

Current Issues In Language Planning

Call for Papers

Current Issues in Language Planning (ISSN 1466-4208), published since 2000 and by Routledge since 2008, provides major summative and thematic studies, and book reviews, spanning and focusing the disparate language policy and planning literature related to: Politics & Language Planning, and Issues in Language Planning. All papers submitted to the journal will be refereed.

Current Issues in Language Planning is announcing a Call for Papers for a forthcoming issue on “Language Planning and Medium of Instruction”

The use of a language of wider communication in place of or in addition to a local or national language as the medium of instruction is increasingly becoming a common feature of language policy and planning in polities across the world. This dominant aspect of language in education planning has its origin in the European colonization of Asian, African and South American nations. Educating the colonized in the knowledge, values and norms of the West through the colonial language was an ideological imperative which was served the practical needs required for continuing colonial rule. The end of colonial rule brought an opportunity for colonized nations to do away with colonial languages and introduce local/national languages as medium of education. However, although initial attempts to switch to local languages were made in a few polities, it was more common to adopt ex-colonial languages as medium of education. In continuing with colonial languages in the post-colonial period, many polities were driven by three major discourses: a) local/national languages were not modern or developed enough to take the role of medium of instruction; b) colonial languages were a neutral choice in the context of ethnolinguistic conflicts; c) using the target language as medium of instruction was an efficient model of second language pedagogy. While such discourses are prevalent across polities, globalization and the global spread of English have created more bottom-up pressure for adopting this language of wider communication as medium of instruction. In addition to developing national language ability to participate in the global economy, English is used as medium of instruction to internationalize local/national education and to attract overseas students which is a noteworthy feature of more recent medium of instruction policy in many polities.

The dominance of languages of wider communication in general and English in particular as medium of instruction raises a number of educational, linguistic, socio-economic, political and socio-cultural issues which have started receiving attention in the language planning literature. This special issue of *Current Issues in Language Planning* aims to contribute to this literature by inviting contributions from researchers on the following, but not limited to, topics:

- Medium of instruction at different levels and systems of education;
- Effectiveness and outcomes of medium of instruction policy;
- Medium of instruction and materials development / availability;
- Medium of instruction and bilingualism;
- Medium of instruction and social and community pressure;

- Medium of instruction and national/social identity;
- Social consequences of medium of instruction policy and planning;
- Medium of instruction and internationalization of education;
- Medium of instruction and local linguistic ecology;
- Medium of instruction and 'mother tongue' education;
- Medium of instruction and international schools; and
- Medium of education and implications for teacher education.

The Editors for this issue are Richard Baldauf <richard.baldauf@bigpond.com>, Obaid Hamid <m.hamid@uq.edu.au>. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is 30 June 2012. The deadline for receipt of the final papers is 1 November 2012. Abstracts and papers may be submitted at any time, and may be available on-line before the printed issue appears. (Papers received after the deadline may not be considered for publication.) The issue is scheduled for print publication in 2013.

Abstract (approx. 250–300 words):

Author's biodata (approx. 100 words):

Author's contact details: