



The Modern Language Teachers' Association of Queensland Inc.

Gold Coast Branch

Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 5th November 2010 in Room G06_3.60 Griffith University Gold Coast Campus

Attendance:

Simon Burgess (Helensvale SHS), Eve Blackwell, Brendan Boyle (Helensvale SHS), Anthony Chapman (Palm Beach SS), Kathleen Clarke (Coombah SHS), Chris Dunn (St Hilda's), Ros Fischer (Somerset College), Jo Fullerton (Sprinbrook SS), Kim Hepworth (Clover Hill SS, Oxenford SS), Ayako Iwasaki, Gareth Jones (Robina SHS), Leigh Kirwan (Griffith Uni), Taren Kirwan (Helensvale SS), Rachel Lornie (Ormeau SS), Laura Marshall (Merrimac SS), Michelle Souldard (QAHS), Rie Suzuki (Mt Warren Pk), Carmel Gomm-Wright.

Apologies: Kyoko Govindasamy, Sellina McCluskey, Rachel Vickers

1. Welcome
2. President's Report
 - Report on Angela Scarino talk 1st Nov at UQ "Reconsidering languages education in Australia". Points Leigh mentioned included:-
The policies of each state are very different
Students need to be able to analyse language as well as work in it, they need to think about how language works. Students are to reflect on language learning.
Qld 6% of Yr 12 students graduate with a language. Vic 20% of Yr 12 students graduate with a language.
Every language will have its own syllabus.
The Shape Paper of Languages will appear before Christmas.
 - Cynthia Dodd, MLTAQ Inc. President was unfortunately unable to attend our November meeting
 - AFMLTA National Conference is in Darwin July 6 – 9 2011. See <http://www.afmlta2011.com.au>
 - Professor Max Standage, who has been very supportive of the MLTAQ Gold Coast Branch has announced his retirement. We will miss the close relationship that he actively encouraged between Griffith University and the Gold Coast Branch of the MLTAQ.

- The Exemptions from Language Studies Policy seems very similar to past policies. Members were supplied with copies.
- MLTAQ Membership Forms were handed out. \$5 goes to the language branch and \$5 to the region branch. Memberships paid by the school must be in the member's name.
- BIFF Brisbane International Film Festival-Australian Premiere screening of French movie Copacabana (with English subtitles) at Palace Barracks Cinemas, Petrie Terrace at 6:30 on Friday 12 November. If anyone is interested in going please email Leigh.
- Language Convenors of the Speech Competition were given a list of schools who have paid in 2009 and 2010. If convenors could please check to see that schools have paid. If a school is still to pay please let Carmel know, or better still ring the school for payment.
- Leigh spoke again about the Diploma of Language Courses that are being offered by Griffith University. Teachers wishing to brush up their Japanese should contact Leigh at L.Kirwan@griffith.edu.au
- A brief discussion about the 90 minutes per week of language instruction for Years 6 and 7 in 2011 and what different schools (at this stage) plan on doing.
- The letters Leigh sent to Primary and Secondary Principals Principals were discussed and positive outcomes mentioned. Discussion is occurring about how the mandated times for Yr 2011 will be delivered.

3. General Business

- Leigh still has certificates from the speech competition
- Chris Dunn let us know that he will not be available to be the Secondary Japanese Convenor for the 2011 Speech Competition.
- Ros spoke about Quizlet it is a free program on the internet. It is a fun tool to practice vocabulary.
- NALSAP Funding Chris Dunn spoke about his application
- Taking school trips away ? Then plan on going during holiday time as the Education Department implements new guidelines.

Dates for 2010:

NOTE NEW DATE: Monday 6 Dec GC MLTAQ Christmas Function

To receive (and send) regular emails on forthcoming meetings and other items of interest to languages teachers, you should join the Gold Coast Malta's list. If you are an MLTAQ member, just open <http://mltaq.asn.au/mailman/listinfo> (Note: It won't work if you add www) and click on "Gold Coast" and follow the simple directions to join the list. You should also join lists for the languages you are teaching.