



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

2008/09 OFFA FINAL MINISTRY REPORT

Final Report on the Project "*Postsecondary in French – Teachers*" of the *Office of Francophone and Francophile Affairs* of Simon Fraser University to the British Columbia Ministry of Education for the period beginning April 1, 2008 and ending March 31, 2009.

Prepared by
the Office of the Associate Vice-President, Academic & Associate Provost

Table of Contents

- 1 INTRODUCTION.....1**
- 2 BACKGROUND1**
- 3 ACTIVITIES & PROJECT REPORT.....1**
 - 3.1 INCREASE THE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED TEACHERS - FACULTY OF EDUCATION (FOE).....1
 - 3.1.1 *Maintain the number of sections in Undergraduate education courses.....1*
 - 3.1.2 *Maintain the expansion of the Graduate Diploma in French Education to regions outside the Lower Mainland.....2*
 - 3.1.3 *Maintain access to the Community-based Graduate Masters of Education and delivery of the French Language Doctorate in Educational Leadership.....3*
 - 3.2 IMPROVE ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.....4
 - 3.2.1 *Pursue on-going communication plan and develop cultural and promotional activities - OFFA Office 4*
 - 3.2.2 *Maintain the offering of courses from the Department of French - FASS.....5*

2008/09 OFFA FINAL MINISTRY REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

This report of the activities of the Office of Francophone and Francophile Affairs/*Bureau des affaires francophones et francophiles* (OFFA/BAFF) has been prepared for the British Columbia Ministry of Education.

This final report summarizes the project and activities in the year 2008-09 of operations of OFFA in regard to the Project “**Postsecondary in French – Teachers**”. The report is divided into two sections. The “Background” provides a brief overview of the project funding. The “Activities & Project Report” summarizes the activities and, in particular, details program delivery in both of the Faculties (Faculty of Education and Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences) involved, as well as the activities of the OFFA supporting the delivery of the programs.

2 BACKGROUND

A funding application for the Office of Francophone and Francophile Affairs/*Bureau des affaires francophones et francophiles* was submitted to the British Columbia Ministry of Education. The *2008/09 Funding Contribution for the Project: “Postsecondary in French – Teachers”* was confirmed in an October 15, 2008 letter. The project was put forward in collaboration with the Faculty of Education (FOE) and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS).

3 ACTIVITIES & PROJECT REPORT

The activities and project report cover the Measures, Expected Outcome and Performance Indicators cited in the Action Plan Simon Fraser University - French Programs 2008/2009 (see Appendix “I”).

3.1 Increase the Number of Qualified Teachers - Faculty of Education (FOE)

3.1.1 Maintain the number of sections in Undergraduate education courses.

3.1.1.1 Expected Outcome

- Increase enrollment in the recently established Minor in French Education
- Increase the number of French-Language courses
- Deliver the Minor in French Education
- Offer additional internal and external courses

3.1.1.2 Performance Indicators

The Minor in French Education, part of a Bachelor of Education -as a second degree- within the framework of the Professional Development Program (PDP), was offered for the third year in Summer 2008. The following French-language Undergraduate courses were taught as part of the Minor in French in French Education. The number of sections was maintained since 2007 with an increase of 11% in student enrollment for a total of 182 students.

Courses	Course Title	# of Sections	# of Students
EDUC 480	Designs for Learning (DFL) Core French	3	89
EDUC 481	DFL French Immersion	1	28
EDUC 414/474	DFL Social Studies	1	23
EDUC 415/475	DFL Mathematics	1	23
EDUC 416/476	DFL Science	1	19
TOTALS		77	182

In addition, the course EDUC 450 French in the Classroom, was offered to 11 students admitted to the PDP French module in Fall 2008 and to 5 students admitted in Spring 2009, This course provides additional language and pedagogical support to students who are close to meeting, the linguistic standards required for admission into the PDP according to their results in the French Language Appreciation.

3.1.2 Maintain the expansion of the Graduate Diploma in French Education to regions outside the Lower Mainland.

3.1.2.1 Expected Outcome

- Increase the language and teaching competence of elementary and middle school generalists
- Provide formal preparation in teaching French as a second language
- Deliver the Graduate Diploma in French Education (Core French) and the Graduate Diploma in Pedagogical Differentiation (Francophone and Immersion programs)

3.1.2.2 Performance Indicators

A cohort of 11 students, in the Graduate Diploma (G-Dip) *Exploring French Language Education* based in the Richmond-Vancouver area, completed the program in December 2008. These students take courses and work with mentors to further develop their French language skills and confidence as teachers of French, while experimenting with novel, interactive and successful approaches to teaching Core French.

A cohort of 18 students in a Graduate Diploma (G-Dip) *Immersion Pedagogy (Le succès en immersion)* started in May 2008 in the Comox area. These students take courses and work with mentors to develop specific and efficient strategies for teaching French as a second language, based on action-research focused on their own practice. Most graduates of this program work as learning assistant teachers or resource teachers (in Immersion or Francophone programs) in their schools.

The first cohort of 17 students in the Pedagogical Differentiation Graduate Diploma (G-Dip), run in collaboration with the *Conseil scolaire francophone (CSF)*, completed the program in July 2008. These students were from various localities in BC.

A second cohort of 16 students in the same program started in Fall 2008. These students also worked with the model outlined in the previous G-Dip programs (course work, action-research, mentors) in order to better understand and manage the diversity amongst pupils found in the schools and classrooms where they work.

In addition to these two-year, 30 credits Graduate Diploma programs, the Field Programs Faculty Associates team in French Programs have delivered four non-credit workshop series: three in Core French and one in Differentiated pedagogy. These workshop series serve as an introduction to issues and methodologies in teaching French and address the needs of teachers who are considering the Graduate Diploma. They also stand alone as professional development activities contributing to increase language and teaching competence of elementary and middle school generalists. The table below summarizes enrollment in the workshop series.

Districts	Topic	Grades	# of participants
Abbotsford-Mission	Differentiated Pedagogy	K-12	25
Abbotsford	Core French in the Middle Years	Gr. 5-8	24
Richmond	Core French	Gr. 5-7	20
Delta	Getting started in Core French	Gr. 5-6	10
TOTAL			79 participants

3.1.3 Maintain access to the Community-based Graduate Masters of Education and delivery of the French Language Doctorate in Educational Leadership.

3.1.3.1 Expected Outcome

- Provide greater access to the Masters of Education program outside the Lower Mainland
- Provide E-Learning courses to students through the Western provinces French Language Education Consortium
- Deliver the French Language Doctorate in Educational Leadership

3.1.3.2 Performance Indicators

Five students in the Kelowna-based Masters of Education (M.Ed.) program completed their comprehensive exams in August 2008. All students received their diploma in the October 2008 Convocation ceremonies held at the Burnaby campus.

In order to provide access to the Masters of Education program to students outside the Lower Mainland, a new online M.Ed. is in development and will be offered in September 2009. The program includes four courses in asynchronous mode, two in synchronous mode, and a directed readings course delivered mainly through using email communication.

The asynchronous courses have been developed by French Education Faculty members, with the support of the Western provinces French Language Education Consortium (*Consortium des établissements universitaires francophones de l'Ouest Canadien*) and the collaboration of the SFU Centre for Online and Distance Education (CODE). These courses will also be available to students in our partner institutions in Manitoba's *Collège universitaire Saint-Boniface*, Saskatchewan's *Institut français de Regina* and Alberta's *Campus Saint-Jean*.

Promotion of the new online M.Ed. program was done from January to April 2009. Enrollments as of March 31st, 2009 indicate that five students have submitted applications. The admission deadline is April 30, 2009. Based on inquiries and interest received thus far from prospective students residing in several different locations in BC and beyond, it is expected that the enrollment in the online program will reach higher levels than the Community-based programs have in the past.

A cohort of thirteen students in the French Language Doctorate in Educational Leadership completed the fifth and last course of the curriculum (Summer 2008). All thirteen students met with success in the doctoral comprehensive examination (Fall 2008).

The retention rate for this program is well within expectations. From the initial seventeen students who accepted a place in the program, two moved back to Quebec and two chose not to pursue the program due to work constraints. All others have remained in the program, balancing their professional, academic and personal obligations successfully, and are currently engaged in their respective research projects under the supervision of Faculty members.

3.2 Improve Access to Postsecondary Education

3.2.1 Pursue on-going communication plan and develop cultural and promotional activities - OFFA Office

3.2.1.1 Expected Outcome

- Develop and offer promotional and cultural activities
- Provide access of promotional activities to students
- Increase the visibility of French language and culture at SFU

3.2.1.2 Performance Indicators

As part of its ongoing promotional plan, the OFFA website is updated regularly to provide information of interest to the Francophone and Francophile communities, and to current and prospective students. The OFFA website has a link to *MedOuest*, a Western Provinces consortium in Education for the promotion of SFU's online Masters of Education program in French. Several new and updated printed promotional materials featuring the programs were

developed and distributed to target audiences. Advertisements for OFFA and its programs appeared in local, provincial and national Francophone and Francophile media.

OFFA extended its communication and promotional activities by hosting numerous events in the OFFA Student Lounge. Several Francophone guest speakers/visiting professors from BC, Canada, US and Europe visited OFFA. FOE and FASS students attended academic program related presentations. Students participated in a variety of cultural activities organized in the Fall 2008 and particularly during the *Semaine de la francophonie 2009*.

OFFA participated in a number of ongoing meetings and discussions regarding Francophone and Francophile issues in B.C. and in Canada. To help increase the visibility and the presence of the French language and culture at SFU, OFFA attended various on and off campus events.

3.2.2 Maintain the offering of courses from the Department of French - FASS

3.2.2.1 Expected Outcome

- Increase students' competency in the French language
- Provide students with option to pursue their studies to become teachers
- Increase the use of communication technology

3.2.2.2 Performance Indicators

The department of French offers a variety of Undergraduate (Honors, Major, Extended minor) programs. These programs include courses in three fields - language, linguistics and literature - which contribute to increase students' competence in the French language. Students are also encouraged to participate in the "Department of French Field School" (France) or in the Explore Program (Quebec). In both cases, the department allocates credits to students who make the effort to improve their French language skills.

In 2008-09, the Department of French recorded more than 1,800 enrollments in French courses with multiple sections. A number of students completing their Major in French regularly choose to pursue studies in education (PDP) in order to become French teachers.

Most of the courses offered by the Department of French integrate the use of communication technologies. The department has access to two language laboratories as well as a variety of software. Different platforms are used for online communication with students.