



ECIS MLIE Special Interest Group

Executive Summary

2023-2024

Overview of aims and focus

The mission of MLIE is to bridge the gap between research and practice and to promote effective multilingual teaching and learning in international schools. The MLIE SIG has continued to collaborate both as a group, as well as within their school settings and wider contexts, enlarging the MLIE community in the process. With a focus on the face-to-face conference in February 2024 in London, the MLIE SIG has maintained momentum.

Events and initiatives

MeetUps

The monthly MeetUps were not as frequent this year due to a focus being on the preparation of the conference.

A [Padlet](#) is used to capture thoughts, resources and ideas and to exchange contact information. It remains open to anyone with the link.

ECIS MLIE 2024 conference

<https://ecis.org/event/mlie2024/>

“From Borders to Bridges: 40 Years of Breaking Boundaries”

16-18 February 2024 | The British Library, London

The conference included over 60 speakers (with a balance of both practitioners and researchers) and attracted over 200 people in person and a smaller cohort in a parallel online day on the Saturday. The MLIE committee opened the conference with a trip down memory lane of 40 years of MLIE conferences, tracing how the committee had stayed aligned with current practice and research in the field of multilingualism, including changing our name to be in line

with this progress. Keynotes included Eowyn Crisfield, Jon Nordmeyer, Esther Bettney-Heidt and Antonella Sorace.

Interaction with other SIGs

MLIE committee members have attended other SIG events, such as Early Years and Library.

Social media presence

Social media has continued to grow, with almost daily posting/interaction. In line with ECIS policy, we moved our focus from Twitter to LinkedIn group.

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12878821/> 278 members

Facebook https://www.facebook.com/ECISMLIE/?locale=en_GB 780 followers

In addition to the official MLIE accounts, all SIG members are active on social media, directly and indirectly for ECIS.

Looking ahead to 2024-2025

We had a strong response to the call for new committee members and after reviewing and interviewing a short-list of candidates, chose three new members to replace the two outgoing members. Criteria included enlarging the committee geographically, as well as ensuring a balance of school divisions and language areas (EAL/ELL, home language, host country language). We now have primary and secondary divisions, SLT, Southern and Northern Africa, Europe, Middle East, North America represented on the committee, as well as a wide range of cultural-linguistic backgrounds. It was decided to have two Co-Chairs leading the committee.

Committee members

Susan Stewart (Chair)

Mindy McCracken

Patience Montgomery

Alison Mollel

Deborah Perrin

Incoming committee (from May 2024)

Alison Mollel (Co-Chair)

Deborah Perrin (Co-Chair)

Patience Montgomery

Matt Hadjun (incoming)

Mohamed Kortam (incoming)

Mariana Curti (incoming)