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Activities during the POOLS-T workshop in Brussels

Languages:

Basque
Danish
Dutch
English
Gaelic
German
Greek
Italian
Lithuanian
Romanian
Spanish



Hop on board and join the pools-t teams
(and of course pools) e-mail ka@sde.dk

The second project meeting and workshop took place in Brussels at the end of March. The SDE team had rented a large apartment in central Brussels (Avenue Louise), which became the project headquarters during the workshop. The apartment was equipped with Internet and Kent Andersen set up a wifi system and screen that could be used during the meeting and workshop.

The first two days of the week were allocated programming and exchange of ideas between Caoimhín Ó Donnaíle and Kent Andersen so the other participants arrived on the Tuesday.



Caoimhín Ó Donnaíle and Kent Andersen working on the software tools

A main point on the agenda was quality control and monitoring. Ellen presented the compiled test results of WPTB version 15. Horizon had tested the program on 70 students, 30% of whom volunteered to stay connected to the project and test future versions of the program.

Student input: Hans had brought a video from his students with feedback and comments regarding the programme. The video can be watched from YouTube.com: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WKMvPAYhvLI>



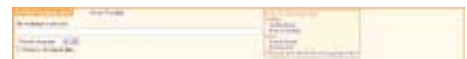
Dutch student feedback through a Youtube.com video

An offshoot of the discussion is that the form of video feedback is very good and that we decided to make a similar video as a reply. We (Hans!-) prepared a feedback to the students which can be watched here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K861r7qRcDA>

Read the meeting minutes here: www.languages.dk/archive/meetings/poolsT/2009March/minutes_march_09.pdf

Caoimhín presented the newest version of the wordlink tool and the progress that has been made so far.

The program is able to take any kind of webpage and link every word in that webpage to an online dictionary, so that there is a large number of combinations of languages and different types of dictionaries. At the moment it supports around 40 different languages. Dictionaries include Sensagent, IATE, as well as a large number of others, as almost any online dictionary could be added relatively easily.



The wordlink start page:
www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/wordlink/



Latest news: New partner from Switzerland has joined the pools-t project AND POOLS has been selected for an EU award:-)



March 2009 Valentina Lella and Germana D'Alessio have joined the POOLS-T workshop

The University of Applied Sciences of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI) has joined the POOLS-T project consortium: SUPSI is one of the 8 Universities of Applied Sciences in Switzerland. It has a university statute, focused on professional training and applied research. Together with the University of Southern Switzerland (USI), to which it is closely linked in terms of collaboration activities and common institutions, it is the only Italian language university pole in Switzerland, with almost 4,000 students in the Lugano region. SUPSI offers a range of bachelor and master's courses, which cover several different fields (Construction and design, Business Management, Social Science, Health Professions, Innovative Technologies, Music, Theatre).

The Languages and Mobility Service (SLM) organizes German and English language courses for all SUPSI departments, with the aim of imparting linguistic skills that will help students in their pursuit of career opportunities in Switzerland and abroad.

Italian language courses for foreign or Swiss students are offered as well. The SLM is also responsible for SUPSI participation in the European Erasmus student exchange program, and is the official examination centre for Cambridge ESOL and Goethe-Institut exams in Ticino. It has recently taken part in the Swiss Virtual Campus project "Mysterycove", which has led to the creation of a videogame for ESL learners.

The SLM has now joined the POOLS-T project, in order to test the tools developed and to create its own CLIL materials (texts and videos), which will also be used for tool testing.



Kent Andersen demonstrating the blog facilities to the new project members

POOLS has been chosen to be awarded in the category "outstanding European projects or actions which will serve as a good motivating example to wide public".

The award will be given by the Czech Minister of Education, Youth and Sports Ondřej Liška and the European Commissioner Ján Figel' during the Conference on Innovation & Creativity in the Lifelong Learning Programme Create, innovate and cooperate 6. - 7. May 2009 in Prague



Read more about the award given to pools: www.llp-conference.eu

More student involvement? Frans van Schaik suggested we bring students to some of our future workshops so they can meet one another and share experiences. The idea seems possible, but funding may be an issue. We therefore decided to have a look at partnership application projects to see if we can somehow find the needed funds for bringing students to our workshops.



Caoimhín has prepared a Google map presentation of the POOLS-T consortium. To see it please go to the website and click on Members, or use the direct address below: <http://maps.google.com/?q=http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/~caoimhin/obair/pools-t/pools-t.kmz>