



This newsletter is published under the responsibility of the Board of the International Federation for Information Processing - Intersteno - and sent to all e-mail addresses of persons participating in the work of the members of Intersteno known to the Board. Contributions to the newsletter can be sent using the form on the web site www.intersteno.org. Publication will take place at the discretion of the Board.

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A good start in 2011!

Intersteno Board and the Steering Committee of the 48th Congress wish you all the best in this New Year, carefully preparing to meet you in Paris.



Latest news Paris congress



From 15th January next it will be possible to register to the Congress and Competitions on www.intersteno.org.

Registration form is available in English - French - German - Czech and in Italian on www.intersteno.it.

Competitors can register up to 31st May and by the same day the participation fees must be sent to the account indicated by the French Group.

CHINESE REGISTRATIONS - Very important!

All Chinese registrations must be sent via Beijing Stenographic Association, so please contact this organization - Tel: +86(10)51298100 - ADD:15C1 T2 NO.1 XIHUAN PLAZA XIZHIMENWAI STREET XICHENG DISTRICT BEIJING 100044 P.R.CHINA - Mr. Liao Qing (sinosteno@yahoo.com.cn).

感谢您关注于 2011 年巴黎国际速联大会及比赛的注册。根据有关规定, 所有中国公民必须向北京市速记协会(中国中文信息学会速记专业委员会)提交申请, 并经过有关部门的审核。请直接与中国中文信息学会速记专业委员会联系相关事宜, 恕不接受来访。地址: 北京市 西城区 西环广场 T2 座 15C1 邮编: 100044 电话: 51298100 联系人: 廖清 电子邮件: sinosteno@yahoo.com.cn

BUSES FOR PARIS: over 200 persons already booked.

Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic are arranging transport to Paris via bus: 80 persons from Germany have already booked this trip with accommodation. Another group of about 80 persons is on the waiting list from the Czech Republic while there are another 25 from Austria.



Congratulations to the organizers!

CONFERENCES - Call for papers and criteria for the Conference day.

Globalization increases the need for fast and accurate written communications: fast writing methods play an important role in supporting ICT technology to reach this goal thus helping in eliminating the communication barrier even in one-to-one meetings as well as from distant places and in different languages.

These opportunities demand professional expertise, which must be fostered and attained with good training. Online teaching for students and teachers offers affordable and reliable tools for improving current training programmes. Lectures and discussions will deeply address these topics

- Deadline for all applications is April 15th 2011. Later applications cannot be considered.
- The number of scheduled speeches is 12. If more applications are received the selection of speeches to be delivered in Paris will be made by the Intersteno Board. The decision of the Board is final.
- Final confirmation of the speeches scheduled for the Congress will be communicated on May 15th.
- All documents and relevant media to be used during the presentation in Paris must be sent in not later than July 1st.
- For a better understanding of your research context, please send us two or three previous publications of you/your group, which are related to the topic you intend to address in Paris (in pdf or giving the URL for download).
- Presentation time in Paris is 20 min, discussion time 5 min for each speech. Please use conferences@intersteno.org for any communication on this subject.
- Reports must be in the English language and personally released during the Congress by one of the authors.
- If requests outnumber the 12 speeches, the final texts will be included into the final report of the Congress.

Competition rules for Paris

The competition rules for our next worldwide championship have been updated and they are available on our website at the page: "Competition - Competition Regulations" and are also available at the page 'Paris2010'.

English, French and German versions have been prepared and we thank Jari Niittuinperä, Boris Neubauer, Mark Golden and Waltraut Dierks for their support.

Clear words

Beginning with the Board meeting in Sprimont on January 2008, all subsequent Council and Board meeting were arranged by sending in advance the reports of the President and Secretary for a better evaluation and comments by the participants.

These reports were not only focused on giving an overview of what had happened in the previous period but also contained considerations and thoughts about facts and challenges impacting the life of our federation.

In addition, several messages were sent to the country representative in order to collect information on their activities and asking in what way the Board could foster interest in Intersteno in all countries.

I think it useful to publish here the last report which was released at the end of August and consists of 9 pages with an overview of the last 10 years of Intersteno, so that everybody can be fully acquainted with its content.

All previous reports are available to the country representatives, who can read them in the Reserved Area of the home page of our website.

I take this occasion to thank our Secretary-Treasurer, Mr Danny Devriendt, for the work and support he has given in preparing these reports.

The Board will be grateful for any additional comments you would like to share with us. Your comments will be useful when taking decisions during the Board meeting which will take place in Milano from 28-30 January next.

Please send your comments to board@intersteno.org.

Gian Paolo Trivulzio

President's report for the Council Meeting in Budapest - 2nd October 2010

Dear Friends,

Many thanks for joining this meeting in such large numbers and thanks for the efforts you have made to be here, since I know that you have had to overcome professional and family problems, as well as to manage the relevant costs in the light of the current economic situation which is hindering our countries-

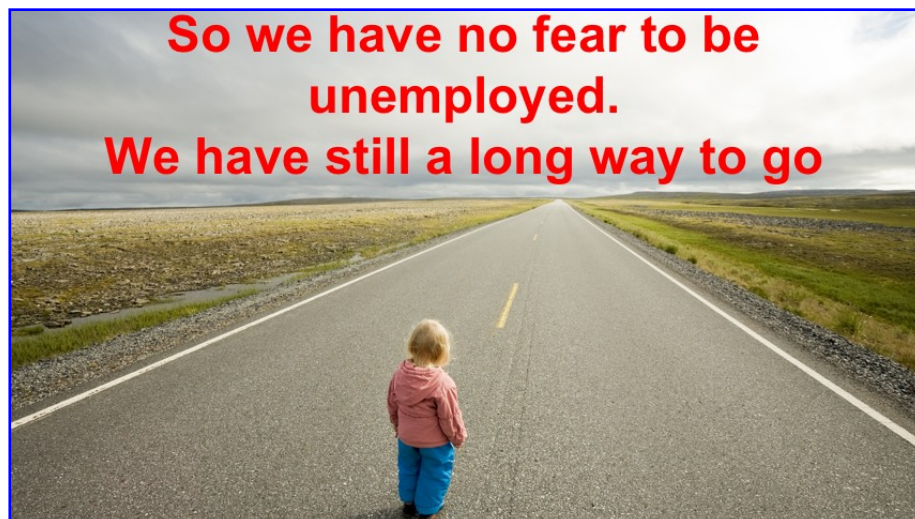
We have first of all to remember our Honorary Presidents who left this world in the last few months: **Prof. Flaviano Rodriguez (Italy)** on 3rd May 2010 and **Ms. Marija Tomc (Croatia)** on 16th May 2010.

I will release a short speech during our meeting, and I am sure you will agree to have a moment of silence in their memory.

This message is sent in advance so that you can read and eventually translate in your language, but especially so that you can think about the topics mentioned in it and be able to open a discussion in Budapest. It is not only formal approval of the report of the President and the Secretary which is needed; we must also discuss on what has not been done, and define what must be done.

I think you all are aware of the importance of the Council meetings between the Congresses, since on this occasion we can quietly devote our time to exchanging ideas for a better understanding of the situation of our Federation, and take decisions for its better management.

Some of you will possibly recall that in Poland (Tichy 2008) I concluded my message about the future of Intersteno by saying that we must not fear to be unemployed, since many of the goals set up in our Constitution still need to be implemented.



Of course, during the last two years, we have taken a few steps ahead, and you can evaluate the activity undertaken after the Congress in Beijing in the pages following our report.

On this occasion I have to thank a lot all members of Board. It is not a ritual thanks but a sincere appreciation of the work they have done, even when they had to act under pressure because they were busy for professional and personal affairs.

I owe the same non-ritual thanks to the Jury members who did a lot of work (under the direction of our Jury President Ms Georgette Sante) aimed at improving the information and the procedures for the successful continuation of our competitions. I know the very big efforts they made in Beijing, where the shortage of assistants, the difficulties in communication and in some case the low quality of contributions needed special attention. Fortunately all problems were overcome with satisfaction and no major problems arose. It is in any case an area to which we have to pay additional attention.

Historia magistra vitae (said our Latin ancestors). History is life's teacher, Geschichte (ist) Lehrmeisterin des Lebens, L'Histoire maîtrise notre vie.

This is true only if we remember what happened and if we are able to apply the right vision to our events. Simply repeating the experience can be dangerous and frequently leads to big mistakes.

The New Millennium began with the great hope that everything had to go well with none of the concerns of the previous period. This hope was also true for our field of interests.

As we know, this has not happened so far, and the negative events have in some way also influenced the activities of Intersteno even if we have reacted positively.

It seems a long time ago, but it was only at the beginning of this century that the Internet was starting its progressive influence on our lives; e-mails began to be a common way of sending messages, gradually replacing traditional letters.

We can try to recall the most important advances that Intersteno has achieved in the last ten years by considering:

- 1 *The new structure of Intersteno, under the impulse of Dr. Fausto Ramondelli, came about as a result of meditation over the grey atmosphere at the Hannover Congress following the death of Dr Karl Gutzler.*
- 2 *It seemed difficult to contemplate a new Congress, but we took the risk and we were successful in Rome, Wien, Prague and Beijing.*
- 3 *The scenario showed a decrease in the activity of many associations, which were the basis of our national group and consequently of Intersteno*
- 4 *The efforts made in the discussions that took place in the following year produced a convergence of ideas and goals. We were able to set up a Board and to accept the idea of having members outside our traditional groups. The number of these members is constantly growing and now they are 17. In some countries they are at the moment the only important reference point, when it is not possible (for various reasons) to set up a national group.*
- 5 *Joint efforts between Italian and Czech groups brought about the*

launch in 2003 of a keyboarding contest via the Internet, later improved in 2006 by a multi-language formula, which permits the evaluation of up to 16 different languages. If this event is a success - and the quantity and quality of participants has constantly increased during the years - the most important return will be the diffusion of the name and concepts of Intersteno among teachers, schools (from elementary up to university level) and students

- 6 The new structure of the Jury improved much of the information and advice necessary for successful participation in our competitions/certifications. Many detailed documents were prepared by Jury leaders to helping translators, dictators and jury members in better understanding and applying the rules. Speech recognition was accepted as an alternative technology for speech capturing. Fast transcription and then real-time competition formulas were experienced and accepted, as well as correspondence and summary competition. Two people from America (Ms. Terry Gaudet and Ms Linda Drake) have been included (2009) in the Jury. This is the first time that persons outside Europe have been involved in this task.
- 7 The decision not to automatically link the role of President to that of the national representative of the country hosting a Congress was positive, as was proved by the experience of the Congress in China and now in Paris. Preparation of an Intersteno Congress demands time and continual attention, which are not compatible with the management of Intersteno, if this management is to be active and not only political.
- 8 An increased attention towards meetings outside Europe was put into effect. In August 2005 Mr. Cees van Beurden and Mr. Jaroslav Polacek (who was named President of the Organization Committee for the Congress in Prague2007) attended the NCRA Convention in Orlando. Mr. van Beurden also visited the NCRA Convention of 2006 and released a speech. Mr. Jan den Holder attended the National Competitions held by China in Harbin in the last months of 2008 to better explain our competition formulas and observe and understand those current in that nation. Ms Rian Schwarz van Poppel officially represented Intersteno at the NCRA and NVRA convention of 2010. Prof. Marcello Melani will represent Intersteno at the Congress and competition event of FIAT(Federación Iberoamericana de Asociaciones de Taquígrafos) to be held in Buenos Aires from 22nd September next.
- 9 Detailed documents for the preparation and records of Board and Council meetings were issued in good time by the Secretary-Treasurer. They are also available in the reserved area of our website.
- 10 A first version of a leaflet presenting Intersteno was released in 2008 and was handed to participants at Langtech 2008 in Rome as well as on other occasions. An improved version (12 pages A5 format) was prepared in 2010. About 2000 copies were released for the American Convention (NCRA - NVRA) and an additional 150 were sent for the meeting in Buenos Aires. Each member of the Council will get copies during the meeting in Budapest. Logo of Intersteno for Country and Associated Members have been prepared and will be released in Budapest together with the rules for their use.
- 11 Special attention was devoted to Parliamentary reporting: Mr. Cees van Beurden has,since 2005, issued a special e-news letter and improved the relationships with many countries. He organized a successful meeting for reporters in The Hague in August 2008. His activity was taken over by Ms. Rian Schwarz van Poppel who arranged an IPRS meeting in Budapest 2010 on the same days as the Council

meeting. In 2009, Ms Georgette Sante and Mr Cees van Beurden participated at a meeting in Brussels organized by the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament when contacts were made. A link to our website is available on the Global Centre's websiet. In July 2010 we attended and contributed to another workshop in Brussels about 'speech capturing'. Dr. Fausto Ramondelli represented Intersteno. Ms. Lida Horlings and Ms. Simone Bardot also attended. Interesting ideas about future cooperation arose from this meeting.

- 12 *Intersteno members have, since 2005, received an e-news letter. 43 issues were sent up to August 2010. The contents were gradually increased and improved, so now it is regularly issued every two months with about 20 pages. The last issue was sent to 3400 addresses.*
- 13 *From 2005 an Intersteno website has been active, and from 2009 Intersteno.info has been used to release information about competition results and arrange Intersteno meetings.*
- 14 *An IPRS group on Facebook was opened.*
- 15 *At the beginning of 2010 an Education Committee was set up on the proposal of China. 21 persons were nominated by the countries and some contribution have already been sent. This Committee is of vital importance for our future, since we have to rethink our way of educating young people about our interests.*
- 16 *A marketing plan was defined in 2010 and will be implemented in cooperation with the countries where support is needed for improving local Intersteno activity.*

Perhaps this list is too short or something is missing. In any case it shows the efforts that have been put in by everybody (Board, Council Members, teachers, students etc.) to keep Intersteno in good shape and attract more interest.

A lot of decisions were taken, resulting in actions. Intersteno is now a more understandable, transparent, and attractive body.

Some can argue that several actions were not put into effect quickly enough: I fully agree with this remark but we have to consider the special nature of our Federation: we are based on voluntary activity, we do not have a paid staff, we are very conscious of our limits in time and resources. Voluntarism generates positive effect since the persons involved are convinced of what they do and try to do their best, but of course we cannot ask them to work on Intersteno matters as paid workers for 12 hours per day. I hope that everybody agrees with this and I hope also that the above list will be helpful in answering the objections of those who claims that Intersteno is a sleeping body or a ruin of the past.



Knowing what happened in the last 10 years in several associations and countries, I am proud to say that **Intersteno has been able to overcome many difficulties and misunderstandings, seizing many opportunities and thus consistently improving and (in my personal opinion) also giving strength to its members.**

The Board was acting as an icebreaker for the countryies' ships. Not every ship has the same speed and we must take care of everybody to avoid the ice closing again behind us before the last ship arrives.

Shortly we will begin the second decade of this century and we are now at a turning point.

At the opening session in Beijing I said:

Technologies are continuously and rapidly improving and affecting our ways of studying, working and even living.

In my opinion we are again at a turning point, which requires adaptation in our habits and in our points of view.

Information is released in real-time, with a mixture of texts, images, sound and video.

We are no longer interested in reading about the news the day after it has happened, since we can get it immediately by TV, by Internet on our computer and now also on our handy phones. And this also impacts upon how the texts are produced, their linguistic appearance, and their ability to give full information even with summarized texts.

To face this reality we must upgrade our knowledge to ensure that it is no longer linked to one specific technology, but rather is an integration of all developments and advances.

One year later we have already seen the impact with the spread of e-reader and iPad: all major newspapers' editors are creating digital versions of their editions, some new editors are planning to publish only online. TV nets are delivering their programs on Internet where one can choose among a wide offer between real time and past events.

This is not only a technical evolution, it requires a different approach as to how the information is released; reporters in the editors' offices must be able to manage text, integrate it with sound, photos and video, in many cases without the support of specialized staff.

- We can see similar changes in many other activities. Long-life learning is not a dream in the cloud, it is an urgent need.

For this reason we must be much more involved in **communication**, and the Board will submit to you a proposal for implementing this word into the definition of our Federation. But this must not be a formal or a marketing approach, we must really think and rethink how we can better integrate our know-how with communication technologies.

I know that we have to defend the technology we are using and our works, but we must not waste our time quarrelling about the superiority of it, we must keep our eyes open and evaluate what is happening in the world.

We cannot be always the first and the best. It is important that we can look at and assess the opportunities; otherwise others will take advantage of them.

I could make a long list of possible opportunities, but I leave to you to see them in your environments.

To reach our goal we have now a big asset, which we have created in the last year and which was non-existent in the past: our young competitors who are now grown-up and now are even more mature as a result of being better integrated in our activities. There are also the teachers who came into contact with Intersteno and are now supporting our plans.

We must set up a plan. For this reason we created the opportunity to enlarge the number of participants from some countries to our Council

meeting. We have a logistic limit and we cannot in this occasion integrate others, but we think is a good start. We senior persons must place our trust in them and take advantage of their better knowledge of new ways of doing things.

This will permit Intersteno to remain young. As a consequence, Intersteno must have a new President.

In the next months you will be asked to nominate members for the Board. You know that members can be re-elected: as already announced in Beijing I am not available for a re-election. The reason for this mainly lies in what I have already said. During the last Congress someone asked me if the new President had to be European. I answered that I did not see a specific reason why this should be so, although in my opinion the Secretary-treasurer **must be European**; we have to recall that our Federation is linked to the German regulations, and changing this status is not so easy and simple.

I thank you for your attention, and hope you will come to Budapest with enthusiasm and a willingness to follow discussions and help in the decisions.

Gian Paolo Trivulzio - Milano, 29th August 2010

Activity of Intersteno after the Congress in Beijing (August 2009) up to September 2010.

A short period of relaxation followed the efforts of the Beijing Congress, which the majority of you attended Intersteno activities restarted early in September:

- All texts and audio recordings of the competitions in Beijing were gradually published on the website.
- The reports delivered during the Conference as well as those of the IPRS and International Education meeting were also published on Internet.
- Jari Niittuinperä released an attractive report about the speech capturing competitions in Beijing. Following the release of this report, Mr. Liao Qing informed us that one competitor was not so young as indicated by the registered birth date. It took some time to discover the correct age category and devise a way to manage this situation without impacting on the general results.
- The IPRS forum on Facebook was created, thanks to the efforts of Fabrizio Verruso and Rian Schwarz-van Poppel. It will surely grow in the near future, since many persons are not accustomed to this kind of connection.
- E-news n. 38 with a general overview on the 47th Congress was released on 15th October, and n. 39 on 10th December with information about available services over the Internet in Paris.
- Our Secretary-Treasurer released on 7th November the reports on the Council meetings and the General Assembly held in Beijing on the occasion of our 47th Congress. No specific remarks have been received up to now, with the exception of the request of Mr. Jaroslav Zaviačič to indicate the charge of Vice-President in the list of the attending persons.
- On 19th November a message was released to all country representatives, asking them to fulfil the decision taken in Beijing to have at least 2 persons of each country as members of the Education Committee.
- Following the decisions taken at the General Assembly in Beijing, Danny Devriendt updated the German version of the Constitution, which was

sent to Mr. Gregor Keller for final checks.

- On November 22nd our President took part in the meeting of the Swiss group, Interinfo. On this occasion he met the new Swiss representative, Ms Jeannette Luck and had the opportunity to visit our Honorary President Mr. William Bonnet.
- On 26th November our Vice President informed us about the situation in Slovakia, which is not yet clear.
- On 30th November our Secretary-Treasurer prepared the revision of the Constitution, according to the modifications approved in Beijing, to be submitted to the relevant office in Bonn.
- A letter to all country representatives was sent by our President on 9th December with information and evaluation about the standing of Intersteno in their countries, specifically:

So I ask you to help us, in order to be able to help you!

- We need your feedback about the problems you face in your countries, in your local organisations, to improve the Intersteno community. Ideally a national organization must integrate teachers, students, professionals working in offices, parliamentary and other reporting fields. So we must pay attention to all these categories, disregarding the techniques that they are teaching, learning and using.
- We must not forget also the possibility of encouraging firms and entities to become Associate Members. With the last 8 new entries approved in Beijing, **their total number is now 19, but they are only pertaining to a few countries.**

The questions raised as a result of this message and related comments will be evaluated at the next Board and Council meeting.

- As at 25th December 20 names were indicated as members of the Education Committee. Their names and curricula have been published on the website. On 16th December I asked Mr. Tang Keliang to start sending messages about goals and activity. He did this in the middle of January with a request for information about the situation of education in each country.
- On the first days of **January 2010** the new layout of our Intersteno website was released. We thank our Turkish colleagues in Grafela who contributed to this improvement. Contents of several pages have been updated.
- On 5th January the new version of the Constitution (German version) was sent to the Amtgericht in Bonn, after legalisation of the signature of the President. In February this office confirmed that the new Constitution was registered.
- A menu with some general information about the Congress in Paris was inserted in our website. In addition 2 pages were inserted about ITC and reporting, e-learning and self-study.
- **Board meeting** took place at the end of January 2010 in The Netherlands at The Hague and was hosted by the Dutch Parliament, thanks to the Director of the reporting department, Ms. José Hageman, and the very good organization of Ms Rian Schwarz-van Poppel.

All members of the Board were present. The discussion covered all of the many topics on the agenda.

As set out in our e-news letter 40 (released at the beginning of February) several documents for the better management of Intersteno have been discussed and approved (**detailed budget - rules for reimbursement of**

expenses - rules for the use of logo and trademark - simplified procedure for accepting new Associated Members) which will be submitted to the Council for final approval.

A decision was taken to invest 7000 (seven thousand) euro in a marketing campaign with the goal of

- a. making Intersteno better known
- b. preparing an updated version of the presentation leaflet
- c. attracting participants to the Congress in Paris
- d. attracting participants to Internet competitions from countries where there is currently limited participation.

These investments require the collaboration of the interested countries. This is a matter to be discussed at our meeting.

- Our French colleagues (Ms Jacqueline Bertin-Mahieux and Mr. Jean-Charles Le Masson) were invited to take part at the Board meeting, but it was not possible for them to be there on those days.
- As part of the marketing campaign, it was decided to attend the NCRA and NVRA Conventions in July/August 2010.
- There was also discussion about a 'certification' for Jury members and assistants, to be implemented with a view to improving efficiency in this important task.
- In February Our Jury President revised the rules for the Internet contest. The German text was updated by Ms Waltraut Dierks. The Jury President asked the Jury Coordinator to inform interested parties of the revision of the competitions rules.
- March 2010, Danny Devriendt updated the intersteno.info website with information and a registration form for the Council Meeting. Since Ireland, Spain and Germany were not available to help in the organization of an IPRS meeting, it was decided to hold it at the same time as the Council meeting in Budapest. To this effect the intersteno.info website was updated.
- On 31st March our French colleagues released a tentative budget with a comparison of several possible venues. There was an intensive exchange of comments and at the end a decision was taken to have our Secretary-Treasurer and Jury President go to Paris for a final evaluation of the premises.
- The visit in Paris on 13-15 April, of Ms Georgette Sante and Mr. Danny Devriendt permitted us to evaluate the FIAP environments and the Cité Universitaire Internationale that have been chosen as the venues of the Congress.
- Following the decisions and suggestions during the Board meeting in The Hague, a new version of the Intersteno leaflet was planned and prepared during April-May. Texts were updated, as well as the list of the Countries and Associated Members. Mark Golden checked the English text about competitions. The final version consists of 12 pages in A5 format. Danny Devriendt prepared the attractive layout.
- Internet competitions took place from 15th April to 15th May; over 1500 participants took part. The Slovak group nearly doubled its participants (208), thanks to the Intersteno Contribution. The number of German competitors rose to 51 for the same reason. The Czech and the Italian national groups put their software at the disposal of Intersteno for the conduct of the competition. Our President, Jury President and Helena Matouskova followed up the competition. Our Secretary-Treasurer

printed and sent out the huge amount of diplomas one week after the end of the competition.

- Interinfo Swiss planned a meeting on 25th April in Regensburg and our President was invited to it. Unfortunately he could not attend, and therefore he sent a message translated into German by Ms Erika Jampen. The message, different from the written promise of the Swiss representative (Ms Jeannette Luck), was not discussed during the Assembly nor released on the Swiss reviews. Up to now no explanation has been given about this behaviour.
- Contacts with Ms Linda Dimonte (USA), who is an associate member of our federation, through a Skype conference on April 29th. On this occasion it was decided to improve relationships between Intersteno and MyLegal, a network founded by Ms Dimonte with Ms Katy DiLorenze. Our President sent also a document about Intersteno activities to be released on their website. At the same time information was released in our e-news letter.
- 1st May - The invitation, together with the agenda for the Council meeting in Budapest, was released, in line with the 5-months' notice set out in our Constitution.
- At the end of May 2010 France finalized an agreement with FIAP and prepared an information message. This message was released on 17th June, in English and French versions on behalf of the organizers, to over 3300 Intersteno addresses.
- Due to the inability of Mr. Trivulzio to travel to the USA as previously planned, Ms Rian Schwarz-van Poppel gladly accepted an invitation to represent Intersteno at the NVRA and NCRA Conventions in July and August 2010.
- At the beginning of June, over 3000 copies of the Intersteno leaflet were printed. A total of 1700 were sent to United States to be given to the participants at the NCRA and NVRA conventions. A further 500 will be distributed to participants at the Council and IPRS meetings in Budapest.
- After several submissions Grafela (Turkey), released the Intersteno logos to be used by Countries and Associated Members. The rules for using these logos will be submitted to the Council for final approval.
- At the end of June we got the news that a workshop about **Technological Options for Capturing and Reporting Parliamentary Proceedings** was to be organized from 14 to 16th July in Brussels, by the Office for Promotion of Parliamentary Democracy and the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament. Since Ms Rian Schwarz-van Poppel was leaving for the USA, and no other Board member was able to attend, Dr Fausto Ramondelli was asked to represent our Federation. Notwithstanding the short notice, he was able to make the trip and prepared a very impressive Intersteno presentation, as well as a report. Ms Rian Schwarz-van Poppel also prepared a message, and Prof. Tatsuya Kawahara sent updated information about automatic reporting at the Japanese Dieta. These documents, together with the Intersteno leaflet, were released to the 90 attendees at this meeting. Ms Lida Horlings (The Netherlands) and Ms Simone Bardot (France) also attended the meeting as IPRS members.
- Soon after the end of the workshop in Brussels, Ms Linda Horlings sent in a report, which was released on Facebook. The IPRS page on our website was updated with links to all reports. Ms Simone Bardot prepared an accurate and professional report of the first day of the meeting, which was devoted to the capture of parliamentary speeches. Also Dott. Fausto Ramondelli sent in his report with comments and proposal as well as the copy of his presentations.

- All this material forms a good background for the IPRS meeting in Budapest, and will be sent at the beginning of September to the Scientific and Education Committee members for additional comments and contributions.
- Ms Rian Schwarz-van Poppel attended the NVRA convention in Charleston and was also present at the NCRA convention in Chicago. A report on her experience was sent by her to the Board and will be released in our next e-news and you will be informed during our meeting in Budapest.
- From September 2009 to 30th August 2010, 540 130 visitors visited our website and consulted a total of 20 580 471 pages. These hits mainly came from Turkey, Italy, Brazil, Belgium, the USA, Switzerland, Hungary, and Croatia. The main activities involved in keeping it updated are listed at the home page of our site (Activity submenu on the links site).
- Following contact with Mr. Jorge Bravo of Argentina, we were informed that a Congress and competition event will be organized by FIAT (which includes parliamentary and court reporters from Brazil, Uruguay, Chile and Spain) in Buenos Aires from September 23-26. Mr. Bravo underlined that it would be useful to have an Intersteno representative on that occasion, in particular to encourage participation in the next congress in Paris. Since Prof. Waldir Cury (who is the 'nearest' to Buenos Aires) cannot travel, we asked prof. Marcello Melani to represent our Federation at this meeting. Prof. Melani accepted and a message from our President and a proposal to have FIAT as an Associate Member of our Federation was sent at the end of August 2010, translated into Spanish by Prof. Waldir Cury.
- On 30th August all documents and reports prepared by Intersteno and Intersteno participants at the meeting in July 2010 dealing with the capturing of parliamentary speech were sent to all those attending the IPRS meeting in Budapest.

ON LINE EDUCA- Berlin 1 - 3 December 2010



ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN is one of the largest international platforms for exchanging ideas and experiences on ICT-supported enhanced education and training. A total of 2197 learning and training professionals from 108 countries convened at the Hotel InterContinental in Berlin from December 1 - 3.

In 85 parallel sessions delegates discussed the latest trends and developments in ICT-supported learning in the corporate, academic and public service sectors. Some 530 speakers from 45 countries contributed to the comprehensive agenda. These figures give an idea of the impressive messages sent out on this occasion. The three day event was based on plenary and parallel sessions, with pre-conference events.

A memorable moment was the so-called **ONLINE EDUCA DEBATE**, which has become a regular ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN highlight. It is a chance to let off steam and have your say in the high-octane atmosphere of the conference's debating chamber, as keynote speakers debate a controversial motion with each other and the audience. Whilst a 'parliamentary style' format is meant to ensure fair play, passions ran high as two opposing

teams locked horns and argued their case.

Conference participants were invited by the chair, former British parliamentarian Harold Elletson, to air their views and, at the end of the debate, to vote on this year's motion, which was: This House believes that the public sector has failed to use ICTs effectively in education and training.

As the line between 'public' and 'private' is being continually redrawn, it is time to reflect on which has been the most successful in using technology in education. Why is educational achievement stagnating as public spending increases? Has the EU's investment in ICTs for education been well spent? Has the private sector cheated public education by selling inappropriate hardware and software? These and other questions of fundamental importance have been raised and hotly contested, at OEB's fascinating and wide-ranging debate.

You can connect to www.online-educa.com to explore the wide range of information and media available, both on this year and previous year's conventions.

The Gallery of Shorthand - New York

Thanks to the efforts and intensive work of Mr Dominick M. Tursi the Gallery of Shorthand is now a public exhibit in the lobby of the Alphonse M. D'Amato Federal Courthouse, at Central Islip, New York, describing the process, history, and development of the shorthand profession. It uses more than 30 stenotype machines, 50 books, and 20 pictorial illustrations to remind us of what history has largely overlooked: the role of shorthand in the preservation of thought and the role of shorthand artisans in historical events.



It is very interesting to read the 'MUSEUM STATEMENT':

Reminding us of what What History Has Overlooked - The Role of Shorthand in the Preservation of Thought

If government deliberation is to be remembered, revised, or acted upon, it must first be recorded. [Thomas Jefferson]

The affairs of a society, its organizations and governmental bodies, can be scrutinized only when its discussions are memorialized in an accurate and impartial writing.

This timeless truth led to the creation of written language in 3500 BC. It compelled Julius Caesar in 59 AD to order that the deliberations of the Roman Senate be written. And in 1873, reversing their practice of secret meetings, the United States Senate engaged official reporters to transcribe debates - preserved in The Congressional Record.

This same powerful tenet is fulfilled every day in the courtrooms of this building as the Official Reporters of the US District Court capture every word of proceedings for appellate and other review.

The Gallery of Shorthand celebrates shorthand reporters, who preserve the rhetoric of society from a front-row seat at everyday and historic events, and honors those who entrust them with that solemn duty.

The Gallery includes special exhibits:

- Reporting the War Crimes Trials - Nuremberg, Tokyo, Yugoslavia, Rwanda
- Congressional reporting: House & senate reporters - the Congressional record
- Legend of Shorthand - Sketches of shorthand's finest
- Famous people who wrote Shorthand
- Historic reporter Delegation to China
- World Shorthand speed record
- How they do that - some of the magic reveals
- "Alphabetum tironianum" rare 1747 work featuring Tironian Shorthand.

Grand opening ceremonies took place on September 30th, and were attended by nearly 150 important and interested people. A website presentation is available at www.GalleryofShorthand.org and will be kept updated.

We hope to have an Intersteno Congress in New York at a near date, and this could be one of most interesting sightseeing point for us.

Just before releasing this issue, I got a kind letter of Mr Tursi, accompanied by original photos and graphic displays. I hope it will be possible to show them at the Congress in Paris. In this letter Mr Tursi thanks for the support given, even if at the last minutes, of Dott. Prof. Boris Neubauer. I thanks once again all who contributed in preparing this magnificent Gallery and Mr Tursi for his kindness.

gpt

The 32nd Croatian national competitions - day of the keyboard, Zagreb 2010



The State competition in computer typing-text production was held on 13th November in Zagreb, as it is traditionally organized by the Croatian Association of Stenography in cooperation with the Croatian Association for Technical Culture and the Zagreb Fair.

It was attended by a total of 36 contestants from 14 cities. Tanja Ivana Juričev with a net score of **439** characters per minute, won the first place in the category of 30-minute transcript of text; second was Vera Pendeš from Kutina with a score of **390** characters per minute, and third Kristina Zlodi from Strmec Samoborski with **388** a net characters per minute.

The high school students competed in the category involving a 10-minute transcript of the text.

A superb net result of **455** characters per minute was achieved by schoolgirl Andrea Muženić Vidak, of the School Administrative and Office in Zagreb. Second was Andrea Šimičić from the same school **360** and third was Patricia Vedriš from Koprivnica high school **357**.

The contest has been in operation for 32 years. This year it was called the Day of the keyboard and took place in booths at the Zagreb International Fair of Books and Teaching Aids - INTERLIBER. For the first time four students and one employee of a special institution, Vinko Bek, Zagreb, devoted to education and rehabilitation of blind persons successfully performed in a separate category.



Netbooks on the rise: European overview of national laptop and netbook initiative in schools.

This article was released from the INSIGHT Observatory for new technology and education in November last.

The report *Netbooks on the rise: European overview of national laptop and netbook initiatives in schools*, has been published and can be downloaded at the following link

http://cms.eun.org/shared/data/pdf/netbooks_on_the_rise.pdf.

The report is drafted on the basis of the information provided by Ministries in the Country Reports and aims at giving a general overview of national initiatives providing laptops/notebooks or netbooks to schools as identified in a number of European countries.

Background on 1:1 computing

The introduction and implementation of ICT in schools over the last ten years has generally taken place in three stages. First, computers were introduced in separate computer labs and used to teach ICT as a subject or for other subject-related purposes. Following this, computers were rolled out more and more in classrooms and in other parts of the school (e.g. libraries, computer corners) to ensure their integrated use and to reduce computer per pupil ratios considerably. In a third stage, with emerging technologies such as interactive whiteboards, handheld devices and netbooks, the latter two being lighter, smaller and more affordable, ICT integration now focuses on further widening access to ICT and using these tools to modernize classrooms and education systems.

Based on the belief that personal ownership of computing devices (e.g. netbooks, handhelds or mobiles) is highly motivating for students and also for teachers, the latest national ICT programmes increasingly focus on 1:1 initiatives by providing personal notebooks and netbooks to students, teachers and families. 1:1 computing is a new phenomenon in educational settings, indicating the ratio of items per user, i.e. one netbook per learner and referring to the current trend of low-cost computer devices, ranging from mobiles and handhelds to netbooks. Even though laptops are not a new phenomenon in educational settings, several European countries have started in the last years to invest further in low-cost computer devices, and netbook initiatives are developing more and more in schools and other educational contexts.

Acer-European Schoolnet Educational Netbook Pilot

At European level, European Schoolnet, in cooperation with Acer, is involved in a netbook initiative, which started early in 2010. The *Acer-European Schoolnet Educational Netbook Pilot* is aimed at understanding and documenting how learners and teachers can use netbooks in various educational contexts. The aim is to explore how the introduction of netbooks and 1:1 pedagogy in schools could change teaching and learning processes. Until June 2010 the pre-pilot involved 10 classes in 6 countries (UK, France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Turkey), while the full deployment phase runs from September 2010 to June 2011 involving 40 classes in each country (www.netbooks.eun.org).

European overview of national laptop and netbook initiatives in schools

The information provided in the report is based on European Schoolnet's country reports for ICT in education, mainly from the 2009-2010 edition but also from previous years, issued by European Schoolnet for representatives of Ministries of Education. Ministries or responsible authorities identified other initiatives through desk research and additional submissions. All initiatives were described according to a common framework and validated by Ministries of Education or the organization involved in the initiative.

This report aims to raise awareness of existing national initiatives in Europe and to gain a better understanding with a view to the implementation of the *Acer-European Schoolnet Educational Netbook Pilot*. It is structured in two main parts:

- 1 It looks at the scope of these initiatives, including their aim, target groups involved and focus.
- 2 It analyses the organizational framework, including ownership, actors involved, and conditions for participation and It looks at the scope of these initiatives, including their aim, target groups involved and focus.

The final part of the report summarizes the main findings and gives an outlook for the future. The report also contains a table overview with a short description of all initiatives, more detailed initiative sheets per country, and finally, a classification of initiatives according to target groups and initiators. 33 initiatives were identified in 18 countries: Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain and the UK. Most of the 1:1 initiatives presented here target students in the first place, teachers in second place and families in a few cases.

Some initiatives in focus aim to tackle digital divides (the access divide) and specific target groups, e.g. disadvantaged families, children in kindergarten or with special needs, and rural schools. Initiatives come with a wider package offered to schools including, more often than not, interactive whiteboards, wireless connections or Internet access projectors, specific educational software and educational resources and training for teachers.

Regarding the organizational framework, Ministries of Education are the principal initiators of these programmes. Sometimes national or regional governments, together with ministerial agencies also participate. However, some initiatives are run entirely at regional/local level or even at school level. Private enterprises are also involved in several initiatives since they are the main providers of laptops/netbooks: in the framework of the latest initiatives, public-private partnerships are becoming more and more common. Benefits can be assigned to schools, students or directly to parents and families. When targeting schools, the provision of laptops is in some cases class-oriented. Individual classes or schools can create a pedagogical project and apply for a grant to buy ICT infrastructure to use laptops in class. In other cases awards are granted to schools or classrooms with ICT competences.

These initiatives present new demands and challenges to schools: First, how to deal with the influx of technology in terms of infrastructure, implementation, everyday management (e.g. acceptable use policies and scalability of 1:1 computing) and secondly, how to integrate them

purposefully into teaching and learning. The major question is whether these initiatives provide benefits in schools. Evaluation studies, particularly on 1:1 computing, have been carried out for eight initiatives presented here. Some of them are already completed, several are still ongoing. Results of evaluations including the research methods used should be further analysed and new initiatives should be studied in the near future.

All stakeholders involved in the implementation of laptop/netbook initiatives should be aware that they require explicit and commonly shared strategies to integrate such devices effectively into teaching and learning. The report introduces some laptop scenarios including different learning settings and learning approaches involved. Activities can include:

- 1 teacher-led (frontal teaching) vs. individual or collaborative activities;
- 2 online or offline activities;
- 3 taking place inside or outside school;
- 4 teachers as collaborators with learners as well as among themselves;
- 5 group work around one or several individual netbooks.

Your e-news and your web-site

The statistics for years 2010 about the quantity of visits and pages to our website are reproduced here below for your Information.

Summary by Month												
Month	Daily Avg				Monthly Totals							
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	kB F	kB In	kB Out	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Dec 2010	98841	83123	60857	1501	27914	193255081	0	0	45051	1825714	2493694	2965258
Nov 2010	83896	69886	48739	1291	20244	162331568	0	0	38741	1462170	2096601	2516889
Oct 2010	81289	67775	44780	1167	19983	364617714	0	0	36198	1388210	2101042	2519984
Sep 2010	64852	53617	33425	1095	16268	184728128	0	0	32871	1002754	1608538	1945564
Aug 2010	35870	31653	20531	1045	15890	79741788	0	0	32404	636476	981258	1111976
Jul 2010	37291	33180	22363	1014	15253	75411597	0	0	31439	693266	1028590	1156036
Jun 2010	64999	55601	35741	1269	18785	123695391	0	0	38072	1072246	1668050	1949970
May 2010	157684	126819	86445	1966	24793	192591977	0	0	60952	2679804	3931416	4888222
Apr 2010	147108	120890	86459	1629	21698	150823960	0	0	48886	2593790	3626708	4413254
Mar 2010	152504	127768	90347	1762	23772	53878134	0	0	54634	2800770	3960824	4727654
Feb 2010	132639	108615	75814	1667	23214	69693757	0	0	46700	2122796	3041242	3713914
Jan 2010	119934	100685	71207	1795	24849	52654244	0	0	55674	2207427	3121255	3717957
Totals						1703423338	0	0	521622	20485423	29659218	35626678

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The total number of visits is **521.622** which generated requests for **20.485.423** pages.

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What's new?

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Mobile and tablet market set to overtake PCs

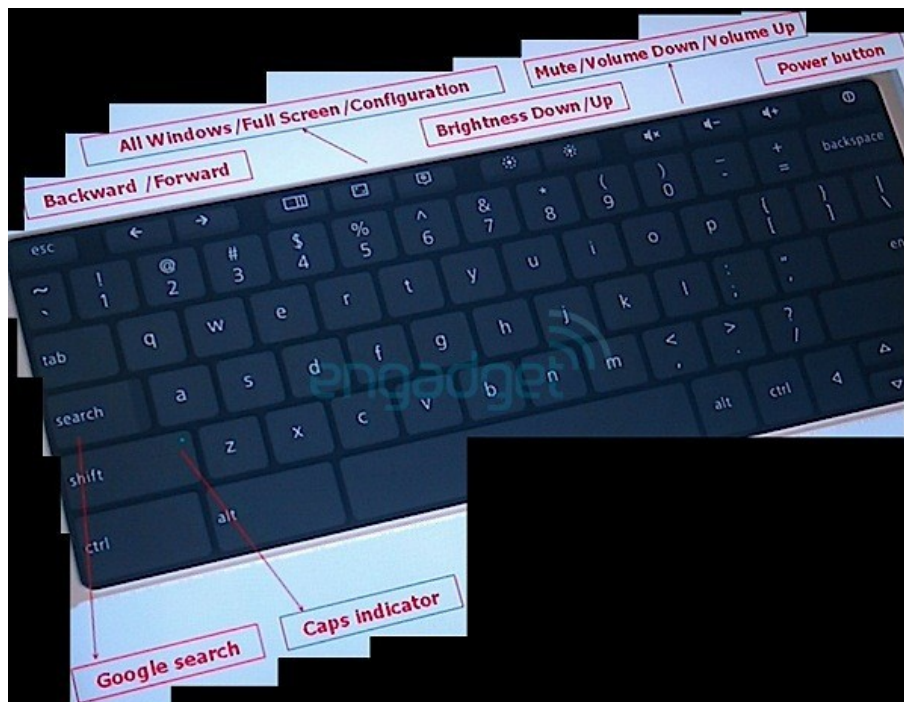
Shipments of smartphones, tablets and other app-enabled devices will overtake PCs shipments in the next 18 months, an event that may signify the end of the PC-centric era, as a market research firm said.



It may be seen as an historic shift, but it is one that tells more about the development of a new market, mobile and tablet computing, than the decline of an older one, the PC. Shipments of personal computers will continue to increase even as they are surpassed by other devices.

Worldwide shipments this year of app-enabled devices, which include smartphones and media tablets, such as the iPad, will reach 284 million. In 2011, makers will ship 377 million of these devices, and in 2012, the number will reach 462 million shipments, exceeding PC shipments. One shipment equals one device.

Google Chrome OS netbook keyboard



The curiosity about a new keyboard layout is still current, due to the image released by the media in connection with the rumours of Google launching a netbook.

On 7 December, Google officially announced the *Google Chrome OS* which did nothing to stop the rumours.

To ensure that Chrome OS this will run smoothly and as designed, Google launched a notebook with Chrome OS called **Cr-48 Chrome Notebook**.

This notebook is being distributed free of charge for certain people to try. The first notebook that will use the Chrome OS is from Samsung and after that possibly a new Acer which is expected by the middle of the year 2011.

Along with the announcement of Chrome OS, the **Chrome Web Store** was launched. This is expected to support the launch of Chrome OS.

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