

Brussels, Saturday 29 October 2016

Dear EULETAns,

The dust is finally settling after the immense success of EULETA's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference, organised in conjunction with Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) School of Management & Law (SML) in Winterthur. As a follow up, our first (quarterly) *EULETA Newsbrief from the Board* will offer you:

- **EULETA 2016 Conference** highlights
- Reviews/photos from the **Conference**
- An introduction to the **New EULETA Board**
- An outline of new and ongoing **EULETA Collaborations**
- A teaser of what to expect from the **EULETA 2017 Workshop**
- An invitation to appear in a new **EULETA Who's who? Members' Directory**
- An opportunity to acquire a retired **EULETA** member's **Legal English Library Collection**
- And, finally, a **last call for entries to the title competition** for our upcoming **EULETA E-Journal**

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## **EULETA 2016 Conference Highlights:**



*From Language to Law. Crossing Borders*

With the **EULETA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in Winterthur, Switzerland**, still fresh in the memory, many of its lingering high points have driven home the message that EULETA stands out across Europe and beyond in providing *the* dynamic interface between English language teaching and the Law that a multitude of diverse educational and business settings need...

**Prof. Dr. Patrick Krauskopf's (ZHAW, AGON Partners) opening plenary address** on the evolution of Competition Law in the European sphere didn't need to labour any points in convincing EULETAns that "without English one is only half a lawyer". And the difference between a good competition lawyer with mediocre English and a good competition lawyer with *good* legal English can mean billions of dollars for multinational companies, or even jail time for CEOs in some jurisdictions.

**We were taken on a truly fascinating journey during Renzo Simoni's** (CEO, AlpTransit Gotthard AG) step-by-step account of the ins and outs of the literally ground-breaking Gotthard Base Tunnel project (recently completed), which effectively connects as never before – via one smooth rail line – two of the most important European freight ports, Genoa and Rotterdam.

**Prof. Dr. Urs Schenker's (Walder Wyss AG) call for constant learning** all the way up the hierarchy of practising lawyers (and not just among junior practitioners) resonated with all those EULETAns who encounter the problem of knowledge gone stale or badly implemented. EULETA members will have taken away some beautiful quotes from Prof. Schenker, and much food for thought: "Often wrong but never in doubt (a common breed among lawyers)"; "The world evolves even for such a conservative breed as lawyers"; "Things change faster, more radically, and more often than we think"; and perhaps the best one: "With age, the self-confidence of lawyers increases [but] legal knowledge often decreases [...]. Practical

experience is vastly overrated". Experience, according to Prof. Schenker's delightfully humorous account, can simply set bad habits in place – like the "cultivated mannerisms" of English-sounding lawyerly discourse – and, given the evolving nature of International Law, Legal English *especially* needs constant refreshment.

We were thoroughly entertained at dinner by the charming and easy-to-digest irony and originality of **Richard Norman's (LL.M, AGON Partners UK) speech about Theresa May's [likely] one-hit wonder, "Brexit means Brexit"**. Oh, were we foolish enough to think it meant anything else Mrs May? Just *maybe*...

**Dr Mark Spittle (EPA) rounded off the plenary speeches** by posing some worrying questions on the potential slide in the status of English as an official language in the post-Brexit EU when it will in fact be the native language of less than 2% of EU member-state citizens. Might we be saying goodbye to patents and intellectual property rights in our own language?

**The EULETA 2016 Conference parallel sessions were equally diverse and appetising and ranged from Learning Skills, to Skills in Cross-border and Business Deals, to Practice Skills, to Communication Skills...**

It would be impossible to review each and every single presentation here but suffice it to say that the standard across the board was excellent and a wealth of fascinating new and exportable data, knowledge, and best practice was exchanged on topics such as (just some of them): *electronic learning resources for legal English; translatability and authenticity in multilingual law-drafting; planning legal English study trips abroad; the "Vienna Model" legal language teaching method; needs analysis for legal scholars/professionals; and novel and collaborative methods for law students to retain legal vocabulary*. All contributions are available at the main link below. Many thanks to EULETA presenters for such a high standard of work and for your original presentation techniques, keeping things lively even during the dreaded after-lunch sessions!

## **Reviews/Photos from the EULETA 2016 Conference**

With kind permission from **Adam Thomas and ZHAW**, we include/reproduce here a short message from the organisers and some links to further **reviews, photos and other material** from the **EULETA 2016 Conference**:

*Dear EULETA Conference Participants and Presenters,*

*I would like to thank you once again, from ZHAW, for joining and contributing to this important event! We've updated the folder where presentations are shared and added a few photos from the event. If you would like your presentation or a specific photo removed, please just let us know. We hope you all had a safe trip home and we're looking forward to seeing you at future events hosted around Europe.*

*Adam W. Thomas*

(School of Management and Law, Zurich University of Applied Sciences  
Head of International Accreditation, Staff Unit, Senior Lecturer, [thom@zhaw.ch](mailto:thom@zhaw.ch))

**Main Link:** [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0BzneozaTaBk\\_QUhJOEVIXzdySnc?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0BzneozaTaBk_QUhJOEVIXzdySnc?usp=sharing)

**Blog Links:** ZHAW: <https://update.sml.zhaw.ch/sml-hosted-10th-euleta-conference/>

**Business Spotlight:** <http://www.business-spotlight.de/blogs/ian-mcmaster/english-and-the-law>

**Graham Bassett:** <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/after-brexit-europe-post-cambridge-world-graham-bassett?trk=prof-post>

## Introducing the New EULETA Board:

As EULETA members are aware, a new board is elected for a two-year mandate at each Annual General Meeting held during the EULETA biennial conference. All EULETA members receive an invitation to the AGM, can stand for positions on the board, and can vote for board candidates. The latter usually serve not more than two consecutive mandates. Our warmest thanks go to the outgoing EULETA board: **Pauline Dodsworth** (President), **Myriam Farhand** (VP), **Barbara Born** (Treasurer), **András Petz** (Secretary), **Patrick Mustu** and **Mark Brophy**. Some of the above have been so generous with their time and energies as to serve on more than three consecutive boards: **special thanks to Barbara and Myriam!** And, fortunately for us on the new board, Mark has shown the bravery and resolve to remain (on board!) as our “pillar of continuity”.

### The New EULETA Board (as of 2 October 2016):

#### David Albert BEST (*President*)



**David** has lived and worked in Brussels since 2010. He has coordinated and taught courses on English for Law and EU multilingualism/translation since 2011 at the Faculty of Law and Criminology, Université Libre de Bruxelles. He is also a contributing lecturer on Roma 3 University Law Department’s Masters on “Law and the Humanities”, as well as editor-in-chief of EULETA’s upcoming new e-journal. He holds a degree in European Studies and a PhD in Italian Studies and has taught Italian language, literature and cultural studies at the Universities of Cork, St Andrews, and Trinity College Dublin, and English language and translation at the Università degli studi di Napoli ‘l’Orientale’. His publications range from articles on 20th/21st-century Italian literature, to editing and translating *The Language of Europe: Multilingualism and Translation in the EU Institutions* (Presses universitaires de Bruxelles, 2014), to more recent essays in the field of EU [legal] translation and terminology.

#### Franz J. HEIDINGER, LL.M. (Virginia) (*Vice-President*)



**Franz** is a trained lawyer and linguist who practices law as a founding partner of Alix Frank Rechtsanwälte GmbH in Vienna, Austria, focusing on domestic and international contract work, labor law, IP law and arbitration. Working as a linguist, he is a court appointed and certified interpreter for English as well as a board member of the Austrian Association of Certified Court Interpreters and majority owner of TRANSLEX Büro für juristische Fachübersetzungen GmbH, the Austrian market leader for legal language translation. Since 1987 Franz has authored and published several books and articles on the Anglo-American Legal System and Anglo-American Legal English. He has developed and implemented law and language curricula for universities and bar associations under the label “*Anglo-Amerikanische Rechtssprache – The Vienna Model*” (implemented inter alia at the law faculties of the Universities of Vienna and Graz) and established the “*Vienna Legal Language Proficiency Certificate*” (Vienna LLP) for lawyers and lawyer-linguists. Franz is the proud father of two daughters and lives in Vienna, Austria.

#### Matt FIRTH (*Treasurer*)



**Matt** teaches Legal English at the University of St. Gallen and holds regular training seminars for lawyers, judges, and business people in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. He has authored several online

courses for TransLegal, where he works as Director of Production. His most recent project with TransLegal is the *World Law Dictionary*, a dictionary of law written primarily for lawyers working in English as a lingua franca. Matt's other work includes running teacher-training sessions and designing materials for Legal English. He has had several titles published by Cambridge University Press. These include *Introduction to International Legal English*, a series of teachers' books in Academic English, and several sets of online workbooks. Matt is also a regular contributor for the magazine *Business Spotlight*.

**Adam W. THOMAS (Secretary)**



**Adam** is currently Head of International Accreditation at Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), School of Management and Law (SML), Switzerland. He received his Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from Saint Michael's College (Vermont, USA, 2010), and has been with ZHAW since 2011 and continues to teach Legal English. Adam has experience managing large teams of teachers tasked with developing the strategies and direction necessary for the continued success of their students. Among the greatest challenges are anticipating the technological and linguistic needs of students as they enter a rapidly evolving working environment. As a teacher, Adam is passionate about enabling autonomous learning among students and helping them develop the skills for overcoming the linguistic challenges they face in their careers and personal lives. As a manager, he aims to involve experts in future developments in language teaching and to support his team of teachers in their quests to provide effective and contemporary learning environments.

**Halina SIEROCKA (Unspecified portfolio)**



**Halina** is a lawyer-linguist, expert in legal discourse and translator. Her PhD dissertation concerned designing and implementing courses of English for legal purposes and, apart from teaching Legal English, she is interested in English for Specific Purposes (ESP), Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL), and team teaching. Halina is Assistant Professor at the Białystok Legal English Centre, Faculty of Law, University of Białystok where she teaches and carries out research. She has authored the Legal English textbook for law students, *Legal English – Niezbędnik przyszłego prawnika* (which received the European Language Label 2013 award granted to the most innovative language learning projects in EU countries), and the monograph, *Curriculum Development for Legal English Programs*, published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing, as well as a number of articles and reviews on teaching English for Specific Purposes and English for Legal Purposes.

**Mark BROPHY (Unspecified portfolio)**



**Mark** was born in the UK and after graduating in Management Sciences from Manchester University spent a few years working in industry and IT in various locations in the UK. Adventure took him to Italy where he retrained as an English Teacher. After going freelance in the mid-1990s, he set up [www.english-training.it](http://www.english-training.it) in 2002 (serving multinationals), then branched out to teach Legal English in 2004. In 2012, he set up [www.monzaLegal.com](http://www.monzaLegal.com) with students who attended the Legal English courses run with the local law society. He has served as a school governor for 7 years at the schools his children attend and is an active member of a local cultural society in Italy ([www.omilia.it](http://www.omilia.it)).

## New and Ongoing EULETA Collaborations:

One of the principal activities of EULETA is the conception and nurturing of collaborative projects to broaden and better define the hybrid discipline lying at the interface between Language and Law which is Legal English, to innovate and improve the teaching of Legal English, and to share knowledge and tools to both these ends. Much of the material available in the **Members** section of [www.euleta.org](http://www.euleta.org) is the result of just such past projects and synergies. Don't forget to log in to see what you can avail of (or indeed what you might propose) as a EULETA member, including really useful pages featuring the best of **Past events**, a host of lesson **Materials**, a list and in-depth reviews of suggested **Course books**, an overview of the **Education Committee's** work, an interactive **Blog**, space for posting/hearing about **Job offers**, a directory of EULETA **Country reps**, and an overview of EULETA **Governance**. Our conferences and workshops are veritable hotbeds and incubators of innovation in teaching methods and tools development, and both the formal and the social brainstorming sessions that these events entail always lead to the launch of new projects. Here are some of the most recent initiatives or synergies launched or carried forward by EULETA since **Passau 2015** (workshop) and **Winterthur 2016** (conference):

→The **EULETA Education Committee** was set up in October 2015 (post-Passau) to focus on education projects and programmes to benefit EULETA members, Legal English students and teachers, and the development of Legal English at large. The **EULETA Education Committee** provides an outlet for greater active participation by members in achieving the aims of EULETA as well as benefitting members at the individual, corporate, and institutional levels. The **EULETA Education Committee** is *ad hoc* in nature and has no formal elections, chair, or standing membership. If you have an idea that you are prepared to steer through to fruition, then you are welcome to submit it to the **EULETA Board**. Some of the ideas which the **EULETA Education Committee** are currently developing are: Issues specifically focused on our academic members; Issues of interest to language schools; Teacher training programmes; **EULETA** accredited courses; **EULETA** E-Journal; Legal English Exam/Testing needs analysis.

→The **EULETA Legal English Teacher Training Manual. A resource kit for entry-level legal English teachers** (can be downloaded from [www.euleta.org](http://www.euleta.org) in the **Members** section), initially conceived and coordinated by Paul Cooper, Czech Republic; experience, time, and ideas given by the following **EULETAns**: James Arnold (UK), David Best (Belgium), Aleksandra Łuczak (Poland), András Petz (Hungary), Alison Wiebalck (Switzerland). This is the first **EULETA Education Committee** project to have been brought to fruition and is designed as a "starter pack" particularly with the new Legal English teacher in mind.

→The **EULETA E-Journal** – Since the last **EULETA** workshop (Passau, September 2015), a small core of **EULETA Education Committee** members, initially inspired and given direction by Paul Cooper, have been working on an electronic journal project to host output produced both by **EULETA** members and others in the international community of Legal English teachers and scholars. The project is now in its final stages and has been accepted provisionally for publication by the University of Rome III's E-Press (though we still need to settle on a definitive title, see **Title competition**: [www.euleta.org](http://www.euleta.org)). The **EULETA E-Journal** will offer a platform for the publication of information, research and working papers, pedagogical tools and views which enable teachers/practitioners and researchers in Legal English to contribute to the continued broadening of their field and to keep abreast of developments therein. The **EULETA E-Journal** will publish articles, reviews, and conference/workshop proceedings on all aspects of Legal English Teaching as it occurs in the contexts of academic study, scholarly exchange, and professional or workplace situations. A wide range of linguistic, educational, and practice-related topics may be treated from the perspective of ESP, including teaching methodology and teacher training, student/client needs and learning-context analysis, testing and development of assessment methods, materials and tools development and appraisal, research writing and

other drafting techniques, and speaking at all academic and professional levels pertaining to Legal English Teaching. All topics relevant to Legal English and the teaching/learning of this hybrid discipline within ESP/Linguistics/Law/Business studies may fall within the scope of the journal.

**Goals (cultural and academic) of the EULETA E-Journal:**

1. Promote and support research publications on the teaching and training of Legal English;
2. Provide a peer-reviewed outlet under the auspices of **EULETA** for teachers, trainers and researchers in the field of Legal English to publish research findings;
3. Provide a career-enhancing incentive under the auspices of **EULETA** for research in the field of teaching and learning legal English;
4. Provide an open-access repository for scholarly articles in the field of Teaching and Learning Legal English;
5. Assist in the identification and recognition of the Teaching of Legal English as a specialised discipline within the broader field of language learning, applied languages, and ESP;
6. Enable parallels and contrasts to be identified with other ESP fields and thus enhance the identity and bolster the academic field of Legal English;
7. Assist in the identification of Teachers of Legal English as specialised language professionals within the broader field of language teaching and learning;
8. Foster transdisciplinary dialogue between academics who are teaching and researching in the field of Legal English within the language-teaching domain and in other disciplines;
9. Foster dialogue between academics and professionals who are working in the field of Legal English, i.e. public sector-private sector dialogue and educator-practitioner dialogue.

→**EULETA E-Journal: Title Competition** last call for entries to the title competition, via the website: [www.euleta.org](http://www.euleta.org)

→**EULETA Study Trips/Legal Tours**: For some years now, our fellow **EULETA**n, Mark Brophy, has been running **Legal Tours**, essentially city-trips across Europe comprising study visits to legal institutions and seminars hosted by legal, law-related or educational establishments. For the past two years, these have been organised in conjunction with **EULETA** and opened to all members: the scope for further development of the concept is vast and all members can get involved. Mark teamed up with András Petz and **EULETA** to conduct **Budapest Legal 2015**, and continued the trend with another tour, co-organised by David Best and **EULETA**, **Brussels Legal 2016**, which took in visits to some of the European institutions, a visit and seminars held at Brussels University Law Faculty, and a guided tour of the gargantuan Brussels Palais de Justice.

→**EULETA Exam Development Working Group(s)**: One of the most recent initiatives to come out of **EULETA** is the formation of a network of dedicated study groups consisting of cross-border collaborations to conduct needs analysis and ground work for the future preparation of an **international Legal English exam** in replacement of the Cambridge-endorsed “International Legal English Certificate” (*ILEC*), which was withdrawn in 2015. Various hubs are at work in different parts of Europe to this end and are in contact and liaise regularly through **EULETA**. Do not hesitate to get involved if you have something to contribute!

**Don't hesitate to get involved more widely with EULETA!**

**If you have an idea that you wish to put forward, or are prepared help steer through to fruition, either as part of an **Education Committee project** or as an independent initiative, then you are most welcome to submit it to the Board!**

[contact@euleta.org](mailto:contact@euleta.org)

## What to expect from EULETA 2016-2017:

We have just received confirmation that the next **EULETA Workshop** will be held on **Saturday 23 September 2017, in Brno, Czech Republic**, hosted by the state-of-the-art Masaryk University Language Centre and organised by our colleagues-fellow **EULETAns**, Stepanka Bilová and her team at the MU Law Faculty/Language Centre: <https://www.cjv.muni.cz/en/>.

The overarching theme of the workshop will be: **Enhancement of Writing Skills in Legal Contexts**. **EULETA** members will be offered special rates at several Brno city-centre hotels. Please come forward if you or your organisation would like to offer co-sponsorship for this high-visibility and important Central European event!

## New EULETA *Who's who?* Members' Directory

Fellow **EULETAns** need to be able to contact one another and see what's going on in the dynamic and ever-evolving sphere of Legal English throughout **EULETA**, across Europe, and in the world beyond. One of the final proposals to emerge at the Winterthur 2016 AGM – but clearly not the least, given its fundamental use-value – is a members-only website-based **EULETA *Who's who?* Members' Directory** to provide us with horizontal access to one another. All members will be receiving an invitation to forward their contact details and a short profile (with photo/video link) for inclusion in the **Members' Directory**. Naturally, the directory will be consent-based and inclusion is not automatic but only activated on receipt of your profile and express willingness to be included. Profiles may be voluntarily submitted to [contact@euleta.org](mailto:contact@euleta.org).

## Opportunity to acquire a Legal English Library Collection:

Long-serving and now-retired **EULETA** member, Paul Cooper, wishes to make way on his bookshelf for his growing **LALe** library (*Life after Legal English*). He has about 30 LE books for sale either individually or preferably in one lot. These would form an excellent core for an individual, academic, language school, or institutional collection. For the complete list of titles, and expressions of interest, please contact Paul directly at [peakaysea@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:peakaysea@yahoo.co.uk).

**Last Call to Action: submit your suggested EULETA e-journal title! Via the website: [www.euleta.org](http://www.euleta.org)**

The very best wishes for a warm, fulfilling and successful autumn on behalf of the EULETA Board,



David Albert BEST (President)  
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