

UKLEF Communications Secretary Report to 2010 AGM

Membership

At present, the UKLEF mailing list has 320 members. Since the last report (September 2009), 92 new members have signed up (26 in the fall of 2009, 66 so far in 2010, see Table 1).

Year	Members	Increase
2002	64	/
2003	75	11
2004	98	23
2005	121	23
2006	147	26
2007	183	36
2008	213	30
2009	254	41
2010	320	66

Table 1: Members per year

New members can sign up by completing a membership form (<http://uklef.net/members.html>). Membership records have been kept since 2002 and include institutional details and research interests. These records were last updated in August 2010 (21 entries were deleted, the details of 44 members were updated) and have since been published online.

Members per country

Of the 320 members, 191 are based in the UK, 26 in the US and the remaining 103 are based in 34 different countries, primarily in mainland Europe (see Table 2).

	Country	Members	Country	Members	
Oceania	Australia	8	Belgium	8	
	New Zealand	3	Denmark	5	
Asia	China	1	Finland	6	
	Hong Kong	1	France	1	
	Iran	1	Germany	4	
	Japan	4	Greece	2	
	Taiwan	1	Ireland	1	
	Thailand	1	Italy	1	
				Norway	2
Africa & Middle East	Ethiopia	1	Europe	Poland	1
	Israel	2	Portugal	1	
	Pakistan	1	Spain	10	
	South Africa	1	Sweden	7	
	United Arab Emirates	3	Switzerland	3	
Americas	USA	26	The Netherlands	7	
	Brasil	1	Turkey	1	
	Canada	10	UK	191	
	Colombia	1	Ukraine	1	
	Mexico	2			

Table 2: UKLEF members by country, 1 September 2010.

Mailinglist

The ling-ethnog email list continues to serve as the principal means of communication for UKLEF and is used to circulate information about UKLEF events and items of potential interest to members such as conference announcements, relevant publications and jobs. The list is hosted by Jiscmail, the academic mailing list service.

Online presence

In addition to a new (and easier) URL: <http://www.uklef.net>, an event page was added to inform members about how to organize BAAL seminars and local seminars: <http://uklef.net/callforpapers.html>. To promote UKLEF events and publications, a Twitter account was set up (<http://twitter.com/uklef>) and embedded on the homepage.

Community management

To foster debate and generate list traffic, new members are asked to briefly introduce themselves. So far, this has resulted in 21 “new member” messages. In addition, an e-seminar was piloted in the Spring of 2010. E-seminars are moderated email discussions of papers on linguistic ethnography. The pilot was based on a paper by Jan Blommaert and April Huang. Two discussants were invited: Mark Allen Peterson and Adrian Blackledge. The event was open to all UKLEF members and was run on the mailing list from Wednesday Feb. 24 through Friday March 5, 2010. A transcript of this e-seminar has since been made available online.

Tom Van Hout, 1 September 2010.