



Useful Websites

Members may be interested in checking out three new websites that have been created as part of EU-funded projects with which the EPEA is associated.

One project involves eight European countries working together to improve European prison education by making ICT available to learners and teachers in prisons. Details and developments can be found at www.pipeline-project.org.

The second project is focused on developing a training course specifically for prison educators. For more information and updates see www.ttip.info.

The third project intends to collate and present a database of all EU funded projects to have dealt with any aspect of prison education. If you have been involved in any such project in the past or are still involved, we would like to hear from you. Please consult the website www.epea-projects.org

Council of Europe Updates

EPEA was represented in October at the autumn session of the COE: Liaison Committee meeting, thematic groupings meetings, like "Human rights" and "education and culture" of which EPEA is member, extraordinary session of the Conference of NGOs. Reports of these meetings were discussed at the October EPEA Steering Committee meeting to elaborate a strategy of work with the COE and will appear in the EPEA web and in the magazine for the members.

EPEA is now in a strong position since we have been asked to represent the Liaison Committee to the control and dispute committee for the next elections of its new members and because there is an increasing interest for questions concerning prisons and conditions of prisoners.

Information, experience coming from NGOs are important to help the COE in his work as it is stated in each report and in the 2 main documents which can be found on the COE website: Action plan of the 3rd summit of Heads of State and Government (Warsaw, May 2005) and the Multiyear Framework of the INGOs.

EPEA Website Updates

New translations of the COE **Recommendations on Prison Education** in Spanish and Chinese have been added to the website. The Polish, Italian and French translations have been extended. In addition, parts of the website can be folded out for Italian, Spanish and Danish translations of the website. As always we are looking for volunteers to translate the Recommendations into as many languages as possible, if you are interested, please contact the Webmaster at webmaster@epea.org

A new mailing list for **Art and Drama** has been created. There are mailing lists also for ICT, Research and Projects and it is advisable to join them if these areas are of particular interest to you. Of course, there is always the general News list to which anyone can contribute once they have joined. In addition there are closed lists for the Steering Committee and the Liaison and Contact Persons.

Recent Publications

Mrs Martina Justova (Slovakia) has written a book about her experiences and reflections having worked in education in Slovakian prisons. The title is **The Emperor is Naked: Repression versus Rehabilitation** and a review of the book can be read in the next EPEA Magazine.

The EPEA is eager to promote any publications that many be of interest to members, so please contact us with details of relevant publications or any reviews that you would like to see published.

Australian Conference

Kevin Warner (Ireland) represented the EPEA at the **2005 Australasian Corrections Education Association Conference (ACEA)** as one of its keynote speakers. The Conference was held in Darwin, Northern Territory of Australia from 9 to 11 October 2005 and was entitled "Inside Learning for Outside Living: Addressing Recidivism through Education" The title of Kevin's paper is Against the Narrowing of Perspectives: How do we see Learning, Prisons and Prisoner? It is available to download at www.pesireland.org.

Branch News

FOKO, the Norwegian branch of the EPEA, held its 10th annual conference from the 20th to 22nd of October 2005. There were 115 participants in attendance included the chair of EPEA, Niek Willems, who greeted the participants on behalf of the organisation. The recently published government **White Paper 27/2005** on prison education, **“A New Spring Once more”**, was presented to members.

The IPEA, the Irish branch, will hold its AGM on the 11th & 12th November in Kilkenny. At the meeting, details of IPEA activities during the year and officer reports will be presented to those members in attendance. These will be available to all when published on the website www.epea.org/ipea.

A more detailed report on each of the above will be outlined in the forthcoming EPEA Magazine.

Looking for a Partner?

If you are looking for perspective project partners, or have an idea for a project that you wish to develop further, then you may be interested in attending the forthcoming **partner-finding seminar for Grundtvig 2 Learning Partnerships**. The seminar will take place in Lancaster, England from the 18th to the 22nd January 2006. This seminar is organized exclusively for those working in the field of prison education. The fee is 560 Euro, which includes 4 nights' accommodation, meals, professional and cultural activities. Those offered a place on the seminar may apply to their own Socrates National Agency for a Grundtvig Preparatory Visit grant of up to 1,000 Euro to help offset the cost of participation and travel expenses. If you wish to apply, you should obtain a registration form and a profile form (from your National Agency) and submit them as soon as possible to your National Agency so that they can make their selection.

Please hurry as the closing date is November the 28th; further details can be obtained from either julia.stone@britishcouncil.org or karen.davis@britishcouncil.org

Increase in Membership

Membership is increasing and there has been a notable increase since Spring 2005. This increase has taken place primarily in 8 countries. At present the number of individual members is greater than 600.

Please remember that organisations and institutions can take out corporate membership of the EPEA and we would encourage members to approach potential organizational members and persuade them to join.

Steering Committee Meeting – Oct 2005

The EPEA Steering Committee held the second of its biannual meetings in Copenhagen, Denmark from the 28th to the 30th October. The meeting was hosted by the **Danish Staff Training Academy** (KUC) and we are particularly grateful to Director Jorgen Balder and Inspector Klaus Finne and of course local members, Kai Raundrup and Per Thrane for all their efforts and help.

Mr. Alan Smith, (Deputy Head of Unit B3 - Comenius-Grundtvig) at the **Directorate General for Education and Culture in the European Commission** addressed the Steering Committee on matters relating to prison education and Grundtvig projects. Issues Mr. Smith dealt with included; - directions and key priorities of EC education policy, how EU funded programmes can support education in prisons and related activities, and areas within prison education that may be of particular relevance to EC policy commitments.



Mr Alan Smith and Steering Committee members

Other issues considered at the Steering Committee meeting included the creation of a **Welcome Pack** on CD for new members that will be available in January 2006. Meanwhile each member will receive a copy of the **EPEA Directory** on pdf file. This is a list of members and will aid communication and interaction among the membership.

During the Steering Committee meeting it was agreed that Valentina Petrova (Bulgaria) would become the EPEA Project Coordinator. If you have any concerns or queries regarding EU-funded projects, contact her at seec_vp@hotmail.com.

This was the last meeting for our long serving Treasurer, Dominick Henry (Northern Ireland), who has retired. Gisle Grahl-Jacobsen (Norway) has been appointed as interim Treasurer until an election for the position of Treasurer will be held in July 2006. We would like to publicly acknowledge all the work Dominick has done for the organisation over the years and we wish him well for his retirement.