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13TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CELTIC LANGUAGE TEACHERS

From the President

Céad Míle Fáilte Romhaibh go léir go Kingston. It is my extreme pleasure to be your host for this year's conference, and I am particularly delighted that we have been able to plan the conference in conjunction with Official Opening of the North American Permanent Gaeltacht. I am proud to have a substantial NAACL representation for this historic event.

The first day of the conference is the "Celtic Languages Day", and I hope that everyone will take advantage of this unique opportunity to deepen their Celtic roots through exposure to our sister languages in the Celtic family. I am happy to say that all of our languages will be taught: Gàidhlig Scots Gaelic , Brezhoneg Breton , Gaelg Manx , Kernewek Cornish , Cymraeg Welsh and Gaeilge Irish .

The Celtic languages are aboriginal languages of their respective countries, and have suffered from physical conquest, and attempts at cultural and linguistic extermination. In this respect, we share common historical themes, as well as current aspirations, with other aboriginal peoples of the world, including North American native communities. I am extremely pleased that during this year's conference we will have keynote speakers representing certain North American native groups. Diane Beck, from Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario, will speak about language and story "as windows to the sacred", in a cross-cultural analysis of the Anishnaabe and Irish Celtic people. Iehnotonkwaw, representing both Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario and the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory, will describe the language immersion programs among the Mohawk Nation. On Saturday, we will share a luncheon with the language circle at Tyendinaga, where authentic native food will be served, and language revitalization discussed.

Our other keynote speakers include Síne Mac Kenna who will describe the fortunes of Scots Gaelic in Glengarry County, Ontario, and PJ Mac Gabhann from Ollscoil na hÉireann, Má Nuad. PJ will describe the new syllabus and testing protocol for the Irish language toward earning European Languages Certificates at 6 different levels. It is expected that this new formalization of Irish language teaching will revolutionize Irish language teaching in North America. It may also serve as a template for other Celtic languages on the continent.

Do chuid is do chluí agaibh go léir
livelihood and good name to you all

Aralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh

PRE-CONFERENCE CELTIC LANGUAGES DAY
WEDNESDAY, 13 JUNE 2007

NAACLT Officers 2006-2007

8:55 AM **Aralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh**
 Royal Millitary College of Canada
 Kingston, Ontario, Canada
 Room 133, Girouard Building

Welcome and President's Address

Language Sessions and Irish Testing

Time	Room 133, Girouard	Room 232, Girouard
9:30 10:10	Kernewek B	
10:15 11:00	Cymraeg C	Gaeilge (T)
11:00 11:25	Coffee	
11:30 12:15	Brezhoneg B	Gaeilge (T)
12:15 13:25	Lunch	
13:30 14:10	Brezhoneg B	Gaeilge B
14:15 14:55	Gaelg B	
15:00 15:25	Coffee	
15:30-16:10	Cymraeg B	
16:15-16:55	Gàidhlig B	
18:30	Supper and Siamsa: Brew Pub	

B=Beginner **C**=Conversational **T**=Testing

Instructors: Kernewek (B): Thomas Leigh
 Cymraeg B, C : Cynog Prys
 Gaeilge (T): PJ Mac Gabhann (B): John Donahue
 Brezhoneg B : Christophe Ropers B : Kevin J. Rottet
 Gaelg (B): Thomas Leigh
 Gàidhlig (B): Douglas McKercher

Irish Language Testing

Session 10:15 – 11:00: Level A1 (First Basic Level), Reading and Writing Test. Students are normally given 1.5 hours to complete this test. Those attending this workshop will be given 20 minutes, after which the answers will be taken up, and the testing protocol discussed.

Session 11:30 – 12:15: Listening Tests, Levels A2 (Second Basic Level). Five minutes are given to read the test, and the test itself takes 20 minutes. Answers will be taken up, and the testing protocol discussed.

Oral Testing: Sign up sheets will be available for individual “scrúdaithe béal” to be scheduled later in the day, or later in the conference. Level A1 (First Basic Level).

PresidentAralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh
 Vice PresidentJohn Donahue
 Past President..... Seumas Gagné
 Recording Secretary.....Margaret McGrath / John Morrissey
 Corresponding Secretary..... John Morrissey
 Treasurer..... John Morrissey
 Member-at-Large.....Kevin J. Rottet
 Member-at-Large..... Paul Ferris
 Member-at-Large.....Daithí Mac Lochlainn
 Member-at-Large.....Jamie MacDonald
 Member-at-Large..... Colleen Dollard
 Member-at-Large.....Margaret McGrath
 European Advisor Delyth Prys
 Special Advisor..... Robert Burke

Committee Chairs

Web site..... Seumas Gagné
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 Membership SurveyMargaret McGrath
 Conference.....Aralt Mac Giolla Chainnigh
 Conference Program Booklet Design Seumas Gagné, Gael Tech Services

SESSION 4: MODERATOR, MARGARET McGRATH

2:00 PM **P.J. Mac Gabhann**
Keynote Address

European Languages Certification in Irish: Syllabus and Testing

3:00 PM **Coffee**

3:30 PM **Síle Scott**

Building L2 Vocabulary Through R.E.A.D.ing

This talk focuses on one aspect of second language (L2) reading comprehension. There are many things that L2 teachers do to foster reading comprehension, pre and post reading exercises for example, but this talk focuses on the explicit teaching of vocabulary. I will explain why I believe this is a worthwhile activity based on what is currently known about how first and second language words are learned and stored in our mental dictionaries. The R.E.A.D. paradigm is based on the process by which we access the mental lexicon. It serves as a template which teachers can use to promote the development of vocabulary skills in their L2 learners. Examples of sample exercises for Irish are provided for each of the elements in the paradigm.

4:00 PM **NAACLT Annual General Meeting**

6:30 PM **Supper: To Be Announced**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
THURSDAY, 14 JUNE 2007
ROOM 133 • CHAIR: SÍLE SCOTT

8:55 AM **Dr. Cowan**
Principal, Royal Military College of Canada
Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Official Welcome

SESSION I: MODERATOR, KEVIN J. ROTTET

9:15 AM **Aileen Curtin**

Development and implementation of the first Irish language university credit course in Texas.

This presentation will describe the presenter's journey as an Irish language teacher in a Gaelscoil in Ireland to teaching the first University credit Irish language course for the University of Saint Thomas in Texas in 2006.

9:45 AM **Gearóid Ó Ceallaigh and Daithí Mac Lochlainn**

Ranganna Saora ar an IdirLín: An Historical Movement Embracing the Information Age

The object of this paper is to introduce the free online Irish classes offered by Cumann Carad na Gaeilge/The Philo-Celtic Society CCG .

10:15 AM **John Donahue**

Using Moodle for Teaching Irish through Distance Education

Moodle is a course management system which allows students to practice points of grammar and learn vocabulary at their own pace.

10:45 AM **Coffee Break**

11:00 AM **Christophe C. Ropers**

Building the Non-spontaneous Part of KYG (Corpus of Spoken Breton)

Korpus ar Yezh dre Gomz or KYG is the spoken part of the CorpBret project which consists in building a reference corpus of contemporary Breton.

11:30 AM **Síne McKenna**
Keynote Address

Scots Gaelic in Glengarry County

12:30 PM **Lunch**

SESSION 2: MODERATOR, PAUL FERRIS

2:00 PM **Gearóid Ó Neill**

Athchúrsail—Recycling Language Resources

In this, the era of conservation and recycling, perhaps it is appropriate even for language resources, to go through a bit of recycling, especially when such resources are scarce. In this paper is described an attempt at just such an effort.

2:30 PM **Meggan Lloyd Prys**

From Zero to Fluent in One Year? An American's Experience in Wales

In this paper I will describe my experiences as an American with no previous experience of Welsh, moving to Wales, and trying to learn Welsh in one year.

3:00 PM **Coffee**

3:30 PM **Diane Beck**
Keynote Address

Language and Story as Windows to the Sacred: Anishnaabe and Irish Celtic

This paper will examine the oral tradition of the Anishnaabe by looking at the roles that language and story play in their spiritual tradition. A comparison of this investigation will be made with the traditionally oral Irish Celtic people.

4:30 PM **Kevin J. Rottet**

Breton Vocabulary and Lexical Borrowing: A Pedagogical Perspective

Two fairly recent works have focussed on the lexicon of Breton: the Dictionnaire étymologique bretonne (Deshayes 2003), and the recently reprinted *Alc'hwez ar brezhoneg eeun* (Hémon 2001, originally published in 1935). To be sure, these books have entirely different purposes, the former being a fairly standard representative of the etymological dictionary genre, and the latter a specially crafted learner's vocabulary of 1,000 words, modeled on Basic English (Ogden, 1930) and intended to represent the minimal Breton vocabulary that a learner must acquire and master in order to be able to engage in basic, everyday conversation. Yet the shared focus on the lexicon of these two works provides an opportunity to take a fresh look at issues of lexical borrowing in Breton and the kinds of issues that borrowings, especially from French, raise for the classroom.

6:30 PM **Supper: Curry Village**

FRIDAY, 15 JUNE 2007
ROOM G133 • CHAIR: SÍLE SCOTT

8:55 AM **Announcements**

SESSION 3: MODERATOR, JOHN DONAHUE

9:15 AM **Roslyn Blynn-LaDrew**

Using Irish Language Instructional Material in the United States <or>From "Feoil Capaill" (Nach nItear in Éirinn) to Flirting with Gardai

This paper examines the image of Ireland as portrayed in teaching materials used for Irish over a timespan of nearly 100 years. For recent materials, I look at the relevance to modern students' lives, whether at university or in adult night schools.

9:45 AM **Iehnhotonkwas**
Keynote Address

Mohawk Language Revitalization

This presentation will provide an opportunity to hear how the Kanien'kehaka (Mohawk Nation) are fighting a new crisis within their midst—language loss—with concentration on the language immersion revitalization projects taking place within the Kanien'kehaka communities.

10:45 AM **Coffee**

11:00 AM **Cynog Prys**

Use of Welsh in the Voluntary Sector in Wales: A Guide for Language Planners

Although voluntary organisations are not directly covered by the Welsh Language Act of 1993, many have followed the lead of the public sector and have developed their own polices to provide Welsh language services to their clients.

11:30 AM **Kevin Drummond**

"Piobairean Bhornais" or "Pipers of Bornish" 2003 Scotland

A computer animated film in Scottish Gaelic with English subtitles. The narration is from an old recording by Donald John Stewart from the School of Scottish Studies Archive.

12:00 PM **Colleen Majella Dollard**

Using YouTube in Second Language Acquisition

This presentation will discuss the benefits of using the YouTube website as a tool in second language acquisition.

12:30 PM **Lunch**