

2nd IATIS Conference

SPECIAL PANEL

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Intercultural Workplace

Chair:

Aileen Pearson-Evans, Dublin City University, Ireland

Introduction

Increasing ethnic and cultural diversity in many contemporary societies, as well as major political changes such as the end of apartheid in South Africa, have highlighted the urgency of developing policies and programmes designed to enhance the experiences of people living, working and studying in multicultural, multi-ethnic and multilingual environments.

Research into the intercultural workplace seeks to understand how such diversity manifests itself in people's working lives, and how government, managers and other players can help shape the workplace so as to enhance individuals' experiences and the potential benefits of diversity for society in general.

Abstracts are invited for papers that address any aspect of the theoretical background or practical implementation of programmes related to interculturalism, multilingualism and/or multiculturalism in the workplace or in education.

Aims

This panel will focus on research into the shaping and functioning of contemporary intercultural workplaces. It seeks to investigate the different perspectives and experiences of all involved (managers, employees and customers) from majority/minority and host/migrant cultures. In educational institutions these groups translate into management, teachers and students. It aims to identify challenges posed to traditional structures/ policies/ attitudes/ norms in the workplace by increased cultural/ linguistic diversity and to highlight positive initiatives that facilitate intercultural communication and understanding between different groups.

Abstracts are invited for papers that address any aspect of the theoretical background or practical implementation of programmes related to interculturalism, multiculturalism and multilingualism in the workplace. Papers on the following areas would thus be particularly welcome: the intercultural campus, intercultural issues in health services, challenges for interpreters and translators in community interpreting (medical, law courts, etc), programmes and initiatives in different sectors that promote effective intercultural communication at work, etc.

Submission of Abstracts

Abstracts (maximum 300 words, in English) for 30-minute papers (including 10 minutes' discussion time) can be sent:

- by email to: aileen.pearson-evans@dcu.ie. Subject: IATIS Intercultural Workplace Panel

or

- by fax to: ++353 1 700 5527 (marked for the attention of Dr. Aileen Pearson-Evans)

Key Dates

- **Deadline for submitting abstracts:** 30th November 2005
- **Notification of acceptance of abstracts:** 15th January 2006