

Third-Level Teachers of German in Ireland AGM

7 October 2006, NUI Galway

Conference: “Teaching German in Ireland: Politics and Perspectives”

Attendance

Gabi Behrens (NUIG), Karl-Bernhard Bödeker (retired, ITSligo), Christa Brennan (NUIG), Kristin Brogan (ITTralee), Deirdre Byrnes (NUIG), Gilbert Carr (TCD), Jean Conacher (UL), Doris Devilly (NUIG), Siobhán Donovan (UCD), Jenny Farrell (GMIT), Joachim Fischer (UL), Gisela Holfter (UL), Katja Kaboth (UL), Eimear Kelly (AIT), Florian Krobb (NUIM), Valerie Heffernan (NUIM), Marieke Krajenbrink (UL), Caitríona Leahy (TCD), Geraldine Mitchell (ITTDublin), Vincent O’Connell (NUIG), Pól Ó Dochartaigh (UU), Rosaleen O’Neill (NUIG), Hermann Rasche (NUIG), Katja Scholz (UL), Christiane Schönfeld (NUIG), Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa (NUIG), Simone Schroth (UCD), Michael Shields (NUIG), Sebastian Stumpf (NUIG), Katharina Walter (NUIG)

Apologies

Jürgen Barkhoff (TCD), Nicola Creighton (QUB), Karen Feery (ITB), Georg Grote (UCD), Tim Jackson (TCD), Deirdre Kelliher (UCD), Sabine Krobb (UCD), Moray McGowan (TCD), Annegret Mannion (CIT), Jeff Morrison (NUIM), Anna-Maria Mullally (ITTDublin), Sarah O’Beirne (ITSligo), Gillian Pye (UCD), Claire O’Reilly (UCC), Patricia Quigley (Tipp Inst), Eda Sagarra (TCD), Manfred Schewe (UCC), Susan Tebbutt (Mary I), Riana Walsh (ITTDublin), Jenny Williams (DCU), Arnd Witte (NUIM), Heidi Zojer (UCD)

Joint Chairpersons’ Report

Geraldine Mitchell welcomed everyone to the AGM of the Association of Third Level Teachers of German in Ireland. The NUIG and Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa were thanked for hosting the conference and AGM. The German Embassy should also have been thanked for its support of the conference.

The Constitution of the ATLTGI states that the Executive Committee shall be elected for a period of two years. Permission was sought by the current Committee to stay on for a further year to consolidate the work thus far, and this was agreed upon. (Committee = Florian Krobb [NUIM], Geraldine Mitchell [ITT Dublin], Siobhán Donovan [UCD], Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa [NUIG], Patricia Mitchell [Tipp. Inst.]

The Committee met once during the year in April 2006 and carried out further business via e-mail. Achievements to date include the publication of volume one of the Yearbook *Germanistik in Ireland* (ed. Florian Krobb, Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa). (The launch of the Yearbook took place directly after the AGM.) FK and HW-SH were both congratulated on this achievement. The Directory of Irish Third-Level Institutions

offering German has been compiled by Siobhán Donovan and Geraldine Mitchell and was available for members to take home with them. The work involved in assembling the directory was also acknowledged. As there are still some technical difficulties with the website, those who wish to have information disseminated to Germanists in Ireland may continue to send these to Siobhán who will then circulate them via e-mail.

The AGM for 2007 will take place on 20 October at ITT Dublin (i.e. Institute of Technology Tallaght). The theme will be 'Das neue Deutschland'.

Membership Secretary's/Treasurer's Report

Siobhán Donovan reported that there were 41 paid-up members 2005/06 (35 full-time, 6 part-time; this rose to 43 by the end of the day!) She made a plea for subscriptions for 2006/07.

SD thanked all those who sent in information for the directory. There are 58 individual entries to date. As this is a first version, it is necessarily far from complete, and there will be errors. She asked that anyone who wishes to be included in the next directory should forward their details to her (templates available from her). Any corrections or amendments can also be forwarded to her. SD reported that there are ca. 180 colleagues actively teaching German. The financial statement was distributed with a balance to date of €2,103.70.

Announcements of conferences, meetings, etc.

- Mythos Schweiz Conference (TCD, NUIM): 19-21 October 2006
- German-Irish Studies Conference, UL, summer 2007: 50 years Böll's *Irishes Tagebuch*
- Anglo-Saxon Fatherlands, UU, 20-22 June 2007, offers of papers to Pól Ó Dochartaigh, Ian Wallace
- Business German Conference: Friday 5 October 2007

AOB

As there were no items, the meeting concluded.

Launch of Yearbook

Florian Krobb and Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa launched volume one of the Yearbook *Germanistik in Ireland*. Special thanks to Jürgen Barkhoff and publishers Hartung Gorre. The theme for Vol. 2 (2007) is (Wahl-)Verwandtschaften (any aspect of the theme of affinities: literary, Landeskunde, teaching German in classroom). Manuscripts should be submitted to Florian Krobb or Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa.

Subsequent issues will be themes relevant to German Studies in Ireland, and hope to include volumes to honour retired colleagues.