



## NOTES FROM THE NZALT EXECUTIVE MEETING 6 & 9 July 2008

---

Below is a summary of the main points covered at the NZALT Executive Meeting in Wellington on 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July 2008. A full copy of the minutes is available to current members by emailing [nzalt@paradise.net.nz](mailto:nzalt@paradise.net.nz)

"Absolutely Positively Languages", NZALT Conference Thanks go to Philippa Doig and Sue Sutherland and their band of convenors and organisers for a good and varied programme of workshops.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**President's Report** Adèle Scott talked about the direction of NZALT and the Strategic Plan that has been introduced at Regional Meetings as well as at the AGM. It will take time for some to read through. It is a good document to have especially with the high turnover of Executive and it gives us focus ahead as an association. If you have any feedback on the Strategic Plan please see your RO or E-mail us at [nzalt@paradise.net.nz](mailto:nzalt@paradise.net.nz).

NZALT has become GST registered since we are doing work with the Standards Alignment project. This will mean although there will be an increase in membership, your school will be able to claim back the GST.

**NZALT Election of Officers** Thanks go to the following out-going members of National Executive: Jenness Riethemaier who has served NZALT for a number of years as the Otago/Southland Regional Officer, Sue Sutherland, our stand-in Secretary for two years and Pam Mabin the Auckland Regional Officer for the last couple of years. Your work has been appreciated.

There were no new nominations for Junior Vice-President so Adèle Scott will stay on as President and Anne Jacques as Senior Vice-President. This ties in well to help NZALT implement its strategic plan.

Welcome to the following two Regional Officers: Doug Anderson for Auckland and Chris Durrant for Otago/Southland. We are still looking out for a Secretary who lives near Wellington.

### OTHER AGM ITEMS

**Changing in wording of the Working Rules** to allow for GST and being added and a redefinition of how that rate is calculated from the Secondary Elective Agreement.

**New group subscription** From next year if you have four or more members in your school you will be only charged for four and given discount for four members to Langsems/Conferences and four periodicals, but all teachers at the school will be allowed to benefit from other NZALT events.

**Polyglot** is going online this year and will be available in a pdf password protected format for members.

**The New Zealand Language Teacher (NZLT)** Call for papers! If you have research relating to languages that you would like published, the focus of NZ Language Teacher is on language teaching and learning and curriculum/policy matters of interest to language teachers. Contact Dr. Martin East [meast@unitec.ac.nz](mailto:meast@unitec.ac.nz). For submission details: <http://www.nzalt.org.nz/whitepapers/NZLT.shtml>

**Curriculum Exemplars** NZALT has continued to lobby for these. Watch this space.

**Eligibility of First Language Speakers for Scholarship Awards** Jo Rittey reported back from the surveys that members' students participated in last year. She presented the results and it has led to a series of problems with definition of First Language Speaker among other things. Members' views were accepted from the floor and led to varying interpretations of how to collect relevant data that will hold clout with the Minister. The other side of research is the financial commitment that needs to be made. Our survey cost \$800 to process. No motion was passed nor decision reached about our next step apart from NZALT being able to say that members are split on their support of this.

## OTHER NEWS

**FIPLV award** This year's FIPLV award was given to Gail Spence. Gail has spent years as a teacher of several languages before working for the Ministry of Education and she was instrumental in having Learning Languages as part of the New Curriculum. The award was presented by the Governor-General His Excellency The Hon Anand Satyanand, our patron. It was a moving occasion shared by Gail's husband Richard and her family.



2008 - International Year of Languages  
 2008 - Année internationale des langues  
 2008 - Año Internacional de los Idiomas  
 2008 - Междуародный год языков  
 2008 - السنة الدولية للغات  
 2008 - 国际语言年  
 2008 - Te tau ā te reo ā Ao

**NZALT and UNESCO Design a Stamp Competition** - Keri Kaa and Susan Isaacs of UNESCO joined us at conference. Keri talked to us about United Nations International Year of Languages and the importance of learning other languages for everyone. James Donaldson then announced the winners of the competition. Both the winners and their school will receive their stamp design printed on sheets of 20 during August. NZALT and UNESCO have jointly funded the prizes for this competition each worth \$40.

Below are the winning designs, which are reproduced here the size they will be as a stamp :

Year 1- 6

Year 7- 8

Year 9 -10

Year 11-13



Year 1-6: Benjamin Sharp of King's School, Auckland - French Design

Year 7-8: Tainui Wharawhara of Dilworth Junior Campus, Auckland - French design

Year 9-10: Emily Harris of Wainuiomata High School, Wellington - Japanese Design

Year 11-13: Georgia Allen of Avonside Girls' High School, Christchurch - German

Congratulations ! <http://www.nzalt.org.nz/events/competitions.shtml>

**New SLA presidents** Congratulations to our sister organisations with the election of a new president for NZAJLT Junko Bracefield of St Matthew's Collegiate School of Masterton and for NZAFT Lesley Parris of Tamatea High School in Napier.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

August

**08:08am on 08/08/008 Language Teacher Online Survey** On the 8 August, the same day as the launching of the Beijing Olympics, Adèle Scott will be launching an online survey of which ALL teachers who currently teach a

second language (other than ESOL) at any level (Year 1-13) will be invited and encouraged to participate in. The survey will look at the nature of second language learning in New Zealand

Visit: . [www.nzalt.org.nz](http://www.nzalt.org.nz)

International Languages Week 2008

Sunday 17 - Saturday 23 August

Ideas on <http://www.international-languages-week.org.nz/>

You may also wish to buy stickers from NZALT

