



2QAB Learner Diary – Konstanz Germany Thursday 30 June – Sunday 3 July 2011

And so to the final transnational meeting in Konstanz, Germany. Two staff and two learners travelled a three legged journey in almost equal 1 hour stages. Setting off from Bristol airport, we travelled to Amsterdam's Schipol airport where we made a quick connection on a flight to Zurich airport from where we made a train connection through rural Switzerland across the border into Konstanz. After a tiring journey we were thankful that our hotel was opposite the train station and were surprised at how quiet the town was at 10pm, with the streets virtually empty. We later discovered that since the town centre has a lot of residential areas, inns and restaurants have to close by 11pm at the latest.

Friday's first meeting with all of our partners was a short walk from our hotel where we gathered together to have a guided tour through the heart of this beautiful historic town on the edge of Bodensee Lake on the Swiss German border. The tour culminated with a civic reception at the historic Town Hall hosted by the deputy mayor during which a video presentation, made by students of Yale College, of some of the partnership processes brought back fond memories of our previous transnational meetings. The afternoon comprised of 2 workshops. The first was led by Wissenschaftskommunikation on "Tandem Learning", a cross cultural exchange between police and migrants in breaking down barriers and stereotyping. The second workshop was led by Sprachendienst on the "Silent Way" looking at language acquisition by verbal repetition.

Saturday began with a workshop by Scuola Centrale Formazione on "Problem Based Learning" methods followed by a discussion and evaluation of the meeting. Key participants from all organisations then met to discuss and make preparation for the final report and completion of the FoBo Handbook. The afternoon was spent on an idyllic boatripe down the River Rhein in beautiful sunshine to visit the tiny island of Reichenau where we visited some churches and stayed for our final evening meal.

Our hosts from Sprachendienst were superbly organised and welcoming making this final meeting very enjoyable. On Sunday we headed back home via train, plane and plane reflecting on a wonderful collective partnership in the knowledge that our learning would be shared and disseminated to much wider audiences.