Invitation to the International Conference

**The European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages:
Experiences and Perspectives**

Dates: 6. July, 10.30 – 7. July 2012, 15.30
Place: European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML), Nikolaiplatz 4, 8010 Graz, Austria

Organisers:
Austrian Association of Language Teaching Methodology
Foreign language section of the methodology Centre of the Faculty of Humanities, Graz University
Centre for English Language Teaching (CELT), Vienna University
Austrian Association: European Centre for Modern Languages

Coordinators:
Dr. David Newby, Graz University
Mag. Barbara Mehlmauer-Larcher, Vienna University
Mag. Ursula Newby, Association ECML in Austria

Participants: Language teacher educators, school mentors, representatives of school authorities and ministries, student teachers.

Aims of conference:
- Exchange of information about using the EPOSTL
- Presentation of EPOSTL-related publications
- Work on concepts to optimise the use of the EPOSTL
- Strengthening of cooperation networks
- Feedback on the EPOSTL from students

Topics:
- Using the EPOSTL in teacher education
- Using the EPOSTL on teaching practice
- Innovation in teacher education

Plenary speakers include:
- Natalia Orlova (University J. E. Purkyne, Usti nad Labem, Czech Republic)

Conference languages:
Conference languages are German and English. Participants will find it useful to have a passive knowledge of both languages.

Further Information:
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Conference fee: € 20, including 2 buffet lunches.
Please note that this conference is not part of the official ECML programme. Participants will therefore have to bear their own travel and accommodation costs or apply to support from their local authorities.

Registration:
By 7th Mai: oettl.verein@ecml.at . As the number of places is limited, early registration is recommended. A list of accommodation possibilities will be sent to participants on registration.

Background to the EPOSTL

What is the EPOSTL?

The *European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages* is a catalogue of didactic competences which encourages both students undergoing their initial teacher education and practising teachers to reflect on the didactic knowledge and skills necessary to teach languages. It helps them to self-assess their own competences and enables them to monitor their progress. The EPOSTL was developed for the ECML (European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe) by an international team coordinated by David Newby and builds on important principles from the *Common European Framework of Reference*.

Who uses the EPOSTL?

The EPOSTL is used at universities and teacher education institutions throughout Europe and has been translated into 14 languages. The EPOSTL has the potential to act as a bridge between initial teacher education, teaching practice and in-service teacher development and thus contribute to raising the quality of language teaching.

EPOSA as a Download in 10 Languages:

http://epostl2.ecml.at/ - Publications

Publications on the EPOSTL

Newby, D. and Horak, A. (Eds.) (2011) *Die Implementierung des Europäischen Portfolios für Sprachlehrende in der Ausbildung (EPOSA) in der Lehrer/innenbildung in Österreich: Beispiele der guten Praxis*. ÖSZ Praxisreihe 15. Österreichisches Sprachen-Kompetenz-Zentrum.
Download: http://www.oesz.at/sub_main.php?lnk=Publikationen

Newby, D., Fenner, A-B., Jones, B. (eds.) (2011) *Using the European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages*. Strasbourg/Graz: Council of Europe Publishing. Download:
http://epostl2.ecml.at/Publication/tabid/2534/language/en-GB/Default.aspx

Newby, D. (ed.) (2012) *Insights into the European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages. Newcastle*:
Cambridge Scholars Publishing.