



News

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European
Prison
Education
Association

EPEA Magazine No. 27

The Autumn 2004 issue of the EPEA Magazine has been sent to all Liaison and Contact Persons for distribution to members. If you have not received a copy to date, please contact your local Liaison or Contact Person, alternatively, you can request a copy from the membership secretary, Mr. Torfinn Langelid at torfinn.langelid@fm-su.stat.no

Members in Malta produced the present issue and the EPEA are grateful to them for their hard work. Mainly due to the workload involved, it has been decided that permanent editors working in tandem with an editorial board will take responsibility for producing the EPEA Magazine in the future. Details on these changes will be outlined in the next issue of the Magazine (No. 28). If you would like to submit an article, please contact Mr. Jon Erik Rønning at jessvgs@online.no, or Asbjørn Støverud at asbjorn@st.mailbox.as.

Upcoming Events

Latvia: A seminar is planned for the 3rd and 4th March 2005 to address the topic of Education in Latvian Prisons. The emphasis will be on attempts to establish an overall education system for all prisoners in Latvia. A significant element of the seminar will examine how best to organise the education service - multi-agency approach or one competence. Representatives of relevant ministries will be invited, as well as representatives of a number of local authorities. The EPEA will provide expert participation at the seminar and will be represented by our chairperson, Mr. Niek Willems.

Denmark: The annual Danish prison teachers' conference will take place on March 31st & April 1st. The conference is organized by FLF (Fængselslærerforeningen). The focus will be on intercultural exchange and the key speaker is Ms. Bente Hojer, a consultant for the Ministry of Immigration. Details can be found on www.flf.dk.

England: On 12th & 13th April, the Forum on Prisoner Education hosts a major conference for education staff and managers in England and Wales. The conference, which is sponsored by **learnirect**, aims to showcase ideas, innovation and best practice from other European countries. See details at <http://www.fpe.org.uk/events/euro>

10th EPEA Conference - Bulgaria

The 10th EPEA conference in May is an excellent opportunity to meet potential partners for transnational projects. You can apply for support funding from your Socrates National Agencies under the Grundtvig Actions. The Socrates Program offers grants for Preparatory visits. The grant will cover your travel expenses and your conference fee. See the EPEA website for details on how to apply for this funding.

Please note the deadline for payment of conference fees is the 1st of March. If the organisers have not received your fee by then, your place will be passed onto those on the waiting list.

Council of Europe Updates

In January, the EPEA Chairperson, Mr. Niek Willems, attended NGOs Plenary Session of the COE. Meanwhile, the EPEA Liaison, Ms Janine Duprey Kennedy, represented the organisation at the January working session of the COE and participated in 4 meetings:

Monday 24: Liaison Committee of NGOs

Tuesday 25: NGOs Plenary Session

Wednesday 26: Human Rights Grouping and Education and Culture Grouping Meetings

Thursday 27: Special meeting to prepare the participation of the NGOs to the summit of heads of states and governments that will take place in Warsaw in May. A report on each of the above can be found on our website, or in the forthcoming Spring issue of the EPEA Magazine.

Following a request from the Steering Committee for patronage by the Secretary General of the COE for the Bulgaria conference, (as outlined in the last EPEA NEWS), we are pleased to announce that this has been granted. The significance of being approved for patronage lies in official recognition at the highest level of the COE that the aims of the conference fully meet the objectives of the COE and comply with the ideals of its legislation. Conference publications will now include the byline "Under the auspices of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mr Terry Davis", and, "Sous le patronage de Monsieur Terry Davis, Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe". In addition, representatives from the COE will be in attendance at the conference.

New Liaison Persons

Please note change of Liaison and Contact Persons in the following countries:

Finland

Ms Minna Peltonen
Assistant Governor
Kerava Prison
Pb 133
04201 Kerava
Finland
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Northern Ireland

MS Jolene Hamill
Education Department
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Spain

Laura Galera Garcia
Universidad Complutense de Madrid
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Sweden

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Research Publication

If you would like a copy in English of the Research-based Evaluation of Education in Norwegian Prisons, please contact Mr. Torfinn Langelid at torfinn.langelid@fm-su.stat.no. Further details will be published in the EPEA Spring Magazine.

Spotlight on Denmark

Reference was made earlier to the Danish organisation FLF (Fængselslærerforeningen). But what exactly is FLF? It is the Danish Prison Teachers Association and was founded August 31, 1952. It is a trade union of approximately 100 teachers and administrators teaching and working in the Danish Department of Probation and Prison Service. Its role is to negotiate wages and conditions of service on behalf of its members and to represent them in possible disputes over work related issues. It aims also to coordinate, promote and secure sound pedagogical activities in Danish prison education. In addition, it is active in providing supplementary and in-service training for those working in the area of prison education. FLF holds two main events every year, a general assembly and a conference such as that taking place at the end of March. FLF, as an organisation, is a member of the EPEA and stand as an excellent and well-established example of an organisation dedicated to promoting and defending the rights and ideologies of prison educators. It can be contacted on flf@flf.dk

Prison Art Calendars

The Irish Prison Education Service published its third calendar of artwork produced in prison art and crafts classes. For the first time works of art from prison students in Northern Ireland, Estonia, German and Norway have been included. This wider representation was made possible through contacts within the EPEA. If you would like to receive a copy of the calendar, please contact veronica_hoen@eircom.net

Website Updates – www.epea.org

- Finnish is the latest translation of the COE Recommendation on Prison Education to be added to the website.
- Complete reports on the 6th EPEA Conference (Budapest, Hungary 1997) and the 4th EPEA Conference (Siguna, Sweden 1993) are available to download.
- The easiest and quickest way to receive up to the minute information on prison education throughout Europe is to subscribe to the EPEA's online News Mailing List. So sign up now.

Research Publication

EPEA Steering Committee member, Ms. Marinela Sota, has been appointed Albania's first female Prison Director. The Minister of Justice, Mr. Fatmir Xhafaj, appointed two other new directors from civil backgrounds within the prison system along with Ms. Sota. In so doing he stressed that this was a necessary step toward raising standards within the service. We wish Marinela well in her new position.