

Teaching Science Through English

British Council Seminar, February 2004, Sheffield

Report
On seminar
Teaching science through English
(code 0324)
Sheffield 2-7 February 2004

The seminar was held in Rutland Hotel in collaboration with Sheffield Hallam University.

Event directors: John Clegg, Keith Kelly

Contributors: Marianne Cutler, Lida Schoen (SAW), Russ Heselden (Norwich Schools for girls), Ken Mannion, Mark Windale (Centre for Science Education), Rebecca Staples (Reepham High School), Jerry Wellington (Sheffield University)

In the seminar took part 28 participants from 21 countries all over the world. Some of them teachers, others — teacher educators, and also representatives from Ministries of education. There were also 33 remote participants, 5 of them FACT group members.

All contributors presented variety of topics and shared experience in the field of teaching science in English. Very interesting discussion appeared on them and other questions that arose from the participants.

I was invited twice: to present results and students works on SAW project and to present the course on 'Teaching subjects in FL' along with the Partnership project with British Council — Sofia on "Training trainers for CLIL".

The participant showed great interest to both because many countries are trying to introduce bilingual system in their schools and need to train the teachers along with materials.

Now I wait proposals via British Council from Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Argentina, Germany to introduce the course and the training programme.

Also an idea appeared for Comenuis project for the years 2005 — 2008 (Italy, Spain, Bulgaria + ...one more country) for introducing science in upper primary. The detail will be discussed later this year.

Participants were given some issues of FACT Journal published by AEDE in collaboration with British Council — Sofia and the book 'Ethical English' published as a result of an ELTeCS bid.

Establishing contacts with the coordinators of the ATLAS project (Active Teaching and Learning approaches in Science) — Ken Mannion, Mark Windale (Centre for Science Education) we decided on possible collaboration in the field of methods for teaching science in English.

And as we concluded at the end — this is not an end but new start.

Information about the event was posted every day to factworld@yahoo.com and will also appear in Eltecs. At SearchEnglish there are reports with pictures from the event by Lida Schoen.

Stefka Kitanova