



Spring Meeting 2014 Klingenthal, France

Tuesday, 13th of May to Friday 16st of May 2014

Report

Tuesday, 13th of May 2014

Opening session of the meeting

- Welcome
- Introduction of the participants
- Introduction of the programme
- Institutions not participating this time: Örebro, Haapsalu, Hradec Králové, Timisoara, Lincoln, Vilnius, Salento (had enrolled as a potential new member)
- Introduction of the rules of the castle
- Reminder that the contributions can be done in English and in French, but that not necessarily everything will be translated in both languages.

Wednesday, 14th of May 2014

- Opening
- Explanation of the absence of the University of Salento

Situation in Switzerland (*explanations given by Soledad Soldevila*)

As a consequence of the result of the referendum against mass migration in Switzerland and the following decision of the European Commission, Switzerland had introduced SEMP (Swiss-European Mobility Programme); partners were contacted immediately with new bilateral agreements. Within this programme, Switzerland will take charge of the mobility support for incomings and outgoings students, teachers and staff. Most EU countries and partners have accepted this solution and have signed the agreements. The details are still open. This situation is considered to be an interim solution.

→*Will the Lausanne meeting be affected in any way?* There are differing answers coming from different national agencies. (The NA of the French-speaking part of Belgium agrees: we can use it, provided it is used to promote mobility with partners within Erasmus. However, the NA of Portugal says it is not possible.) Please ask your own NA to be sure.

Evaluation of the IPs taking place in 2013/14

- **Generation Y** (presented by Martine Wilmots): very positive evaluation by teachers and students. All the persons involved are sorry that there is no 4th round KA2 application handed in with a limited number of partners.
- **Soundshaping** (presented by Lia Frederiks): very positive evaluation <http://soundshaping2014.wordpress.com>
- **E-Skills (George Camacho)**: 2nd edition, better group dynamics than during the first edition. Idea: to reintroduce it as a strategic partnership, wish to continue the contacts and the work
- **Bootcamp** (Haapsaluu; presented by Jonathan Rooke and Jette Laursen): 3rd edition. Very positive evaluation, large group of students. Idea: follow-up through reaserch.
- **Ethics and Inclusion** (Ghent, presented by Kia Kimhag), 2nd edition
- **Early Years / Creativity** (Fanö/DK, presented by Chantal Muller): 3rd edition, 11 partners, large group. Good continuity for the teachers, very good interaction. Follow-up: staff weeks, final thesis, etc. Wish to go on with something with the international colleagues they know. <http://www.youngdiscoverers-ip.henallux.be/2014.htm>
 - **Sustainable Development** (LLN, presented by Geneviève Laloy): general observation: participation in a short experience often leads to longer and more intensive commitment in international activities. Follow-up: focus on doing research together (Best experience for the students: preparing an activity for other students.)
Follow-up: teacher staff week “sustainable development in education” (between November 2014 and February 2015), to develop a new application for next year.

Evaluation International Weeks

- What to keep
- what to rethink
- suggestions

Evaluation Erasmus student mobility

- Added value
- Problem issues
- Suggestions

Evaluation Erasmus teaching mobility

Successful mobility

Wishes

Limits

Comenius Journal 2014:

The next journal will be coordinated by the University of Valencia

Subject: "Sustainability", but any other articles are welcome

The call will be published very soon. Colleagues are asked to hand in their abstracts **by June 15**

Deadline of the completed article: 25 July, in order to finish the journal in time for Lausanne.

Address: Carmen Carmona, Carmen.carmona@uv.es

Instructions will be sent with the call. Please think of a picture and a short biography of the author.

If an institution wishes to have more than 15 copies, please tell UV in advance. Also: if you less, please let them also know.

Please be aware that the journal is an important tool to make our activities visible – in a professional way.

- ➔ *Discussion: Should the statistics / mobility numbers be included in the journal? Should we start with the grid again?* There is a general wish to have the statistics continued, but not clear how to manage to get the information by the participants.

Erasmus + and the perspectives for 2014/15

Cf. presentation Chantal Muller

Erasmus +: There will be differences, but the basic ideas will remain the same.

1. KA 1: Individual Mobility = 63% of the budget. Student mobility: Minimum 2 months (SMP) or 3 months (SMS), maximum 12 mois. Teachers' mobility: minimum 2 days and 8 hours of teaching.
2. KA 2: Cooperation = 28% of the budget.
3. KA 3: Policy making (not relevant for the Comenius Association – yet)

Turkey and Norway participate as programme countries (they can coordinate projects), but not Switzerland at the moment.

By 2020 20% of the students should be internationally mobile

- What's new:

1. Student mobility: 12 months per study cycle. Student loans for Master programmes abroad. Erasmus also for alumni (if application handed in during the last year of studies)
2. Strategic partnerships: 3-10 partners, common goal, European added-value. Cross-sectoral cooperation is encouraged.

Discussion: What is the role of the partner institutions in the Comenius Association if a student wants to have a student placement (only): They may help and guide the students, but they are not expected to provide the student with practical help or a placement.

KA 2 applications handed in by the Comenius Association

Results of the meeting in Brussels (February 2014; preparatory meeting for a possible application):

1) Chantal Muller / Monika Becker: “Give every child a chance”

(Cf. presentation)

6 thematic study weeks within 3 years, “red thread”: help to overcome disadvantaged groups

Plan: to be handed in in April 2015 by Schwäbisch Gmünd

Idea: follow-up of former, isolated IPs

- 2) Geneviève Laloy: Comparative Education.** Blended courses: 1 week face-to-face-teaching, 5 weeks online. Target groups: Teachers, former students, headmasters of schools, teachers' associations. They are going to present more in Lausanne.

Experience with other KA2 applications:

- Dublin: is partner in a KA2 project on primary schools and early years, lot of administrative work
- Schwäbisch Gmünd is partner in a KA2 project on CLIL; general remark: no last-minute-things possible anymore
- Namur, partner in a KA2 project: Subject: how to promote mobility. Not impossible, but more administration. It is more likely to get accepted if a school (and not a HEI) hands in the application.
- Valencia (Catholica): Study weeks on inclusion, follow up of a former Leonardo project
- HEP Lausanne: KA2 on the PEERS project, application coordinated by another HEI in Liège (not HELMO)

Strategic Partnerships – KA2

Follow-up of a work started in Alkmaar (October 2013)

Invitation to add (or delete) subjects and institutions from the list of possible projects.

A follow-up will take place in Lausanne.

Emphasis on short stays - they are special for the CA.

Idea Monika Roethle: Health topics (inside and outside school) will become more important

Administrative Council

Organization of the spring meeting

- Absences from the meeting, consequences for the Association, for the institutions and for the individual: if a cancellation takes place less than 5 days before the meeting – or not at all, the non-participants will have to pay for the additional costs.
- Invitations have to be sent in February, deadline end of March.
- Please confirm also if persons do NOT attend.
- Ask to forward it to other colleagues.
- The e-mail-address will be included into the enrolment form.

- Discussion on how to reduce the number of early-leavers on Friday: shorter excursion on Thursday; leave after 10 a.m. on Friday.

Possible new members:

- Thurgau (German-speaking part of Switzerland): they will join the Lausanne meeting
- University of Education Krakow (but the contact given by Gerry O'Reilley, Beata Stankowska, has not replied to any of the recent e-mails anymore ... → new contact?)
- Finland (University of Applied Sciences Yvaskylä)
- Northern Ireland (re-contact Peter Finn)

They will receive an invitation for Lausanne.

New members procedure:

- For Klingenthal they do not have to pay for the 70 Euro inscription.
- For the autumn meeting: They have to pay as all the others. If there is a special person invited to present something, it is different.

Autumn Meeting Lausanne 2015

- 30.9. – 3.10.2015
- Enrollment (online) by 10th of June
- Fee: 420 Euros
- 25th Anniversary-celebration: a Comenius mug

Elections:

Mandates of the two secretaries and of the treasurer will be reelected in Lausanne.

- Monika Becker (her mandate has already expired in 2013) would like to be a candidate again.
- Carla Gutmann-Mastelli will stop after Lausanne because of her retirement. She will be active in the Association in a different way.
- George Camacho would like to be candidate again.

Thursday, 14th of May

International Weeks (Preliminary dates)

- Karel de Groot Antwerp 8.12. – 12.12.2014
- Louvain la Neuve 2.2.-6.2.2015
- Barcelona 9.2. – 13.2.2015 (Special topic: Bilingualism)
- ESCUNI 9.3. – 13.3.2015
- Apor Vomos Vács, March 2015
- Thomas More 30.3. – 3.4.2015
- Liège (dates still have to be communicated)
- Schwäbisch Gmünd 13.4. – 17.4. or 20.4. – 24.4.
- UCSYD Haderslev 20.4. – 24.4. (Special topic: IT and socratic dialogue. Visitors welcome!)
- Santarem 20. – 23.4.2015

General information:

New structure of the Erasmus courses UCSYD:

Autumn: "A swan is born" (elementary)

Spring: "Dare to win" (cancelled this year, but rather for preprimary)

Spring: "Living and learning together" (primary and secondary)

All Erasmus courses:

Now open to Danish students, therefore a new "modularized" structure (cf. programme and UCSYD website)

Aartevelde Ghent:

"Bridges in Education" now 30 ECTS (9th of February – end of June): preprimary, primary and secondary education.

HEP:

English programme in spring 2015, 30 ECTS for all levels from 2016 on.

La Salle:

20 or 30 ECTS in English (practice included) in the spring

Schwäbisch Gmünd: English programme (30 ECTS, practice and German language course included) in the spring semester (April – July)

Vienna: Number of English courses is growing; winter and summer semester. Primary and secondary

Thomas More:

Conference, together with the University of Leuven: "Theology and Philosophy of Children" 25 – 28 February.

Teachers needed:

- Visual Arts (1st semester)
- Story Telling (2nd semester)
- Poverty (2nd semester)

HELMO:

Staff week: Employability 25 – 27 of February

Stavanger:

Comparative Education as usual: spring 2015

Drama and Intercultural Communication: spring 2015

LLN:

4th year "Comparative Education": teachers wanted to present their educational systems, and do an activity with the students.

Insurance matters:

Different procedures, some institutions help the students to find the right insurance, others decline the responsibility it to the student.

Advise: National Agencies

Check websites embassy.

Martine Wilmots: The new E+ learning agreement

Cf. presentation

New: It has to be made sure that **all** the credits will be replaced. Europe wants to make sure students get validation for all ECTS.

New: There will a language competence test to assess the competence before and after the mobility – the test will be the same for everybody, but it is not ready yet, and the consequences have not been defined yet.

New: It will be necessary to specify in case of failure: second chance? Procedure?

New: Changes are only in exceptional cases, with explanations and to be signed within the first two weeks after arrival.

New: Full recognition at the home institution has to be documented in a detailed way (with ECTS, local grade, etc.).

New: Alternative ways of examination are accepted (for example Skype), but it has to be mentioned in the learning agreement.

Different ways to handle the complexity of the document: Split it in different parts (suggestion Martine Wilmots), work with scans.

Friday 16th of May

Sustainability (example: “Which children do we leave to our planet” by Geneviève Laloy)

A) Sustainability on an individual, local or global level

B) Sustainability in Education

➔ Example: IP “Which children do we leave to our planet” in March 2014

Network to assure continuity: réseau idée

C) Sustainability in international projects and in the Comenius Association

- What helps and what blocks the realization of such projects?
- Do they meet the needs of all the participants?
- Are the different dimensions of sustainability included in an interdisciplinary and systematic way?

The different levels of sustainability will be the topic of the Lausanne meeting 2014

Request: Lausanne participants should be given questions before the meeting.

General Assembly

Organisation of Klingenthal

Next year, the meeting will stop after breakfast (and maybe a short working time), the participants will leave before lunch - but is to be agreed with Mrs. Stinzi.

Absences: last-minute cancellations will have to pay for at least one night

Lausanne 2014:

- 30.9. – 3.10.2014
- The invitation will be sent right after the meeting, online registration by the 10th of June.
- Payment: on the account of the Comenius Association, as early as possible.
- Fee: 420 Euros
- Travel recommendations will be given on the website as well as other practical information, updated on a regular base.
- Content: Lecture on sustainability and lecture on inclusion
- There will be no school visits
- Finance: Can we use OM inspite of the current situation in Switzerland. Please check you're your own National Agency. Justification: Meeting of all partners. Therefore "bilateral contacts" should have an important part in the programme.

Elections:

- If a mandate is expiring before the time, the new mandate starts from zero.
- Secretary 1: Monika (the mandate has expired already last year, will have to be elected). Monika would like to candidate again.
- Secretary 2: Carla will stop after Lausanne. A new secretary will have to be elected.
- Treasurer: The mandate will have to be renewed. George would like to candidate again.

Potential new members: Monika will send an invitation to Salento, PH Thurgau (confirmed already), Krakow, Yvaskylä, Belfast, Strasbourg. They will receive the invitation, but they have to pay as all the others will have to do.

25th Anniversary of the CA:

The participants will receive a mug as a present.

"Friends of the Association" (Carla Gutmann-Mastelli)

A group of formerly active members is proposing to offer help with their time and their expertise. No new association needed, it is already stated in the statutes. "Volunteer individual members" as a "think tank". Carla asks everybody to send names of formerly active members either to Carla or to Wim.

Website:

There is a website, and it works!

Update the website and the "membres"-list.

Application for a “consultative participation” in the Council of Europe: the result will be published by November/December