

Autumn Meeting 2nd-5th October 2012 Corvinus University Budapest / Hungary

Report

Tuesday, 2nd October 2012, opening welcome

Corvinus University, main building 1093 Budapest, Fôvám tér 8. Room E 2001

Only 33 out of 48 participants present (due to very bad weather and other circumstances).

Welcome by Geneviève Laloy, president of the Comenius Association.

Welcome by Petra Aczel, Head of the Institute of Behavioral Sciences and of Communication Theory of the Corvinus University Budapest.

Minute of silence to commemorate *Mrs. Cynthia Jones (†)*: Andrew Powell (Kingston University) gives some background information about the life and career of his former colleague who has passed away just a few weeks after having retired.

Programme and organisation of the meeting.

Languages: The meeting will take place in both official languages of the Comenius Association: English and French.

Thanks to Judit Pazonyi who has organized the autumn meeting!

Topic of the meeting: "Internationalization in the times of crisis"

Wednesday, 3rd October 2012

Welcome and Presentation of the host institution

Corvinus University, main building 1093 Budapest, Fővám tér 8. Room E 2001

Welcome by **Vice-Dean Lázló Csicsmann** and a short presentation of Corvinus University

Welcome and thanks to Corvinus University and to Judith Pazonyi by the president of the Comenius Association, Geneviève Laloy, for hosting and for coordinating the meeting so spontaneously under difficult conditions

Petra Aczél: “Introduction to the Institute of Behavioral Studies and Communication Theories” (*Cf. presentation*)¹

Special features of the Institute:

- They offer Intercultural Communication (in English)
- A Teacher Training Centre is coordinating the entire teacher training activities for secondary and vocational education.
- They train Teachers of Engineering!

Tamás Köpeczi-Bócs:

- 1) “Globalization and Skill needs”
- 2) “Over-testing in education”

(Cf. presentation)

Ferenc Bodi: “Schools Closing or Klebelsberg Model. A Hungarian Case Study”.
(Cf. presentation)

Krisztina Mihaly: “Introduction to the LLP projects of the Observatory Centre for Educational Development”
(Cf. presentation)

Example of the methodologies used in the Observatory Centre: Group activity:
Story board 1) Structure of Cells 2) Concept of Gravity

→skills / competences needed: creativity, cooperation, knowledge, communication, reproduction, visual representation, negotiation, ...

- Teaching through activities.
- www.animatedscience.dk

The International Coordinator of Corvinus University, **Victoria Szimon**, invites members to become a Erasmus partner and offers to send lists of courses in English around.

¹ „Cf. presentation“ is referring to the pdf-documents published together with this report on the internal pages of the website of the Comenius Association www.associationcomenius.org

Mette Skovgaard Ernlund: “Student Mobility: Motivations and Experiences”

Presentation of the preliminary results of her doctoral thesis: an empirical analysis; started 4 years ago, (part time) about motivation and experiences of Erasmus students (stay: 3 – 12 months), based upon interviews at the end of their Erasmus stay: There seem to be 4 main types of motivation for mobility.

(Cf. presentation and Comenius-Website “Research”)

Discussion / questions/remarks:

Interviews at the end of the study abroad period: good debriefing for the students. Tension between the academic and personal dimension, both aspects have to be taken into consideration.

Recommendation not to overestimate the types / categories of students
It would be interesting to ask them before their study abroad and to compare the interviews.

Encouragement to publish the work in English and to make the study accessible to the politicians, as politicians only seem to have a look only at the “knowledge seekers”, not at the other types of motivation.

Presentation of new potential members:

Triin Laasi et Mari Kerde: Tallinn University Haapsalu College

(cf. presentation)

3rd largest university in Estonia, 10.000 students, 19 institutes and 6 colleges (on 3 different sites) The Haapsalu Campus (100 km from Tallin) has been opened in 1998. Teacher Training: 300 – 400 students in primary school teacher training. The programme is very much oriented towards practice, small groups and ICT and based upon an individual approach. The teacher trainers have to be practitioners. There are very good job and employment conditions for their students.

Honor Houghton: Winchester University

(cf. presentation)

A relatively new university, figuring among the 10 best new universities in the UK with currently 6000 students. Faculty of Education: primary school (they are among the top 6 in the UK), some students prepare for secondary schools and for special needs. The training is structured into three areas: Educational studies, Liberal Arts, Professional Training / Development of Teachers. 96% of the students get jobs.

(cf. presentation)

International Weeks 2012/13 (Staff and students)

Reminder of the general characteristics of the International Weeks (cf. website of the Comenius Association)

Antwerp: 3 – 7 December 2012: “Challenge of choice – Antwerp”: all students are welcome. Free accommodation for everybody. Deadline: 15th of November. 1-2 ECTS credits

Louvain la Neuve: 4 – 8 February 2013. “Europe”. ICT and cartoons. Erasmus students are invited. School visits. Staff is welcome. Hosted in families or with students, accommodation for free. 12 places maximum. In French and in English.

INHOLLAND Alkmaar/Haarlem 2013: 4 – 8 February. Guest teachers are welcome. 2 days in Haarlem, 1 day in Alkmaar. 1 day of practise, 1 day of Amsterdam. Mutual exchange preferred, but otherwise special offer of local hotels. Accommodation either Alkmaar or Haarlem (students can opt).

Liège: February 18 - 22 February 2013 Thematic topic: “Let’s integrate the differences.” 1 ECTS credit

(Another Liège project: I@H: staff needed to give workshops and lessons in English.)

Catholic University of Valencia: 25 February – 1 March: Infos will be sent as soon as possible.

ESCUNI Madrid: 4 – 8 March 2013 programme as usual – workshops to increase the integration and the participation of the students. Accommodation on a mutual basis. No credits.

Timisoara: 3 – 9 March 2013. Deadline: First of January. Free Accommodation, 10 places. Stages in formal education. Credits will be given to students.

Haderslev: 11 – 15 March 2013. New thematic focus: Human rights, citizenship: Global learning and ICT. If no mutual exchange, reduced price for the hostel (15 Euro) Fee of 20 Euros for everybody. 1,5 ECTS

Stavanger: 11 – 15 March 2013 Online registration by December 15th. Mutual exchange. No additional costs. Recommendation: incoming students staying with the Erasmus students or B&B for 30 Euros per night. School visits for pre-primary and primary education.

Namur: 25 – 29 of March 2013. English at Primary Schools, Story telling. Good English is necessary. Students have to be ready to work. 50 – 60 Euro if not on a mutual basis. 1-2 ECTS

Mechelen: 25 – 29 March 2013. Concept of “Twinning” in primary schools. Very practical orientation. Visiting staff welcome. Max. 20 students. Mechelen students are organizing the week. Youth hostel in case students can not accommodate the visiting students.

Santarem: 15 – 19 April 2013. Exchange basis for accommodation. Main language: English. Workshops, school visits, target groups: teacher training students and social work students. There might be a charge for cultural activities. Invitation in November. 1 ECTS

Schwäbisch Gmünd: 22 – 26 April 2013: Workshops, school visits, excursions, social and cultural activities. Accommodation with students is no problem. Video project or blog “Typical German??”

More detailed information about the different weeks (including the enrolment form for the students) can be found on the new Comenius website.

International Week for Teachers:

Hradec Kralové: 25th – 29th of March Week for Teachers. Application: end of February. No thematic restriction. Costs: Erasmus grants. Languages: German, English, French!

Journal

The 2012 Journal has been a joint project by Judit Pazonyi and the Mechelen team. Judit (and the entire Comenius Association) express their gratitude to the colleagues from Mechelen. Each member institution receives 12 copies of the Journal.

Intensive Programmes 2012/13

- 1) Generation Y: ICT in Teacher Training (Liège)
(*cf. presentation*) 3 students, 1 staff member
- 2) Soundshaping (Liège/Mechelen) March 2013
(*cf. presentation*) 3 students, 1 staff member
- 3) From exercising to exploring (Hradec Kralové)
(*cf. presentation*) March 2013, 2 teachers and 5 students per institutions
- 4) Early Years (Namur; 2nd year in Barcelona, 15 – 28 April 2013, “Urban surroundings”. Preparatory meeting in January in Barcelona.

(cf. presentation)

- 5) Memories of the past, hopes for the future (U Valencia) March 2013
(cf. presentation)
- 6) Infos on IP “Landscape” (Catholic University Valencia), accepted for the 3rd time. Information will follow
- 7) Two IPs on ICT handed in by Santarem: One has been refused, another is on the waiting list.

Thursday, 4th of October

Other future projects

Tove Heidemann: “Erasmus for all”.

(Cf. presentation)

Uncertainty about the name.

Still in the developing phase – although it has to start on the 1st of January 2014.

Important criteria: EU added value, relevance, simplification and rationalization, sustainability on individual, institutional and systemic/policy,
→ EU-paper: “Strategic priorities”

Streamlined architecture:

Key action 1: Mobility of individuals (80% of the budget)

- Erasmus also covers non EU countries.
- Joint master courses
- Student loan guarantee

Small programmes are still threatened, but we can use the individual mobility funds for “a kind of” IP.

Key action 2: Co-operation for innovation and good-practises (15% of the budget). Large projects – larger than Comenius multilateral projects. High demands, very challenging for the administration. Shift of paradigm from smaller institutions to large structures with a lot of manpower.

Key action 3: support for policy reform

Monika Röthle / Helen Sutherland: “TODDLER – present and future.”

(Cf. presentation)

2 IPs planned as TODDLER follow-up:

- Multilingual/Multicultural/Parental Involvement (Barcelona)
- Well-being/Parental Involvement (Mechelen)

Applications: by the end of February

Call FR7-Programme: small-collaborative

Carla Gutmann-Mastelli: “PEERS”.

“Project Educatif en Education en Reseau Social”

Call for new members / participants:

www.tinyurl.com/peers-website

<https://sites.google.com/suite/peers20112012>

Tove Heidemann: “Leonardo: present and future.”

Target group: School leaders, teachers for special needs education. 22.000 Euro for 24 mobilities, very easy to handle. Study visits: 5 days of school visits, discussions, etc., each partner can send 5 participants.

Positive organizational consequences: an international study week has become compulsory.

Next step: the network will split: one for school leaders (lead: Haderslev), one for special needs.

G. Laloy / M. Öberg-Tuleus: Follow-up of the IP “Philosophy at School”

Beginning of December 2 - 3: small meeting at Örebro University, in connection with a symposium (4th – 5th December): All the teachers included in the IP and potential new teachers for a reflective seminar.

Symposium: “Ethical dimensions in intercultural education” – connecting research and teaching

Funding: STT or STA (or some IP money left).

Triin Laasi et Mari Kerde (Tallinn): 2 IPs “Interactive Education” (already accepted for 12/13) and a new one (to be handed in). Partners are welcome.

T. Heidemann:

Project: new, small one-year IP “Borderland”: bilingual future teachers, bilingual children in border areas. DK, D, HU, BE (Liege), RO (Timisoara), IT (Bolzano), maybe Turku in Finland.

Curriculum development (especially for Nordic countries).

G.Laloy: IP around “Sustainable economy” is going to be introduced by Louvain-la-Neuve (*Cf. presentation*)

Administrative Council

Participants:

Monika Rothle (NO), Marga Alvarez Rodrigues (ES), Sigita Leistrumiené (LT), Juliana Costea (RO), Marianne Öberg-Tuleus (SE), Gerry O’Reilly (IRL), Tove Heidemann (DK), Andrew Powell (UK), Brigitte Bruscek (AT), Martine Wilmots (BE), Carla Gutmann-Mastelli (CH/Board), Genevieve Laloy (Board), Chantal Muller (Board), Judith Pazoniy (HU), George Camacho (PO / Board), Monika Becker (DE / Board).
(no representatives from France and from the NL)

Website:

Still work in progress, but it shows a big progress.

In the future, each member will be able change things, but the changes have to be approved by the board members. A short instruction will be sent around so that each member can fill in new information.

For the time being, members are asked to contact Genevieve for changes.

Leaflet / flyer:

Preliminary version: please indicate modifications to George
The file will be sent to the members.

PPT-Presentation about the CA:

To promote the Association, a general ppt-presentation would be very useful for various occasions. It will contain general information about each institution or a relevant link.

New members:

Vilnius has been accepted as a new member. Welcome!

Vacs: The Comenius Association is a network of institutions, not only of international coordinators. Therefore, the CA will send another letter to the Vacs rectorate with a deadline.

Tallinn and Winchester will apply.

Invitations of new potential members for Klingenthal:

Procedure: the "inviting" partner informs the potential new member (with a copy to the board). If the invited colleagues are willing to come to Klingenthal, the board will send an official invitation.

High priority:

University of Krakow

Italy? → Lecce (contact person: Juan Maria Senent) or Trento (contact person: Carla Gutmann-Mastelli)

Finland? → recommendation by Tallinn

Lower priority:

Kroatia?, Slovenia?, Bordeaux?, Kosovo?, PH Tirol (Austria)?

No clear result or conclusion of the discussion, different opinions about the next potential members to be invited.

Meetings:

Different options:

- a) Maintain Klingenthal (with one person per institution) or look for another place for the spring meetings? → If new place: keep the travel expenses in mind
- b) Only one meeting per year or maintain 2 meetings → would 1 meeting be enough?

Friday, October 5th 2012

General Assembly and closing of the meeting

New members:

Procedure:

New member institutions have to apply through a member. 2 different member institutions have to write recommendation letters. The official invitation of the potential new member to the Klingenthal meeting will be sent by the board.

New members:

New countries have higher priority: Italy, Finland, Poland. The institutions will be contacted through one member, and then receive an official invitation.

Lower priority: institutions from Slovenia, Austria, France, Balcan countries

Apor Vilmos Vacs: still a member, is being asked, but if the rectorate does not respond to the second official letter of the Association, it is concluded that they are no longer interested. Corvinus Budapest will be asked to become a member.

Next meetings:

Klingenthal 2013: 28 – 31 of May 2013 (confirmed).

Future: Two meetings will be maintained:

Klingenthal will be the place for reflection, the autumn meetings the place for practical discussions, thematic work, networking and actions.

The limited space at Klingenthal is a fact and a problem (28 – 36 persons maximum).

Therefore only one person per institution will be able to participate. The invitation and the deadline for enrolment will be very early, so that there can be a second person if there are places left.

The board will look for alternatives to be presented during the next meeting.

Two discussion topics:

- Is it realistic to have two full meetings a year?
- Klingenthal is important, but will not last forever.

Autumn meeting 2013: Alkmaar/Haarlem: 9 -11 October.

(in connection with the TODDLER final conference: 8 October.2013 in Ghent.

Autumn meeting 2014: Lausanne 23 – 26 September

Participation and fee for the meetings: It is always a problem for the organization if people come late or/end leave earlier, etc. The participation fee is the result of a good calculation and negotiation with the local hotel, restaurants, etc. Therefore the fee for the meetings is a lump sum and not negotiable for participants who arrive later or leave earlier.

Communication of and within the Comenius Association:

E-mail-addresses:

Reminder to keep the “membres”-e-mail-address updated and communicate changes to Geneviève.

The new e-mail-address of the Board will be communicated by e-mail very soon.

Website:

www.associationcomenius.org

The instructions how to fill in information will be sent around as soon as they will be ready.

Leaflet / Flyer:

The new, improved version of the leaflet will be sent around by pdf and as paper version.

Carla Gutmann will prepare a version in French.

PPT-Presentation:

To facilitate the publicity, a general ppt-presentation about the Comenius Association will be developed.

Journal:

INHOLLAND is going to take it over for the next one or two years.

Topic: Internationalization in times of crises, Education in times of the crisis (but emphasize the positive side)

Aim: Give more space to students and let them write about their experiences

Financial statement

Treasurer George Camacho is presenting the financial report and the financial situation of the Association.

The financial report is approved by Lia Frederiks and Bertrand Monville.

Warm thanks, gifts and kind words to all the persons contributing to the success of the meeting and the Association at the official end of the meeting

Monika Becker, 9.12.2012