **Patrick Studer**. The call, launched in September, remains open till early November and invites contributions to "Internationalisation and English medium education: language, policy and practice".

On behalf of the Board of the ICLHE Association,

Robert Wilkinson

Chair

