AICLU
ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA
CENTRI LINGUISTICI UNIVERSITARI

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Language Centre of the University of Pavia, in collaboration with the Italian Association of University Language Centres (AICLU), is pleased to announce the XIII AICLU Conference, to be held on 20th and 21st June 2024.

Conference Title: "The role of Language Centres in the Internationalisation of Higher Education"

Following the provisions of the Bologna process, over the past few decades internationalisation has become one of the core strategic areas of development for higher education institutions (Eurydice Bologna Process Implementation Report, 2020).

Internationalisation can be defined as the process of integrating an international, intercultural, or global dimension into the purpose, functions or delivery of postsecondary education (Knight, 2003). In keeping with the core mission of universities, internationalisation provides opportunities for generating and disseminating knowledge, but at the same time, due to its complex nature and to the strategic, economic and organizational efforts it entails, it can also present challenges and risks (Hunter et al., 2023; Knight, 2011; Stein 2021). In particular, a crucial aspect for the success of the internationalisation process is represented by the quality of foreign language learning/teaching and training offered by the higher education community (Lasagabaster & Doiz, 2021).

In the Italian context, Language Centres are integral to developing the linguistic competencies required by the successful implementation of the internationalisation process as they support mobility for all academic stakeholders and offer pedagogical assistance and language support to students, teachers and administrative staff members across the faculties. Moreover, they serve as vital hubs for facilitating effective communication, cultural exchange, and academic collaboration among diverse communities.

By bringing together stakeholders to share best practices, disseminate research, foster collaboration, and raise awareness, the conference will stimulate discussions on the strategic role of Language Centres in the broader context of institutional internationalisation strategies and on shaping a more interconnected, culturally enriched, and globally competent generation of students and scholars.

Areas of interest for proposals include, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- supporting exchange (Erasmus & Overseas) and study-abroad programmes;
- English-Medium Instruction (EMI) and Integrating content and language in Higher Education (ICLHE);
- promoting language learning networks within internationalisation programmes;
- intercultural learning and multilingualism;
- supporting internationalisation at home.

Speakers will have 20 minutes to present their papers, followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Languages of presentation: English, Italian, French, German, and Spanish.

Abstracts of max. 250 words (not including references) written in Italian or English should be submitted using the form available on the conference website by 31st January 2024. Notification of acceptance will be sent by 28th February 2024.

Further information will soon be available on the seminar website: https://cla.unipv.it/AICLU2024

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