

UKLEF Report of Communications and Membership Secretary to AGM, September 2009

Mailinglist

The ling-ethnog email list serves as the principal means of communication for UKLEF, used to circulate information about Forum activities and items of potential interest to members. It is hosted by jiscmail, the academic mailing list service.

Membership

New members can subscribe by contacting the Communications Secretary or through the jiscmail website. Most new members hear about UKLEF through contacts with other members, although a few come from searching the jiscmail system or coming across the website independently. As of 4 August 2008, the list has 251 subscribers. Since the last report (August 2008) 17 new members have signed up (see Table 1).

Year	Members	Increase
2003	129	
2004	146	17
2005	160	14
2006	173	13
2007	202	29
2008	234	32
2009	251	17

Table 1: Members per year

Members per country

Of the 251 members 129 are based in the UK, 66 in US and the remaining 56 are based in 21 different countries, mainly mainland Europe (see Table 2).

Country	Subscribers
Australia	7
Belgium	3
Canada	6
Denmark	2
Finland	2
France	1
Germany	2
Ireland	1
Israel	2
Italy	1
Japan	3
Netherlands	4
New Zealand	2
Norway	2
Russia	1
Spain	5
Sweden	6
Switzerland	3
Taiwan	1
Turkey	1
United Arab Emirates	1
United Kingdom	129
United States	66

Total number of users subscribed to the list: 251
Total number of countries represented: 23
Total number of local host users on the list: 0

Table 2: UKLEF subscribers by country, 21 August 2008.

Membership details updated

All new subscribers are asked to send the Communications Secretary details about their affiliation and research interests, and records of these make up the UKLEF membership database. In March 2009 we have updated our membership records, correcting the details of more than 60 members. The details of 20 members were deleted as their email accounts are no longer in use and alternative contact details could not be found via search engines.

Membership details on web

All members have given their consent for their contact details and research interests to be published on our website, www.ling-ethnog.org.uk. I hope that making this information publicly available will help bringing LE researchers together and foster debate.

Postings

The number of postings on the jiscmail list is fluctuating somewhat. In 2004, 17 postings were made, in 2005, 32, in 2006, 55, in 2007, 38, in 2008, 33. So far 26 postings have been made in 2009. All postings are relevant to its members. Table 2 contains some information on the kinds of postings in 2007 and 2008.

	2007	2008
Events, seminars, conferences, lectures and research training	23	16
Jobs and studentships	5	5
Surveys	2	-
LEF matters	6	9
Other	2	1
Spam	-	2
Total	38	33

Table 2: Postings on jiscmail list in 2007 and Jan – August 2008.

Website

This year I reconfigured our website (and in the process re-ordered the UKLEF archive), giving it a more contemporary design, with readily accessible the details of meetings, events, administration, presentations and papers, and members interests. See <http://www.ling-ethnog.org.uk>.

Jeff Bezemer, 4 August 2009.