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Roundtable 4

Title of Presentation: POOLS-T Presenter: Kent Andersen

Email: ka@ots.dk

College / Organization: South Danish Vocational College Odense-Vejle

An automatic tool for producing CLIL (content and language integrated learning) materials

The presenter will demonstrate a free software tool which can automatically convert any text into a language teaching material suitable for CLIL (content and language integrated learning) and the POOLS-T project aims and objectives will be presented

POOLS-T proposes to develop software tools that can support teachers and their students working with CLIL (content and language integrated learning) including the LWUTL (less widely used and taught languages).

The application will convert texts and web pages to html pages where all words are hyperlinked to free online dictionaries covering many combinations of European languages. The application will have support for audio, video and graphics to enrich / support the text content.

The application produces standardized html scripts that do not require any plugins or software installations for the end users. The application will be CopyLeft with documented and commented open source which enables portability to other operating systems, further development, and ensures sustainability. The need for a free tool is also based on EURYDICE 2006 "Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) at School in Europe".

The application will have interfaces, guides for CLIL usage, and online DIY videos in DK, GR, NL, and EN.

CLIL and LWUTL teachers depend on developing own resources (EURYDICE 2005 report "Key Data on Teaching Languages at School in Europe"). The proposed application will automate part of this process and will also enable students to convert authentic technical materials into language learning / supporting units.

The need is also documented in the ICC report (2003) "The Impact of New Information Technologies and Internet on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.." concludes: "There will be a shift from passive consumption of ready-made programmes to independent building of content, tailor made for specifics groups or individuals"

The project outcomes will be disseminated through EfVET and EuroCall as well as at conferences. The project website builds on an existing website with 40.000+ documented individual visitors per year: www.languages.dk

The project results will enable a wider use of CLIL across Europe

The presenter will hand out the free POOLS-T software and DVDs with do it yourself instructions for developing online language teaching materials