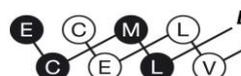




19th BETA-IATEFL ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT
Teachers as Lifelong Learners
The European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages (EPOSTL)

23 April 2010 (Friday)
Venue: St Cyril and St Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo
Rectorate, "Europe" Hall

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME		
12.00-13.00	Registration	
13.00	Welcome	
13.30-14.30	<i>What is the EPOSTL and How can it Assist Teachers?</i> David Newby, ECML of the Council of Europe & University of Graz, Austria	Plenary session
14.30-15.15	<i>The EPOSTL in Practice</i> Sylvia Velikova, University of Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria	Workshop
15.15-15.45	<i>Coffee break (sponsored by Oxford University Press)</i>	
15.45-16.05	<i>The EPOSTL as a Means of Self-Assessment of Professional Activity – The Students' Perspective</i> Evija Latkovska, University of Latvia, Latvia	Talk
16.05-16.50	<i>The Craft, the Art and the Magic of Professional Development</i> <i>(Case study of a pedagogical portfolio in action)</i> Svetlana Dimitrova & Svetlana Tashevskva, New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria	Workshop
17.00 -17:45	<i>Teachers as Lifelong Learners. The European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages (EPOSTL)</i>	Roundtable
21.00	Audio-visual Show "Tsarevgrad Turnov - Sound and Light" at Tsar Assen Square (in front of the Tsarevets fortress entrance)	



David Newby, ECML of the Council of Europe & University of Graz, Austria

What is the EPOSTL and How can it Assist Teachers?

The European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages (EPOSTL) is a document intended for student teachers which encourages them to reflect on the didactic knowledge and skills necessary to teach languages, helps them to assess their own didactic competences and enables them to monitor their progress and to record their experiences of teaching during the course of their teacher education

David Newby is associate professor of linguistics and language teaching methodology and research at Graz University, Austria. He has coordinated several projects for the European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe (ECML) and has worked extensively for the British Council in a variety of countries. He is the co-author of the *European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages* and currently coordinating an ECML project on implementing the EPOSTL. He is the author of school textbooks and reference grammars. His main academic interest is the theory and practice of pedagogical grammar. dnewby@aon.at

Evija Latkovska, University of Latvia, Latvia

The EPOSTL as a Means of Self-Assessment of Professional Activity – The Students' Perspective

Self-assessment of professional activity causes problems for student teachers due to the lack of experience; therefore, the EPOSTL can help students to self-assess their professional activity because it provides a list of detailed criteria. However, educators have to devote attention to the preparation process of student teachers for using the EPOSTL and think carefully about the strategy of the use of this portfolio in order to reach the best results.

Evija Latkovska works at the Teacher Education Department (TED) of the Faculty of Education and Psychology, the University of Latvia, Riga, Latvia. She graduated this faculty in 2003 majoring in EFL Teaching/Learning Methodology. E. Latkovska's current research interests are related to student teachers' self-assessment of their professional activity; therefore, the central theme of her Doctoral studies (since 2009) is the use of the EPOSTL in the Latvian context. evija.latkovska@lu.lv

Svetlana Dimitrova and Svetlana Tashevskva, New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria

***The Craft, the Art and the Magic of Professional Development
(Case study of a pedagogical portfolio in action)***

This presentation will focus on the lessons learned from using *The Pedagogical Portfolio* in the specific context of foreign language pre-service teacher education and in-service teacher development, not just at NBU but in the wider professional community for over 15 years. Snippets of good practice and reflection leading to professional growth will be shared and participants themselves will be encouraged to reflect on their own experience and development as teachers/ trainers.

Svetlana Dimitrova is an associate professor in Pedagogy at the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, NBU, Bulgaria. She holds an MPhil degree in English and Applied Linguistics from the University of Cambridge (1994) and a PhD degree in FLT Methodology (2000). She has varied experience of teaching English as a foreign language, as well as of teacher and mentor training in both pre- and in-service contexts. She is the author of some ELT coursesets, resourcebooks and teacher training manuals, including the Pedagogical Portfolio. Her current research interests lie in improving the quality of teacher education and the assessment of the professional competence of foreign language teachers. sgjuzeleva@nbu.bg

Svetla Tashevskva is a teacher and teacher educator, involved in teaching English, methods of foreign language teaching (FLT) and language testing in pre-service education and in-service teacher development contexts. Based at New Bulgarian University, Sofia, she also contributes to activities for the benefit of FLT professionals far beyond NBU boundaries – ELT projects, mentor training, CELTA

and DELTA training, FLT research, OPTIMA inspections, dissemination of good practices at national and international forums. svetla_tashevska@yahoo.co.uk

Sylvia Velikova, University of Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria

The EPOSTL in Practice

In this hands-on session, we will zoom into the EPOSTL and look at its contents through the eyes of language teaching professionals from diverse learning-teaching contexts. In group discussions, we will explore ideas on various possible uses of the Portfolio in our professional lives as (beginning) language teachers, mentors, teacher trainers, foreign language experts, etc.. I will also share some personal insights into the EPOSTL, based on the experience of using it since 2006, and its impact on my own practice as a teacher educator.

Sylvia Velikova is lecturer at the University of Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria, where she teaches ELT Methodology and coordinates school-based TP. She has experience of teaching Business English to secondary school learners and adults. Sylvia has also run in-service teacher training courses for teachers of ESP and general English. She has worked on national and international projects related to language teacher education and is currently involved in a Council of Europe (ECML) project on piloting and implementing the *European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages*. Her academic interests include second language listening, learning styles and strategies, and the use of portfolios in language learning-teaching. sylvia.velikova@gmail.com