Table of Contents

Message from the Director 1
Our Team 2
Teaching 3
Second Language Intensive Programs 10
Research 13
Language Assessment 19
Development and Promotion 22
Language Rights Support Program (LRSP) 25
Publications  See the French section overleaf, page 26

Message from the Director

I am delighted to introduce this report on the activities of the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute (OLBI) for the period running from May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016. As you will discover in the following pages, this year featured numerous individual and group achievements by our faculty and administrative staff.

OLBI is closely linked to the mission of the University of Ottawa to serve its student population in both official languages, English and French. On September 25, the University officially obtained the designation of its services and academic programs in French under Ontario’s French Language Services Act. The designation ensures that its services and the majority of its undergraduate programs will be offered in French. Thanks to its own mission, OLBI plays a key role in this portfolio.

The University’s Standing Committee on Francophone Affairs and Official Languages, on which I sit, undertook an important effort to modernize the Regulation on Bilingualism which dates back to 1974 and no longer fulfills today’s needs. The new version, currently being revised for adoption, assigns an important role to OLBI with respect to language teaching and the evaluation of language competence for the university community as a whole. Roger Farley, OLBI’s executive in residence, who has long-standing experience in the application of the federal Official Languages Act, has been coopted as a consultant to the Committee. We are honoured to offer this assistance to the University at this decisive juncture of its history.

You may have noticed that the cover photo features the name of our new building, Hamelin Hall (MHN), formerly Arts Hall (ART). It was renamed in honour of Dr. Marcel Hamelin to celebrate his 50 years of service to the University, including as former President and former Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

The year was capped off by an excellent biennial conference organized by our Canadian Centre for Studies and Research on Bilingualism and Language Planning (CCERBAL). Additional details on this learned conference may be found in the chapter on research.

This year, however, was marked by a sad event, the death of our colleague, Dr. Larry Vandergrift, a specialist in English speaking and listening, the founding Director of CCERBAL, and a former interim Director of OLBI. He was a respected scholar in the second language education community in Canada and internationally. He will be sorely missed.

I hope you enjoy reading this annual report. For additional information, including updates on our ongoing activities, please visit us online at olbi.uOttawa.ca where you can also sign up for our monthly electronic newsletter, In Other Words.

Richard Clément, PhD, FRSC
Director of OLBI and Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts
Our Team

OLBI is proud of Beverly Baker, Assistant Professor and Director of OLBI’s Language Assessment Sector, and her team’s remarkable work in offering professional development training to teachers in Saint-Marc and Cap-Haitien regions, in Haiti. Their ongoing work will be energized with important new funding from SSHRC over the next three years.

Their project aims to create a program of professional development for several hundred practicing teachers which focuses on the co-creation of multilingual curricular content suitable for the teaching of English, French, and Creole, as well as Social Studies and Science, relevant to the Haitian context. Products of this research will also include guidelines for effective professional development to be widely distributed to teachers, teacher preparation institutes, and Ministry of Education personnel. The initiative also provides for the installation of interactive whiteboards, the provision of school supplies, the development of a network among local teachers, and the assessment of local needs by team members on site.

Among the members of the group are collaborators Gérald Jean-Baptiste, Caroline Riches, Beverly Baker, Roselor François and Michel Deschodt. Not pictured are team members Pierre Lubin, Philippa Parks, Lise Winer and Josette Bruffaerts-Thomas.

Employees

- 19 Regular, Full-time Professors
- 97 Part-time Language Teachers
- 2 Visiting Scholars and 1 Executive in Residence
- 19.5 Administrative Staff
- 2.5 Employees in French Immersion Studies
- 4 Employees in the LRSP

TOTAL 145

OLBI’s programs are for University of Ottawa students, both present and future, along with its faculty and staff. Our services also extend to clients from the public, private, and non-governmental sectors.
Credit Courses and Undergraduate Programs of Study in ESL and FLS

ESL and FLS Major and Minor

Following the cyclical appraisal of our English as a Second Language (ESL) and French as a Second Language (FLS) programs, as of September 2016 new course sequences will be offered to students registered in our Major, Advanced Minor or Minor programs in FLS or ESL.

The changes include a global course redistribution that is more flexible and better adapted to students’ language skills, and the identification of compulsory introductory courses that take into account students’ knowledge.

Our new sequences for the Majors (ESL and FLS) include six new courses. The first course will allow students to develop second language learning strategies. The second one will be offered as a seminar and will be capped by a major final project. In addition, four new electives will provide topics better suited to the learners’ experience and skills as well as the Franco-Ontarian context.

The following table illustrates the state of credit courses in 2015-2016, which saw a record 4671 registrations in both languages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ESL Registrations</th>
<th>ESL Course Sections</th>
<th>ESL Students in Major or Minor</th>
<th>FLS Registrations</th>
<th>FLS Course Sections</th>
<th>FLS Students in Major or Minor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1208</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3463</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>499</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Second Language Teaching (DLS)

The Second Language Teaching Program (Diactique des langues seconds, or DLS), co-directed by the faculties of Arts and Education, is a wonderful example of how areas of expertise from both faculties complement each other in the delivery of a unique four-year program to prepare future second language specialists. Graduates find work opportunities at home and abroad, in academic institutions serving adult learners or in schools at either the primary or secondary level.

The program is the starting point of a new generation of language teachers, school administrators, language assessment and language policy specialists, pedagogical material designers, and researchers in applied linguistics.

Blended Courses

OLBI’s nine blended courses were very successful in this initial offering. More than a hundred students registered for the six FLS and the three ESL courses and experienced second language learning with classes alternating with online work.

Given the success of these courses, the University's Teaching and Learning Support Service (TLSS) allocated $25,000 in additional financing to OLBI to pursue blended course implementation for FLS in 2016-2017, when a total of nine FLS and three ESL courses will be offered through blended learning.

In compliance with the University of Ottawa’s Destination 2020 strategic plan aiming at developing technology-assisted teaching, OLBI’s blended courses target is to develop flipped-classroom courses and blended courses. We are also including the element of experiential learning whenever it is beneficial for students.

Scholarships

The first two awards were given out at the Faculty of Arts Showcase in Alex Trebek Hall.

Robert Bourgon Commemorative Award

This annual award, created last year in honour of FLS Professor Robert Bourgon, rewards students who demonstrate a deep interest in and a positive attitude toward learning French by making a genuine effort to use the language at all times. It was awarded to Rebecca Nelson, an Immersion student in Environmental Studies with a Minor in French as a Second Language.

Bilingualism Scholarship

The English as a Second Language, French as a Second Language Student Association (EFSAS) offers a yearly Bilingualism Scholarship to recognize dedication to learning and promoting English or French as a Second Language. The scholarship was granted to Jennie Long, registered in the Major in French as Second Language and the Major in English.

CIBC Mentorship Award

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce granted CIBC Mentorship awards, which covered tuition fees for the 2016 winter session, to Miriam Hatabi, a mentor for FLS at OLBI, and Haylee Weese, a mentor for DLS with the Faculty of Education and OLBI.
French Immersion Studies

French Immersion Studies are offered to students from English high school programs in French as a second language who wish to continue studying in both languages. In this academic path, at least a third of their courses must be taken in French. Language courses are integrated with subject-matter courses, and students receive linguistic and academic support adapted to their interests.

With the addition of Engineering, now all six of the University’s entry faculties offer French immersion in over 80 programs, ranging from Management to Theatre, from Computer Engineering to Biopharmaceutical Sciences. Students therefore have access to a variety of programs in which they can develop their language skills and gain subject-matter vocabulary.

Numbers

Fields of Study of Immersion Students
Across All Four Years

In June, 148 students received a degree bearing the “French Immersion” designation demonstrating their achievement, bringing the total number of graduates to 770 since the first cohort graduated in 2008.

Scholarships

To encourage Francophile students to pursue their studies in French at the University, French Immersion Studies have established a number of partnerships, which offered more than $350,000 in scholarships and awards.

We proudly support the following competitions:

- Concours d’art oratoire, the public-speaking competition of Canadian Parents for French (CPF);
- Immersion Clip, a video competition of the Association canadienne des professeurs d’immersion (ACP); and,
- French for the Future’s National Essay Contest.
In September, OLBI welcomed the second cohort of students in the MA in Bilingualism Studies, consisting of three full-time and three part-time students (three each in the thesis option and the major research paper option), for a total of 13 over two years.

Two students from our initial cohort, Valeriia Kolesova and Mélissa Pesant, successfully completed their studies. In December, Mélissa submitted a major research paper entitled, “Analyse de l'utilisation de ressources langagières des apprenants de FLS en processus de révision textuelle,” under the supervision of Marie-Joëlle Hamel (OLBI). On April 15, Valeriia defended a thesis entitled, “Assessment of ESL Sociopragmatics for Informing Instruction in an Academic Context: From Australia to Canada,” under the supervision of Beverly Baker (OLBI). They received their degree at the 2016 Spring Convocation.

## Recruitment and Registration
Since our program is still new, we expanded our already extensive annual publicity campaign to attract qualified bilingual students to the program. We contacted over 450 DLS alumni, all four-year DLS students, and over 20,000 alumni in related programs and faculties. Publicity also appeared on different virtual platforms, in the conference program of the annual meeting of the Association canadienne des professeurs d’immersion (ACPI) in October, and in the Ontario Modern Language Teachers’ Association (OMLTA) conference program in April.

The goal was not only to attract degree-seeking students, but also special students, i.e., people working in related areas seeking to register for one or two courses per session for their professional or personal development.

## Autres cours et ressources
Language Training Services for Academic Staff

Language Training Services for Academic Staff celebrated their 10th anniversary in February with a ceremony during which they were likened to one of our University’s gems by members of the Office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost, Richard Clément and the Coordinator, Huguette Bourgeois, thanked professors who taught since the beginning and also the administrative personnel for their important support. An anniversary publication distributed at the event included testimonials from professors who expressed their satisfaction and especially their success.

### Language Training Services for Academic Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSES BY SESSION</th>
<th>Language Training Services for Academic Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring-Summer 2015</td>
<td>Hours of Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLS1911-P</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLS2911-E, P, Q, R</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLS3911-E, P, Q, R, F</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL3010-P</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL4010-E</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring-Summer Total</td>
<td>526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
<td>Hours of Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLS1911-A</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLS2911-A</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLS3911-A</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLS4911-A</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL3010-P</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Total</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Personnel Courses

The Personnel Courses Committee surveyed 129 participants, and results showed demand for more regular courses and fewer workshops during the summer. The course load was modified to offer a more diverse selection as of summer 2016.

The Committee also helped design a complete program for the Faculty of Medicine. In partnership with its Bureau of Francophone Affairs, seven new courses were adapted to the field of Healthcare. Three of them started last winter. After its initial session, the program was deemed a success.

### Julien Couture Resource Centre

Two major activities stood out in the Resource Center. Last summer we installed a security system and in April we weeded out our collection and organized a book sale. Our new security system is equipped with a gate and brought more security to the collection. It required us to label and tag every item in our collection, a significant challenge that the whole team took up successfully. The labeling process allowed us to select expired resources and organize a book sale. Profits from the sale went to the University’s United Way campaign. Thanks to the generous assistance of colleagues familiar with overseas donations, other discarded resources were given to school or educational organizations in countries such as Haiti, Cameroon and the Congo.

We established new partnerships with the University of Ottawa Press and English Central, a company specializing in online English speaking and listening tools. These partnerships offer new and more diverse resources to teachers in Second Language Intensive Programs and will also help to expand the Center’s public collection with a selection of books by Canadian authors and books on Franco-Ontarian or Pan-Canadian social, political or educational contexts. Thanks to these initiatives and our central location, we attract an increasing number of researchers, students and visitors who help make the Centre a destination for independent learning, meetings and inspiring exchanges.

## Registrations

Registrations shot up compared with last year’s numbers, as shown in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014-2015 Registrations</th>
<th>2015-2016 Registrations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ESL</td>
<td>FLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring-Summer</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A blended course for Francophone professors, “Academic Writing for Publication,” was designed and now serves the needs of all professors whose first language is not English but who wish to publish their scholarly articles in that language.

As part of a pilot project, Immersion Saturdays (full days of French training) were offered and proved popular with part-time professors. Clients were surveyed on their level of satisfaction with the Services, and the results were very positive overall. Check out the table on page 8 for an overview of the different offerings.
Second Language Intensive Programs provide ESL and FLS educational programs. To meet the needs of a diverse population, they also develop workshops for language teachers and a variety of Canadian and international groups.

Language Programs

Business

Second Language Intensive Programs (SLIP) are a revenue-generating division of OLBI, turning a profit for the Faculty of Arts and the University at large. Staff in the office have implemented many business strategies over the past few years, most recently Lean Management principles, to ensure the utmost efficiency and the best possible student experience. We have invested in renovating eight classrooms in the building located at 200 Wilbrod, just East of Cumberland. This building, which a few OLBI teachers used to call home before our move to our permanent location in Hamelin Hall three years ago, is now called Jules Léger Hall (JLR). We now have six small, bright, adaptable multimedia classes for priority use in SLIP and two large ones which will be used by ESL and FLS classes.

French Intensive Program

Our Programme intensif de français (PIF) served as a university preparatory course over four weeks in August for a group of 19 students from China who had never experienced a 100% Francophone environment. In addition to their classroom activities, they participated in a series of university and community integration workshops and outings, before starting their undergraduate studies in September. The majority of them chose to study in the Faculty of Arts.

English Intensive Program

The English Intensive Program (EIP) is our flagship for ESL instruction. Students come from many countries, including China, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Turkey, Vietnam, Iraq, Italy, France, Japan, and Mexico.

The EIP adopted new course codes and a new schedule of 14 weeks in class and one integration week for new students. It now offers five courses in three sessions per year which parallel regular University programs. These enhancements were required this year as a ramp-up to our integration into the University’s student information system in November 2016.

These changes already provide our students with more access to campus resources like the Academic Writing Help Centre and the Access Service. They will provide a seamless transition into undergraduate and graduate programs, given that the majority of EIP students are international students with a conditional offer of admission to the University, which requires them to improve their English for academic purposes.

Destination Clic

For the 15th year in a row, from June 26 to July 14, the Destination Clic summer school welcomed 53 students aged 13-15 years. This bursary program for Francophones living outside Quebec gives students a unique university experience on the University campus. Classes on Franco-Ontarian literature, linguistics, media studies and music were offered. Participants took part in drama and creative writing workshops, as well as many activities to discover Franco-Ontarian culture.

Ningbo Institute of Technology Summer Language Program

For the first year, we hosted the Ningbo Institute of Technology Summer Language Program as of July 18. The one-month summer program gave 15 students from Zhejiang Province in China the opportunity to study English in Ottawa while earning university credits in their home institution. The credit-equivalent program offers two courses, Oral Communication Skills in English and Reading Magazines and Newspapers in English.

University of Electronic Science and Technology of China

The University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC) in Chengdu sent a delegation of 14 students in the summer for an integrated skills program in English and immersion in Canadian culture.
The Canadian Centre for Studies and Research on Bilingualism and Language Planning (CCERBAL) helps OLBI and the University assert their roles as catalysts for the evolution of bilingualism and language planning in Canada.

Professional Development

Summer University for FLS/FSL Teachers

We held the eighth annual intensive summer professional development program for Canadian FSL elementary and secondary teachers of Core French, Extended French, Intensive French, and French Immersion. The workshops are now well established and include participants from all over the country. A partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Education guaranteed participation by teachers in this province through bursaries that cover tuition fees and a percentage of travel costs.

Western China

In a partnership with the Faculty of Education, we co-hosted a group of 35 high-school English teachers from China sponsored by the China Scholarship Council. Their 12-week experience in Ottawa included classes on pedagogy and the use of technology in the classroom, given by the Faculty of Education, while SLIP were responsible for providing language courses in a nurturing, immersive environment for these visitors who had never benefited from a 100% English environment before.

English for Academic Purposes

University faculties are increasingly turning to SLIP for assistance in designing and delivering targeted language workshops for their student population or their faculty members. We provided workshops in English for Medical and Academic Purposes to a group of Chinese students from the Ottawa-Shanghai Joint School of Medicine, while the Faculty of Engineering had us teach a program on Receptive Skills for Engineering to 68 university professors from China.
European Center for Modern Languages (ECML)

Our medium-term Program for 2012-2015, Learning through Languages – Promoting inclusive, plurilingual and intercultural education, under which ten Canadian scholars took part in research and development projects sponsored by the ECML, came to an end this year.

Launched last winter, the 2016-2019 Program Languages at the Heart of Learning includes eight projects ranging from digital literacy to sign language teaching and language training for work purposes. With the help of the National Advisory Committee, implemented by OLBI, ten Canadian researchers were chosen and are now integrated in the European research teams. They are: Jeff Bale (Toronto), Susan Ballinger (McGill), Catherine Caws (Victoria), Joseph Dicks (UNB), Marie-Josée Hamel (OLBI), Wendy Carr (UBC), Jim Murphy (Newfoundland), Cécile Sabatier (SFU) and Kristin Snoddon (Carleton). Communication between the Canadian researchers and their teams will be facilitated by financial support from the Department of Canadian Heritage. In addition, the agreement between the ECML and OLBI now includes internship opportunities for OLBI’s graduate students and professors.

Over 2.2 million dollars were received in research funding this year. The lion’s share of these funds came from research contracts.

Research Grants in 2015-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Agencies</th>
<th>Other Peer-reviewed Grants</th>
<th>Contracts</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,600,000</td>
<td>$1,450,000</td>
<td>$1,300,000</td>
<td>$1,150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$900,000</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total: $2,207,438*

On April 28 and 29, we hosted our biennial international conference entitled, Bilingual from birth: process, pedagogy and policy, presided by Richard Clément and Christopher Fennell (Social Sciences, uOttawa). The two-day conference invited researchers, teachers, students and all others with an interest in bilingual development to gather and share on the topics of Simultaneous Bilingualism from an Early Age, on the Consequences of Bilingualism for Identity, on Raising Kids in more than one Language, and on Cultural and Intercultural Policy Aspects during invited symposia and round table meetings. These provided additional forums for in-depth discussions between guest speakers and participants, as did additional workshops and poster presentation on a variety of related topics. The proceedings will be published next year in our research journal, the OLBI Working Papers.
Research Forums

OLBI hosted seven researchers from across Canada and the world who offered stimulating perspectives on issues related to motivation in language learning (Kimberly A. Noels, Alberta), the use of digital tools to support the linguistic integration of migrants (Simon Collin, UQAM), validation research in language testing at OLBI (Beverly Baker, OLBI), anxiety and perceive language competence in English and French (Cameron Montgomery, Education, uOttawa), family/heritage languages as a classroom resource in a European context (Nathalie Auger, Paul-Valéry, Montpellier III), teacher’s decisions with regard to grading and the links between teaching and assessment (Liying Cheng, Queen’s), and relating political economy perspectives to language rights (Jeffrey Bale, Toronto). The full titles, abstracts and screencasts of the presentations are available on the CCERBAL website.

Research Groups

Language Assessment Research Group (LARG / GREL)
Led by Beverly Baker
LARG hosted two events on campus this past year:

1. On October 16, LARG invited Liying Cheng, an internationally-recognized language assessment scholar, to speak to the OLBI community. Her talk was entitled “Teachers’ Grading Decision-Making: Validating the Interface between Teaching and Assessment.”
2. On January 29, LARG members Amelia Hope and Carla Hall offered a workshop to colleagues on the incorporation of interactive competence in rating scales/rubrics.

Language Management Interdisciplinary Research Group (LMIIRG / GRIGL)
Led by Monika Jezak
The LMIIRG hosted two annual meetings: a regular assembly of all its members on September 25, and a meeting of student members on November 29.

It also hosted three public events:

1. A seminar by Xabier Itçaina (Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Bordeaux): “Mobilisations linguistiques et culturelles en Pays basque français : entre amorce d’institutionnalisation territoriale et économie culturelle émergente”, presented on May 15;
2. A conference by Jeffrey Bale (Toronto): “A Political-Economy Approach To Language Rights”, presented on September 25;
3. A debate between Yael Peled (McGill) and David Robichaud (Philosophy, Ottawa): “What is so special about language? A political philosophy approach”, presented on April 14.

The Group designed and developed the Compendium for Language Management in Canada, an online resource intended for researchers, academics and the general public. The Group gratefully acknowledges input from the following members who are heavily involved in developing the online resource intended for researchers, academics and the general public. The Group gratefully acknowledges input from the following members who are heavily involved in developing the Compendium: Linda Cardinal (Political Studies, uOttawa), Pierre Foucher (Civil Law, uOttawa), David Robichaud (Philosophy, uOttawa), Carsten Quell (Treasury Board of Canada) and Jean-Pierre Corbeil (Statistics Canada).

Post-Secondary Immersion Research Group (PSIRG / GRINU)
Led by Alyse Weinberg
During the year, PSIRG members participated in conferences at the University of Ottawa, in Israel and in Belgium.

Alyse Weinberg and Jérémie Séror participated in the annual symposium of the Centre de recherche en civilisation canadienne-française whose theme was, Le bilinguisme canadien comme projet : l’histoire d’une utopie et de sa réalisation. Their presentation, entitled “L’immersion universitaire : Vers la réalisation d’un bilinguisme canadien,” highlighted postsecondary immersion’s contribution to creating a privileged academic and social environment allowing French learners to take part in activities that highlight learners’ qualities and the skills they need to be part of a bilingual Canada.

One of the major projects in which PSIRG members participated this year was, Étude longitudinale sur l’immersion en français à l’Université d’Ottawa au travers des indicateurs objectifs et des perceptions des étudiants. This research, under the supervision of Alyse Weinberg and Jérémie Séror, was launched in September and followed around forty students during their French immersion studies.

PSIRG also sponsored a workshop by Cameron Montgomery (Education, Ottawa) entitled, “Anxiety and Perceived English and French Language Competence of Education Students.”

Interdisciplinary Research Group in Languages and Technology (GRILT)
Led by Marie-Josée Hamel
During the year, the IRGILT took part in several events and projects, including the following:

1. On September 28, Diana Inkpen, from the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and a member of the IRGILT, presented a seminar at the Text Analysis and Machine Learning Group (TAMALE) conference. Her presentation entitled, “Applications of Social Media Text Analysis”, focused on current research in Natural Language Processing (NLP) techniques, specifically on innovative approaches in linguistic information technology for social media monitoring in security or healthcare;
2. On March 18, the IRGILT invited Simon Collin (UQAM) to host a forum on the topic of, “Usages numériques des migrants pour soutenir leur intégration linguistique : un aperçu de la situation.” The presentation is available on the CCERBAL website;
3. Since last summer, the IRGILT has been working on MyAnnotation, a pilot project that combines engineering, teaching and applied linguistics. Marie-Josée Hamel and Nikolay Slavkov from OLBI, and Diana Inkpen from the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science collaborated with Dingwen Xiao, a Carleton University Master’s graduate, to create a bilingual proofreading tool. The initiative received financial support from TLSS as part of the implementation initiative for blended language.

In addition to Mélissa Pesant, already mentioned among the graduates of the MA in Bilingualism Studies, another GRILT member graduated this year. In March Reza Farzi defended a PhD thesis entitled, “Taming Translation Technology for L2 Writing: Documenting the Use of Free Online Translation Tools by ESL Students in writing Courses,” under the supervision of Luise Von Flotow (Translation and Interpretation) and Marie-Josée Hamel (OLBI).
The Language Assessment Sector supports OLBI and the University in our shared commitment to promoting bilingualism in Canada's official languages. Our engagement in this mission was demonstrated by our major accomplishments in language test development and administration as well as research.

OLBI Working Papers

This year, the OLBI Working Papers in partnership with the School of Information Studies provided experiential learning opportunities to students registered in Heather Morrison’s graduate course, The Publishing Business: Transformations and Opportunities (ISI 6314). This partnership resulted in recommendations for improved visibility of the publication, modifications of the author guidelines, and registration in additional international databases.

Nikolay Slavkov, Editor-in-Chief of the Papers, and Bojan Lalovic, OLBI’s Documentalist, represented the publication during Open Access Week at the University (October 19-23). They also attended presentations by SSHRC and NSERC officers on the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications, and by the Executive Director of the Canadian Research Knowledge Network on viable publishing models for Canadian research journals.

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP)

This year two students in the DLS program were UROP recipients. They were Alexandre Marotte, supervised by Jérémie Séror, and Stephanie Marshall, supervised by Nikolay Slavkov. The students were each awarded a $1000 stipend by the Office of Undergraduate Research and their supervisors each received a $500 research supplement. The students prepared posters for the UROP Symposium held on campus on April 24 and Alexandre came in second place in the Social Sciences and Humanities category for his poster, entitled “L’interaction avec l’autre Vers un développement linguistique et identitaire.”

The Language Assessment Sector supports OLBI and the University in our shared commitment to promoting bilingualism in Canada’s official languages. Our engagement in this mission was demonstrated by our major accomplishments in language test development and administration as well as research.
The Language Assessment Sector by the numbers

We already have a well-established reputation for building and administering language testing tools of the highest possible standards in English and French for a variety of purposes. This year, we focused more on strategic planning: developing a five-year plan for the sector and engaging in a costing exercise of all activities and testing operations. These planning activities have helped us determine our priorities for growth and outreach—both within the uOttawa community and externally.

Accomplishments in Language Test Development and Administration

Test Development:
- Revised and updated the English and French speaking tasks for the Second Language Certification Test;
- Developed a new receptive skills test for professors;
- Consulted with the EIP about moving to integrated tasks for their final exams;
- Conducted training sessions for CanTEST evaluators at our official sites; and
- Collaborated with the EIP teachers in test development and improving test literacy.

Test Administration:
- Signed contract for the development and hosting of new online test (October);
- Worked on customization of the product to meet our needs (expected launch July 2016); and
- Worked with OLBI’s BA committee to revise the course delivery model for FLS3500 and ESL3100, which lead to the Bilingualism Certificate.

Outreach

Partnerships and External Contracts:
- Implemented test delivery contract with the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC);
- Developed a new oral proficiency test for CMHC; and
- Became a test centre for the Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC) and the Test de français international (TFI).

Test Validation Research Projects Begun or Completed
We began or continued six test validation projects. Two of these projects were completed as part of the course requirements in the Language Assessment course of our MA Program in Bilingualism Studies.

1) Revising test specifications for the listening component of a high-stakes English assessment: A conceptual and data-driven approach
   Project Lead: Angel Arias, Test Validation Officer

2) Testing bilingualism: Incorporating translanguaging into a listening task for university professors
   Project Leads: Amelia Hope, Head, Language Testing Services; Beverly Baker, Director, Language Assessment

3) Re-evaluating commonly held views of residual-based fit statistics in language assessment research: Rasch analysis of the CanTEST listening subtest
   Project Lead: Angel Arias, Test Validation Officer

4) Skimming, scanning, and reading comprehension: An exploration of construct through exploratory factor analysis
   Project team: Angel Arias, Test Validation Officer; Beverly Baker, Director, Language Assessment; Amelia Hope, Head, Language Testing Services

5) Oral admissions testing for university entrance: Interactive functions and perceptions of anxiety
   Project Supervisor: Beverly Baker, Director, Language Assessment
   Research Team: OLBI MA Students (Joselyn Brooksbank, Valerie Kolesova, Jessica McGregor, and Mélissa Pesant); University of Ottawa PhD student (Irina Goundareva)

6) An examination of the Reading Subtest of the Second Language Certification Test in French (FLS 3500)
   Project Supervisor: Beverly Baker, Director, Language Assessment
   Research Team: Joanne Asselin, Mitra Bahmannia, Xavier-Oscar Mou, Bernice Ofiri and Danielle Takoff
This sector promotes OLBI’s areas of expertise including language planning through partnerships that heighten both the University’s and OLBI’s reputations as centres of excellence for analysis, research, and innovation. In addition, it oversees the Second Language Intensive Programs mentioned earlier.

**Development and Promotion**

**Partnerships for Internationalization**

We worked very closely with several services on campus including the International Office, the Academic Writing Help Centre, and Career Services, in order to offer optimal support to international students during their studies. In addition, we underwrote international recruitment efforts when University goals coincided with our own objectives, especially activities in SLIP.

Assistant Director, Development and Promotion Lise Bazinet was invited by Universities Canada and Languages Canada to represent bilingual institutions at the Canada-Brazil Forum: Mobility vs Internationalization in São Paulo in March. The Forum brought together representatives from Brazilian universities and the Ministry of Education, whose Idiomas sem fronteiras department (Languages without Borders) promotes the teaching of English and French in the country and abroad to students from the elementary to the postsecondary level.

**International Association of Language Commissioners (IALC) Conference**

Through a partnership with the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages of Canada, we obtained a contract to organize a major conference for the IALC. This dovetailed nicely with our existing responsibility for managing the IALC website. The conference was held on May 20 and 21 on campus and welcomed 132 participants from around the world, on the topic of PROTECTING Language Rights | PROMOTING Linguistic Pluralism. It was webcast to members world-wide who unable to travel to Ottawa and excerpts are available online from the OLBI home page.

**Concours de français langue seconde**

We held the 40th annual French as a Second Language games over two days in May. One hundred and twenty-five students came from three local school boards, the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, the Ottawa Catholic School Board, and the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario. They competed for thousands of dollars in admission scholarships, a school trophy, an individual plaque, and many additional prizes.

Organizers, led by OLBI’s Monika Jezak, relied on the assistance of the French language coordinators in each board and over 30 teachers in various French Immersion programs across the region. These games cap students’ experiences in grades 11 and 12, and admission scholarships are transferable to a later year if students are not ready to start university just yet.
Committees of the Faculty of Arts

Promotion and Recruitment Committee

The Faculty of Arts created a Committee on Promotion and Recruitment on which Lise Bazinet was invited to serve as a consultant, based on her business experience at OLBI. Three projects were set up this year:

1. Professor-Ambassadors Program: 73 free courses and workshops of 45-75 minutes by Arts professors (including several from OLBI) given in secondary schools during the school year, showcasing our fields of teaching and research;
2. Arts-Engineering Week: a new summer camp for teens aged 13-16 to be held in July 2016, offered in partnership with the Faculty of Engineering whose own camps have run successfully for decades;
3. Personal Enrichment Program: workshops for the general public held at the Centre for Continuing Education on fascinating topics related to areas of teaching and research in the Faculty.

Web Committee

The Faculty of Arts set up a committee for its website and those of all its departments, schools and institutes, in order to improve their structure while increasing their performance using the Drupal platform chosen by the University for its accessibility. The Committee called on Mélanie Cossette, OLBI’s Marketing and Communications Officer, to serve in order to share her best practices on relevant web content that is also easy to surf, thereby recognizing OLBI’s website leadership.

Executive in Residence

Hilaire Lemoine, who had been associated with OLBI since its inception and who helped draft its terms of reference in 2007, retired in the fall. He was replaced by federal civil servant Roger Farley, for a one-year mandate. OLBI benefits from his wide knowledge of the cultural field. In December, Roger hosted a half-day intensive workshop to 18 professors and personal members to develop their intercultural skills and help them navigate between different cultural environments. Each participant received personal debriefing (45 minutes) on their test results. This was particularly beneficial for staff and teachers in the SLIP whose student body is composed almost 100% of international students.

In Other Words
Monthly E-Newsletter

2,619 subscribers

22% increase in 1 year

Impact Studies

On the occasion of its 6th annual meeting, the LRSP launched a call for papers for impact studies related to the event’s theme, which was “The Progression towards Equality of Status and Use of French and English in Canada.” The purpose of the call was to encourage research among young legal experts and promote innovation in the field of constitutional language rights. Following the call, three impact studies received funding and were presented by the two authors.

During the last year, two additional studies were also undertaken thanks to funding allocated by the LRSP, at $5,000 per project. The Impact Studies summaries are available on LRSP’s website, https://padl-lrsp.uOttawa.ca.

Collaboration

An increasing number of organizations who work in Official-Language Communities are seeking the LRSP’s collaboration on different types of projects. This year, the LRSP worked with four organizations to promote constitutional language rights in Canada:

1. Together with the Bar of Montreal, the Quebec Community Groups Network and the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, the LRSP helped organize the conference, “The Language of Statutes and Judgments” in October.
2. In September, the Société de l’Acadie et du Nouveau-Brunswick (SANB) and the LRSP launched a campaign to raise awareness about language rights in New-Brunswick.
3. In January, the LRSP collaborated with the Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française (FJCF) in hosting the Youth Parliament of Canada in which 120 young people from around Canada took part.
4. In March, the Manitoba Conseil jeunesse provincial (CJP) invited the LRSP to speak about language rights as part of their project on cultural identity and language rights.

Financing

The LRSP offers funding to help resolve conflicts related to constitutional language rights. The funding can be used to lead exploratory studies, to complete an alternative dispute resolution process, or to lodge lawsuits, interventions or appeals. Each year, the LRSP receives an increasing number of application for financing. For the third year in a row, the LRSP was forced to refuse certain applications because of funding shortfalls. The LRSP processed a total of 58 applications, of which 46 received funding, twice as many as last year.
Publications

Livres édités par l’auteur | Books Edited


Articles publiés dans des revues avec comité de lecture | Papers in Refereed Journals


Chapitres de livres avec comité de lecture | Chapters in Books


Toews Janzen, M. (2015, Oct.). Using folklore to promote communication and intercultural sharing. One hour workshop for 40 teachers at the TESL Canada Conference, Lake Louise, AB.


Communications orales | Papers read and Presentations


Bazinet, L. (2016, mars). Le lien entre les cours de langue et le succès universitaire. Congrès annuel des Langues Canada, Victoria, BC.


Hamel, M.-J. (2015, nov.). Relations linéales et collocaisons. Séminaire FREN9504, Langue, technologie et société, Université de Victoria, BC (Online).


Weinberg, A. (2016, Feb.). Discipline and language professors’ collaboration in the Ottawa immersion program. International Spring Conference 2016 organised by the Higher Education in Israel Network of English Teachers, Tel Aviv University, Israel.


Communications comme conférencier invité | Keynote Presentations

Cavo, C. & Hamel, M.-J. (2015, May). CALL ergonomics, a promising interdisciplinary field. Invited/Inaugural keynote to the 1st GRILT Symposium, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON.


Recensions d’ouvrage | Book Reviews

