

VATI Congress 2009

1 Keynote Address: Associate Professor Angela Scarino

“Considerations in developing a national curriculum for languages education in Australia”

Based on an analysis of the history of curriculum developments in languages education at a national level in Australia over the past 25 years, this paper discusses considerations that need to be taken into account in the current task of developing a national curriculum for languages through the newly formed National Curriculum Board. Central to this development are concerns relating to the power of language, culture and meanings in the context of plurilingualism.

Presenter

Angela Scarino is an Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics and the Director of the Research Centre for Languages and Cultures at the University of South Australia. She has had extensive experience in the conceptualisation, design, implementation and evaluation of curriculum and assessment frameworks for languages learning across all levels of education. She has conducted research, development and evaluation projects in the areas of languages curriculum, assessment and teacher development. Her experience includes working in various states and nationally in Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and New Zealand. She is currently leading a number of research projects focused on intercultural language learning and assessment.

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Workshop Abstracts

1.1 and 2.1 Languages Online: Introduction to the LOTE Rubric Maker

Teachers will learn about Languages Online's latest free software: the LOTE Rubric Maker. Users can work step by step to create assessment rubrics for language and multi-disciplinary tasks, using the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.

Presenters

Stuart Miller is manager of the Languages Online project, and has developed resources for the website since 2002. He has a background in educational resource design and production.

Nancy Posterino works as a writer for Languages Online. Prior to this she worked as a French and Italian teacher, and has been an author of textbooks for secondary Italian.

1.2 and 2.2: NGV- Bugatti

Immerse yourself in the creative and ingenious world of the Bugatti family originally from Milan, Italy. Explore the online education resource which includes activities, vocabulary lists and timelines. Make a Bugatti inspired mirror using a variety of materials.

Limited numbers (25 max)

Presenters:

Grace Alessandrini

Grace is the COASIT Italian Education Officer at the National Gallery of Victoria.

Maria Brancolino

Maria is the COASIT Italian Network Leader for the Northern Metropolitan Region (DEECD).

1.3 Language immersion camps Year 10 and VCE

Franco Cudini will present program of the 3 day Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 Italian camp. This Camp involves 130 students and teachers from 6 local Secondary schools. The program conducts 3 programs to cater for different competency levels but also offers opportunities for larger group language and cultural activities.

Antonia Mammino will present on the LOTE Camp has been part of the school curriculum at Sacred Heart for some time. Over the year the venues have changed, from Daylesford to Anglesea and different activities have been developed. The French Department also joins the Camp as well as the Yr 10 boys from Saint Joseph's College nearby.

Manuela Leone will present on the VCE 3& 4 LOTE camp held prior to the exam each year

Presenters

Franco Cudini LOTE Coordinator Galen Catholic College Wangaratta

Manuela Leone Teacher of Italian Xavier College Senior campus

Antonia Mammino has been teaching Italian at Sacred Heart College Geelong for 13 years. She has also taught French in the past.

1.4 and 2.4 "Games in the Language Classroom".

An introduction to a range of games suitable for a variety of levels and including some interactive games using the IWB. The session will include games to use a range of multiple intelligences and thinking skills and advice about using games as an effective and authentic means of assessment.

This session will be offered twice

Presenter

Megan Morgan is an experienced teacher of French and German at both Primary and Secondary Levels and also works as a sessional lecturer and tutor in the Education Faculty at Monash University. She is also involved in teaching teachers in the courses offered for Community Languages Schools.

Megan is interested in innovative approaches to language teaching and in developing teaching materials. She wishes she could speak, read and write Italian but instead has to be content with enjoying Italian food and wine and planning her next trip to that beautiful country.

1.5 What works for us in Primary School: Panel Session A

(i) Nina Belzunce will present a Unit of work- La Moda/La Sfilata di Moda. Level 4
This unit of work focuses on clothes and the popular culture of Italian Fashion. Students work in groups to discuss, write a script and present a performance to an audience (Fashion Parade).

The unit briefly outlines the domains, dimensions and the knowledge and skills developed by the teaching and learning activities.

(ii) Vicki Kouris will be presenting a unit of work on "Il Corpo" aimed at Grades 3/4 which 'works really well' and is particularly engaging for boys. She will also share a quick, easy and effective way for students across all levels to present work.

(iii) Mary -Lou presentera` del materiale basato sul Carnevale e la Commedia d'Arte con attivita' adatte a studenti nelle classi elementari.

Presenters

Nina Belzunce is the LOTE teacher (Italian) Prep to Year 6. St. Bede's Primary School North Balwyn

Vicki Kouris has been teaching Italian at Birmingham Primary School in Lilydale for the past 5 years. She teaches Prep to 6 and takes 25 classes each week of 40 minutes duration. She understands the importance of utilising "things that work" in the LOTE room to make for effective and interesting lessons.

Mary-Lou Higgins e` insegnante d'Italiano a Boroondara Park Primary a Balwyn North. Insegna dalla prima fino alla quarta.

Ha insegnato l'Italiano per molti anni in scuole elementari, medie ed anche ad adulti in scuole serali.

1.6 and 2.6 Podcasting: A LOTE Class in Your Students' Pockets!

Podcasting is a tool that lends itself to the teaching of LOTE. In this session Andrew will show a number of ways that teachers have used podcasting in a range of teaching areas and at different year levels. He will suggest applications of podcasting, that are relevant to the Teaching of LOTE. He will also demonstrate the tools used to make a podcast, and show how to use them. Participants will receive a set of notes so that they can go and make a podcast right away.

Presenter

Andrew Douch is a practicing teacher of 19 years, and is currently the ICT Innovations Leader at Wanganui Park Secondary College, in Victoria, Australia.

He has won a number of Government awards for his work with emerging technologies in education, including a 2007 Australian Government Highly Commended Award for Quality Schooling and the 2008 Victorian Education Excellence Award for Curriculum Innovation. Last year Microsoft named him the Worldwide Innovative Teacher of the Year award.

Andrew is in demand as a keynote speaker, locally and internationally and is regularly sought as a consultant by schools and Education Departments on the use of online tools in schools.

He is also in demand to provide professional learning workshops in schools - showing teachers how they can use freely available tools to transform their classrooms into learning communities, which not only engage Generation Y students, but lead to significantly improved learning outcomes.

1.7 and 2.7 Uncovering Pompeii

The exhibition *A Day in Pompeii*, to be held at Melbourne Museum from June 26 – October 25 2009, takes visitors back in time to experience life and death in this cosmopolitan city.

For teachers and students of Italian, the exhibition offers the rare opportunity to view extraordinary artefacts in an exhibition which will recreate the experience of that day in Pompeii, of August 79 AD.

This presentation will put the objects in the exhibition into context of the archaeological site of Pompeii and focus on the question, *‘What can we learn about daily life in ancient Pompeii by studying the material culture of its people?’*

There will be a discussion of the education programs and resources for teachers & students of Italian available online in May—

- The education kit unpacks the key themes in the exhibition - food and dining, religious practices, recreation and entertainment, social structure, business and trade, luxury and beauty, baths, architecture, technology, volcanic activity and much more.
- Pre & Post activities include a PowerPoint of signature objects with focus questions for various levels of Italian.
- Activities at the museum for beginners and intermediate level that focus on the people of Pompeii and the different elements in the exhibition.

- An audio guide in the Italian language for senior students of Italian and native speakers.

Presenter

Rosaria Zarro, Co.As.It Education Officer, Museum Victoria. She has worked on the development of the education programs for *A Day in Pompeii* exhibition and she visited the archaeological site of Pompeii in 2008 to liaise with staff at the Soprintendenza archeologica di Pompei during the development of the exhibition.

2.3 The importance of the reading skill in Italian

"It's not just about train timetables and pizza menus"....This session will focus on the importance of reading in the Italian classroom. Suggested strategies for autonomous as well as group reading will be discussed and examples shown.

Presenter

Jillian Symons trained in both Librarianship and "Foreign Language Teaching" methods in her Diploma of Education having majored in French and German at Macquarie University in Sydney. After a period teaching languages and librarianship in NSW and E.S.L. in New Caledonia, she has been Managing Director of Intext Book Company since 1983 and opened the retail bookstore, Language International, in 1995. In 1996, she undertook 18 months study of Japanese at Monash University and has maintained her interest in learning languages actively.

In 2001, she was awarded the "Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques" by the French Government for services to French as a foreign language in Australia and New Zealand and in 2007 she was awarded the Diamond Jubilee Certificate of Merit for "Exceptional and Outstanding Contribution to Languages Teaching in Victoria" by the MLTAV.

2.5 What works for us in Primary School: Panel Session B

(i) In this session Giuliana Bertucci and Patrizia Kelly will be sharing some ideas that work for them. They will present two units of work based on topics covered in the classroom, Australian animals with grade 2 and Countries of Asia with grade 6. The aim is to build up language and communications skills using simple language structures and content which is familiar and relevant to the students and covered within the classroom.

Presenters

Giuliana Bertucci has had over 20 years experience teaching Italian at both the primary and secondary level. She is currently a practicing teacher and LOTE Co-coordinator at Malvern primary School. Giuliana was awarded an Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowship in 2007.

Patrizia Kelly had 20 years experience as a generalist primary teacher and ESL teacher before becoming a teacher of Italian. She has been teaching Italian at Malvern Primary School for the past 10 years. Patrizia was also awarded her Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowship in 2009.

(ii) Si può dire tutto in Italiano!!

I am enthusiastic about creating an environment where Italian is used during interactions between students and myself. They are able to understand the simple Italian I speak. Despite my encouragement, they were still quite reluctant to respond in Italian. I decided that emphasising Italian speaking as well as listening would become my major topic for first term this year.

Presenter

Angelo Merlino

I have been teaching Italian in primary schools for 13 years. I teach levels 3 and 4 at Blackburn Primary school. My students receive one hour instruction a week. I run classes using little English and encourage students to have conversations in the playground. In addition, I use meaningful Italian in 'real life' situations around the school, including during house sports and when supervising classes during planning days.

3.1 Languages Online: Make your own interactive language games

Brief summary of the presentation:

Languages Online Game Makers are free downloadable templates that allow teachers and students to create their own interactive language games using text, images and voice recordings. A range of game types are available, which will allow students to practise different language skills. Games can be made in any language, on any topic and for any level.

Stuart Miller is manager of the Languages Online project, and has developed resources for the website since 2002. He has a background in educational resource design and production.

Nancy Posterino works as a writer for Languages Online. Prior to this she worked as a French and Italian teacher, and has been an author of textbooks for secondary Italian.

3.2 and 4.2 Genre Writing in Italian

This session will focus on exploring & analysing a variety of writing genres to develop the student's writing skills in Italian.

A professional development opportunity for **Secondary** teachers of Italian in the Later Years (Yrs10-VCE)

Presenter:

Rose David

Rose is the ESL Project Officer for the Northern Metropolitan Region (DEECD) and Special needs coordinator at Marion Secondary College. She has worked extensively in LOTE for many years and was one of the writers for the Italian Kits: '*In Compagnia*'

3.3 and 4.3 Music and LOTE

The session.

Van Basco is a great free music program which enables teachers to have good quality backing tracks for teachers and students.

Van Basco's program allows teachers to change keys, change tempo and mute or delete instrumental parts of the music piece allowing students to play along and perform live with the track.

Van Basco is a music program that can assist teachers who are on the tight budget and need tracks quickly.

It can be easily downloaded and is fun to use and most importantly can be the program that students can work with great simplicity

The benefits for teachers and students are many.

1. free and easily downloadable
2. portable, all files are kept on your computer
3. easy to listen to with headphones laptop or PA speakers
4. other teachers who have this software can work on their part with students
5. students can also download and have their parts to work with at home
6. midi files can be recorded to mini discs for longevity
7. backing tracks are fun and students can access other songs and musical pieces
8. decent recordings are readily available, most recordings are user friendly
9. minimal purchasing costs i.e. leads to go to the mixing desk
10. you can Google other midi sites and vanBasco's software will run the programs [as you have the icons on your desk top]
11. you can buy great arrangements from professional companies very inexpensively if you really need particular songs that are hard to find
12. you can set up an interactive and rich music environment in your classroom
13. you can work with Lote teachers, as there are lots of language based midi sites
14. students can work independently once programs are up and running
15. create your own music library which you can reuse over again

Presenter

Piero D'Elia, Music Coordinator for the Northern Metropolitan Region, will facilitate the workshop. Piero has successfully run a music program for the last ten years and will share his experiences with participants. Piero was also an Italian teacher and has worked alongside colleagues at COASIT and has assisted in many NMR Lote activities.

3.4 Using "Hocus and Lotus" and "Muzzy" in the Primary Language Classroom.

This session briefly introduces the methodology behind these productions and the productions themselves then introduces teachers to the ways in which these resources can be used to supplement existing language programmes or used to introduce a range of complimentary activities to develop vocabulary and understanding.

Presenter

Megan Morgan is an experienced teacher of French and German at both Primary and Secondary Levels and also works as a sessional lecturer and tutor in the Education Faculty at Monash University. She is also involved in teaching teachers in the courses offered for Community Languages Schools.

Megan is interested in innovative approaches to language teaching and in developing teaching materials. She wishes she could speak, read and write Italian but instead has to be content with enjoying Italian food and wine and planning her next trip to that beautiful country.

3.5 What works for us in Years 7-10

(i) Anna Favrin will talk about the LOTE Banquet for year 9s (all LOTEs) and the unit of work which accompanies it. So the unit, the language component, the logistics and why they do it.

(ii) Grace Latina will be talking about the use of photo story as a tool to engage students in speaking and listening.

Presenters

Anna Favrin is Head of Languages at Penola Catholic College, with campuses in Broadmeadows (9-12) and Glenroy (7-8). She is an experienced teacher of Languages and is currently teaching Italian & French. Over the years, she has had many roles, including Co-writer of the current VCE Study Design for Italian, written and oral assessor & Chief Assessor for Italian, writer of Australian Language Certificate Materials.

Grace Latina has been teaching at Salesian College Sunbury for nearly 17 years, and has been LOTE co-ordinator for 10 years and teaches from 7-12. She has organized trips to Italy and Japan as well as international exchanges and school LOTE camps.

3.6 and 4.6 The New Tools of Engagement.

In this session, Andrew Douch will demonstrate a number of free, readily available ICT tools that can be used to add variety to the LOTE classroom, and engage students in their learning.

Andrew has spent years assessing and trialling tools, to find those that are easy to use, free of cost and engaging for students. From Vodcasting, to Screencasting, to Skype to online polling and collaborative concept-mapping tools. You are sure to discover something to add to your repertoire.

Presenter

Andrew Douch

3.7 What works for us in VCE

Maria Agresta will present a unit of work that she uses in her Yr 12 VCE class on Immigration. Essentially she will reveal the resources, excursions and day trips that work for her in teaching this topic.

Pina Dunne's presentation focuses on the use of a wiki for the development of a topic. This incorporates the use of ICT whilst also developing students' independent learning, sharing of material and commenting on each others wiki pages.

Presenters

Maria Agresta has been teaching Italian for 13 years. She has taught at CRC Traralgon (now called La Valla) and is currently at Emmaus College where she teaches 7-12 Italian and is also the Head of LOTE.

Pina Dunne currently Coordinator of Lote at St Monica's College Epping and teaching yrs 12 and 9 started life as a teacher of Italian for the Dante Alighieri Saturday morning school in

1977-78, then a stint in Wangaratta (St Joseph's College) CRC Sydenham and St Bernards, where I taught mainly English, Italian and Religion. After a 10 year gap I re-entered secondary school teaching relieving at St Joseph's Pascoe Vale and Mercy College, again teaching English and Italian.

4.1 Language Online: Make your own multimedia comprehension tasks

Make your own multimedia comprehension tasks

The Comprehension Task Maker allows you to create your own multimedia interactive comprehension tasks. You enter the text, audio, video or images for the player to view and then create the questions they must answer. Because you decide on the information and questions, the Comprehension Task Maker can be used at any level and for any topic.

Presenters

Stuart Miller is manager of the Languages Online project, and has developed resources for the website since 2002. He has a background in educational resource design and production.

Nancy Posterino works as a writer for Languages Online. Prior to this she worked as a French and Italian teacher, and has been an author of textbooks for secondary Italian.

4.4 How to organise a student trip to Italy (Primary and Secondary)

(i) Louise Madden

I first organized a trip to Italy for the students in 1995, and since then have accompanied three other groups of students in 2003, 2006 and 2008.

Each trip has been for 3 weeks. On the last two trips to Italy the students have enjoyed a week's homestay in Milan, which they have all thoroughly enjoyed. In 2003, we organized for the students to attend a language school in Florence. We have then travelled by bus for 2 weeks, seeing as much as we can, without exhausting ourselves too much.
Ci siamo divertiti tantissimo!!!

(ii) My name is Nunzia Esposito and I teach Italian at Brighton Primary school.

I have been teaching Italian in Primary schools for 15 years and one of the highlights of my career, as an Italian teacher, was to take students to Italy as part of their immersion in the Italian language and culture. In this work shop I will outline the process teachers need to work through in order to organise an Italian tour at the Primary level.

Presenters

Louise Madden

Teaches Italian at St. Joseph's College, Geelong a Catholic secondary school, boys only, years 7-12. Her previous experience included 13 years at Sacred Heart College, Geelong, a Catholic secondary school, girls only, years 7-12.

Nunzia Esposito teaches Italian at Brighton Primary school.

4.5 Detailed Study - A Fresh Approach

'The workshop will focus on exploring new topics and will provide teachers with updated resources. A list of effective strategies will be provided to teachers to help their students achieve better outcomes.'

Presenters

'**Riccardo Iuele** is an Italian teacher at Marymede Catholic College. He is a relatively new teacher having commenced his 4th year of teaching the Italian language and culture, this year. For the past 3 years he was working in the Government sector where he completed 2 of those years as the LOTE coordinator for the college. He has been a committee member of VATI for the past 3 years. He has been a VCAA assessor for both the Oral and Written examinations.'

Chiara Franzo is an experienced secondary school teacher. She has been actively involved in promoting Italian language and culture in the last 26 years in both the private and state educational sectors. Chiara has been a VATI committee member since 1995, assisting in the organisation of the Annual Congress as well as conducting workshops for teachers of Italian. Her interest in Italian extends beyond her teaching role as she is a judge for Dante Alighieri Poetry Competition, VCAA Assessor for both the Oral and Written Examinations and an enthusiastic participant in the Italian Film Festival and theatre. Chiara has organised regular VCE Italian Oral Workshops with Diamond Valley College and several Italian Immersion Camp with Xavier College for VCE students. In 1998, Chiara completed Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Melbourne and in 2002 she completed Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment.

4.7 Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowship 2008 Report

- a) Give general information about the ELTF program (our experience - in photos/PowerPoint).
- b) Talk about our school visits to Meucci Elementary and Conservatorio San Niccolò (PowerPoint).
- c) Explanation of some of the different communicative language activities that we participated in, at the Monash Centre in Prato (handout to people who are in attendance).
- d) Answer any specific questions from the public.

Presenters

Donna Salera, Trish Kelly and Simone Costello. Endeavour Fellowship recipients 2008