

Participants' Reflections and Feedback on the Seminar

based on written feedback collected from the seminar participants at the end of the seminar

What reflections did the seminar give rise to?

- Theoretical background underpinning CLIL became clearer

A language teacher has had a feeling but has not had a scientific language and systematic understanding what should be done

Integrated programs should be based on existing information

A systematic approach to CLIL in the presentations

The theoretical ideas made me think about the extent that CLIL teachers may or may not know about them

The seminar gave names to problems I am experiencing

Theoretical background of CLIL revealed in presentations representing various contexts

You need to know the research & theory before putting CLIL to practice

- Belief in CLIL as an effective learning method was boosted

The importance of CLIL especially in tertiary level
Realizing the importance of integrating content and language

- CLIL-practicalities / new ideas became known

Good ideas about combining my EPS class with content course
Useful ideas especially for teacher training

- Awareness of and motivation towards CLIL was boosted (content teachers' comments are in italics)

taking into account using more strategies in teaching
re-think the concept of my courses

I got a spark to investigate further into the field of CLIL
My motivation improved

The seminar reinforced my previous conclusions

It is nice to know that the content teacher should pay attention to his/her language when giving the lectures

I got courage to start to plan together with a language teacher

I got courage to start CLI-idea based courses and concrete methods to make it

- Need to increase CLIL teaching /co-operation was expressed (content teachers' comments are in italics)

Content teachers need to work more with language teachers

Content teacher and language teacher should work together eg. preparing teaching materials

Importance of integrating content and language learning especially in tertiary level

We need more co-operation between language teachers and content teachers

I will approach content teachers in my institution

- Concern about students' previous content knowledge was expressed

Should the students know about the content [before studying in a foreign language]

- Concern about content teachers' language awareness

Content teachers need more skills in foreign language but not grammar – knowledge about difficulties in learning in a foreign language

- Concern about student's language level / language development was expressed

How to make sure the students have enough background language knowledge

Should the students have language skills beforehand

Language learning as a holistic process ... Can we support the learners enough or are we more eager to find critical points

To make sure that students are capable of dynamically and autonomously produce sensible text

- Concern about getting other colleagues in home institutions interested in CLIL / to know about CLIL / was expressed

It makes me sad to think how much we could do if only the content teachers would co-operate

Not all language teachers are still interested in CLIL

How can we reach the teacher who struggle with CLIL programs and do not find this information

Reflections on possibilities on implementing some of the seminar input on a practical level

- Redesigning the teaching situation / the content of the course

I will emphasize BELF (Business English Lingua Franca) in teaching

I will teach skills in successful BELF

I will re-think the learning situations and pedagogical activities

I will design a course using CLIL methods

I will co-operate with other teachers

- Introducing CLIL to colleagues / on the administrative level

As an administrator I can introduce ideas
I will get my colleagues together and tell them about CLIL
I will discuss with my bosses and suggest a small-steps approach

- Practical ideas to be implemented / utilized

I was reminded of practical tips to use in my teaching
I will utilize the seminar powerpoints
Making international exchange students take part in CLIL courses
I am going to follow the HAMK implementation model
I will check the suggested websites
I will utilize the CLIL Handbook

- Making the teaching situations more concrete (content teachers' comments)

Do more – talk more – talk with hands
Use mind maps, key words etc.
Using more graphs, scaffolding
Illustrating my teaching better
I will use the presented techniques in my class-room

- More conscious focus on the students' language development (content teachers' comments)

Put more attention to language ...and follow how students have been able to adopt terminology
Maybe a more interactive method will be considered and tried in my teaching so that comprehension is strengthened/acknowledged
I will create an environment to expand my students' vocabulary
I will activate the students to ...express themselves in English to construct meaning in a new way

- Still digesting the seminar input

Don't know yet but got many good ideas

Positive feedback was given on the following

- Arrangements

Everything went very well (many almost similar comments)
overall organization, good advertising, coffees, cozy dinner

- Quality and content of presentations

rich program, variety of input, wide range of topics, practical
information, excellent speakers

- Seminar atmosphere

Good atmosphere, warm welcome, nice international mix

- Book display

- Sauli's role as expert facilitator

- Research seminar particularly interesting

Suggestions for improvement made relating to the following

- Research workshop program

more time for discussion between presentations (many complaints
about this);
more time for the book display
more time for mingling

- Afternoon session program (content teacher angle)

Bring it to a more practical level
New techniques for improving contents could have been presented

- Handouts on all presentations would have been useful

- More presentations about specific CLIL situations in different
countries would be interesting in the future

- Group/teamwork with follow-up discussions would have been useful
- CLIL should not be taken for granted in all educational contexts

CLIL is OK for business but....

- Main seminar: a compromise to have language and content teachers together was questionable

Not interesting enough for those involved in CLIL as researcher
Not practical enough for content teachers

Need for more information about CLIL / continuing CLIL networking

Regular seminars like this - especially with research presentations – would be great!

As a researcher I would like to know more about the existing CLIL programmes

Interested in participating in a EU project

Continuing with seminars for sharing experiences and new ideas

Getting involved in a EU project