

Press Release 09/02/2015

25 years of being ALL Connected

The Association for Language Learning (ALL) is the UK's major subject association for teachers of all languages, at all levels, and in all sectors. ALL's annual conference, *Language World*, is the key national event for language teachers, which brings them together to share ideas, offer mutual support and plan for the future for languages education – and 2015 is our 25th anniversary!

The Association for Language Learning (ALL) was founded in 1990; and the first Language World conference took place at the University of Exeter in March 1990. ALL is now the major subject association for those involved in teaching languages at all levels, and one of the only organisations left to support and represent language teachers.

Language World 2015 will be at Newcastle University, 20-21 March 2015, and its theme is 'ALL Connected': emphasising the importance of joining together across educational sectors to achieve the best in language learning. For teachers of languages, being connected to colleagues across sectors, local areas and language groups has never been more important – as the national community for language teachers, ALL is at the centre of that professional network, and has been for 25 years. "The language community and the various sectors need to work together, in order to be joined up", says René Koglbauer, ALL President. "Over the years, ALL has been able to influence policy; the stronger and more connected we are, the greater voice we have got!"

The packed programme of workshops, major talks and plenaries, with updates, ideas and inspiration from a host of speakers from all over languages education, will include:

On Friday 20 March:

- At 11:50, our annual Mary Glasgow Plenary Lecture,
- At **16:20**, the **project plenary**: Rachel Hawkes on ALL's new *ALL Connect project*, which provides training on the new languages curriculum for teachers in the primary and secondary sectors.
- At 17:00, join us at our Exhibition Wine Reception, and raise a glass to our first 25 years!
- At 19:15, the Language World Evening Reception (sponsored by <u>CfBT</u> and the <u>British Council</u>, this event sees
 the launch of the 2014/15 Language Trends Survey the annual survey of primary and secondary schools
 charting the health of language teaching and learning in schools in England.)

On Saturday 21 March:

- At 09:00, the President's Plenary: ALL Connected A celebration of language learning & teaching and volunteering with René Koglbauer, ALL's President
- At **14:50**, *Now we are twenty five*: Steven Fawkes, ALL Fellow and Membership Officer on what progress we have made as a profession and a community, and how we see our progress next: from silver to gold.

Language World is one of the biggest annual events for teachers of languages and brings together all that's best in the world of language teaching: top thinkers speaking on topics close to their hearts, leading practitioners sharing their latest resources, policy makers explaining the thinking behind recent developments and passionate teachers ready to share ideas and exchange views. It encourages delegates to work together across sectors to support and promote language teaching and learning in the UK.

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Notes to Editors:

- 1. **The Association for Language Learning (ALL):** is the UK's major professional association for teachers of foreign languages, with around 5,000 members in all educational sectors. www.all-languages.org.uk
- 2. **Language World:** is ALL's national conference. Delegates are language teachers and language teaching professionals from all over the UK. In 2015, the event is being held on 20-21 March 2015 at Newcastle University, and its theme will be 'ALL Connected' http://tiny.cc/LW2015
- 3. ALL Connect: find out about our training project for teachers in Key Stages 2 & 3: http://tiny.cc/ALLconnect
- 4. Language Trends Survey: The Language Trends Survey is an annual survey of primary and secondary schools and charts the health of language teaching and learning in schools in England. It is a joint venture between the British Council and CfBT Education Trust (supported by the Association for Language Learning and the Independent Schools Modern Languages Association). This will be the thirteenth edition of the report and for the first time, this year's England survey will be followed by analysis of language learning in schools in Wales later in the year.