BILINGUALISM MATTERS BRANCH
KONSTANZ, GERMANY
The launch, Jan. 24, 2014

Launch Zentrum für Mehrsprachigkeit
Ratssaal Stadt Konstanz

With Antonella Sorace

Peter Friedrich, Baden-Württemberg
Minister for European Affairs

Invited speakers
(Major of Konstanz, Vice Rector of Uni Konstanz, Foundation representatives, etc.)

Our team of student assistants
AthEME: Advancing the European Multilingual Experience

Dissemination: the AThEME research findings should be made available to and benefit a broader audience (general public, parents, teachers, policy makers).
Zentrum für Mehrsprachigkeit/
Center for Multilingualism

RESEARCH

INFORMATION

CONSULTATION
Information: Parent workshops

- **Parent Workshop:**
  Multilingual Upbringing / Multilingualism in early childhood

- Workshop for parents of Turkish background (together with the Department of Integration of the city of Kreuzlingen, Switzerland, CH)

- Workshop for Italian parents living in Germany on the benefits of a multilingual environment and education for children
Information: Multilingual Education

- Information on Language Assistance Programmes for multilingual children in day care centers

- „Let’s CLIL together“ conference on bilingual education for Foreign Language Teachers: Talk by T. Rinker (Comenius Project, City of Konstanz and City of Lodz, Poland)

- Participation in education information sessions for multilingual parents
Consultation

- Phone consultation for families, institutions, etc.
- Participation on board for refugee children
- Network for school and integration
- Meetings with language schools, advising the program for teachers at the university of Konstanz, etc.
- Interviews with local media and beyond
Multilingualism at the University

- **Seminar: Multilingualism at the University**
- **Winter terms 2014/15, 2015/2016, 2016/2017:** Lecture Series “Multilingualism” (regularly established now)
- **Project seminar** (Department of Linguistics & Department of Sociology) on Discrimination and Language
- **Seminar „Multilingualism in schools“** in collaboration with two local schools)
- **Teaching program on multilingualism in the classroom** (since April 2016)
Research Colloquium

- Since the initiation of the Center: monthly research colloquium: open to center members and guests
- Forum for ATHEME-researchers to present and discuss their current work
- External guests (V. Shafer (CUNY), E. Zettl (PH Kreuzlingen), M. Schmid (Essex), N. Budde (University of Ulm), Inci Dirim (Vienna), Maarten Kossmann (Leiden)
- Other university members working on topics related to multilingualism
Conferences „Multilingualism in Day Care and Schools“

October 2015 + September 2017: One day conference with internationally renowned speakers and more than 140 people who attended talks, participated in the discussions
Target audience

• Started out „wide open“ (adults, older and younger children, etc.)
→ Two new grants focus on multilingualism in the classroom
→ Large concern with changing societal conditions for politicians in Germany

Also: new stakeholders from the educational domain (Board of education, Italian consulate, etc.)
Project funding

- “Transferplattform: Multilingualism in Day Care and Primary Schools” (2015-2017)
  University of Konstanz, Excellence Funds
  162 800 Euro

- “Fostering academic language” (2016-2021)
  Ministry of Education, Research, Baden- Württemberg
  926 000 Euro
Current Members

**Director:** Tanja Rinker, **Co-Founder:** Janet Grijzenhout

AThEME Project members:
- Josef Bayer, Claudia Diehl, Constantin Freitag,
  Anne Gresser, Janet Grijzenhout, Monika Lindauer

Members project “Transferplattform: Multilingualism in Day Care and Primary Schools” / “Fostering academic language”
- Ramona Baumgartner, Frank Fuchshuber

Members project “Fostering academic language”
- Erkam Ekinci, Svenja Kornher

Other members:
- faculty and academic staff of the Departments of linguistics, literature, psychology and sociology
Contact:

mehrsprachigkeit@uni-konstanz.de

www.mehrsprachigkeit.uni-konstanz.de