

SATE Annual General Meeting 2016



Basics

Place: Kantonsschule Wettingen, Wettingen, 4.15 - 5.00pm, 25 November 2016

6 people present

Committee: Brigitte Brun (BB, president), Patricia Burger (PB), Marie-Claude Guerry (MG), Hans-Ueli Müller (HUM) Dewi Williams (DW),

1 Last year's minutes (BB)

Last year's minutes are accepted, thanks go to PB.

2 Membership (BB)

Continuous downward turn has slowed down (exits 23, entrances 19); presently active: 229. Exits mainly due to retirement but 18 course participants signed up this year.

3 Finances (HUM)

Carried forward 1st October 2015 are 40,070.45. The total operating funds carried forward on 29th September 2016 are 38,202.10, balance -1,868.35. Members accept the accounts unanimously.

4 Report from Delegates' Meeting (AK, KK)

Kathrin Hunziker, president of SMAK (Schweizerisch Mittelschul-Ämter Konferenz), talked at the AGM about the passerelle (access of Fachmatura to university). The members were also informed that the requirement of a unified syllabus has apparently been cancelled. However, SMAKs supports a communal framework for the entry of university.

One additional member on the board of the VSG. The archives of the VSG have to be reorganised (10 000.-CHF). The VSG produces now 5 times per year a newsletter. Furthermore, a kind of "Bildungsticker" (summary of news in the sector) is accessible to members. The VSG establishes a pensus schemes of the different cantons and a survey of the different salary policy in the cantons. The EDK wants to connect norms of promotion (KUGU) and the basic competences. According to Schneider Ammann, norms should be unified on a federal ground. Should IT be relevant for the final average or not? Question of further education: WBZ is now replaced by ZEM: Zentrum für Mittelschule. Loss of competences. ZEM is going to look for facilitators who help to organise courses.

5 Reports on courses (DW)

26-27 November 2015 (Kollegium Brig). SATE Workshop

Hamlet in the Classroom

Organised by Hansueli Müller and attended by 44 participants! The three tutors (Richard Begbie, Eva Mann and Matt Rüegger) used a number of varied and stimulating approaches (analysis of monologues, film extracts, role play activities, etc.) to illustrate how Hamlet can be taught in the classroom. A dynamic and rewarding workshop.

20-22 January 2016 (Bern)

CALP Plus (Course in Advanced Language Practice plus Literary Component)

Organised by Rosemarie Allemann with Richard Begbie and Dewi Williams. Attended by 22 participants, many of whom were returning for the second, third or fourth time. Apart from the usual intensive language activities (translation, discussions, advanced grammar, vocabulary, lectures, etc.), participants also read and discussed *The Strays*, a novel by the young Australian writer Emily Bitto, plus selected stories from David Constantine's recent collection *In Another Country*. A successful and enjoyable course.

N.B. The next CALP Plus workshop will take place 15-17 March 2017.

7-11 October 2016, Dublin

Dublin Theatre Festival. New Perspectives on Theatre for the Classroom.

Organised by Richard Begbie, and assisted by Simon Hicks and Dewi Williams. This festival, which is mostly devoted to modern experimental theatre, was attended by 27 people, who saw eight productions in five days, viz.

- *These Rooms*. An immersive live performance which acted out scenes from the 1916 Easter Rising in Dublin, as seen through the eyes of local people, when British soldiers invaded their homes ('rooms'). Participants were invited to participate as witnesses to the events. A powerful and exhausting experience.
- *The Circle Animals' Desertion*. Based very loosely on Yeats's poem of the same name and using masks, a string quartet, and a panoply of characters on stage, this production juxtaposed romantic notions of nations with brutal depictions of xenophobia and oppression. A farrago of poetry, dreams and violence. Not for the faint-hearted, but ultimately rewarding.
- *Donegal*. The world premiere of a musical play by Frank McGuinness. The story of a family whose lives revolve around Irish country music and the tensions that arise. People had mixed feelings about the production, and one or two people left during the interval ...
- *The Seagull*. There seems to be a fashion today for transgenderism and for male roles to be played by female actors, e.g. the current London production of *Lear*, where the venerable Glenda Jackson plays the title role. The same occurred in the Dublin production of Chekov's classic, in which the young playwright Constantin becomes a female writer. Surprisingly, the change of sex was not too disturbing, though naturally some of the relationships became somewhat 'different'. An interesting experience.
- *Swan Lake*. Written by Michael Keegan-Dolan, one of Ireland's leading dance and theatre producers, and based on the famous ballet and on a similar Irish folk legend, this production combined dance, Nordic music and traditional story-telling to retell an old story and to give it a contemporary message. A superb, uplifting evening.
- *The Importance of Being Oscar*. The actor, Michael Judd, recited extracts from Wilde's writings and brought out both the scintillating wit and the poignant side of this famous writer. A most enjoyable performance.

- *The Remains of Maisie Duggan* by Carmel Winters. Another premiere of a riotous, black, typically Irish comedy about the strength of family bonds and the struggle to break them.
- *The Father* by the French writer Florian Zeller. A heart-rending play about the effect of incipient dementia on a father and his daughter. Full of humour and pathos and superbly acted.

In addition to seeing the above productions, participants also had the pleasure of listening to some of the actors and producers taking part in the festival – a most enriching experience.

6 Any other business

6.1 KUGU

HUM attended a preliminary KUGU meeting in Zurich. Their first reflexion is that universities can't just dictate. The KUGU takes place on the 10 and 11 September 2017 and SATE will take part in it.

6.2 Next AGM

Zug, Friday 24 November 2017

6.3 Jubilee of BB

BB got some presents for her 10 years of presidency.

6.4 End

BB closes meeting at 5:37pm. This is followed by Franz Andres Morrissey's lecture on "Songs of the First World War".

Respectfully submitted

Neuchâtel, 27 November 2016



Patricia Burger