



Spring meeting Klingenthal

May 22nd – 25th 2012

Tuesday, May 22nd 2012 – Plenary Session

Welcome by the president Geneviève Laloy

Introduction of the participants

Introduction of the new “procedure”: only one person per institution accepted

Clarification that the Association will maintain English and French as the two working languages

Explanation of the institutions not present this time: Gävle, ESCUNI (for health reasons); La Salle, Timisoara: difficult financial situation of the institutions; Paris: organizational reasons (exams); Dublin: personal reasons; Catholic University Valencia: personal reasons.

The organization will consider how to cope with the situation in a better way.

New potential member: University College Vilnius (VIKO)

Maybe next year new institutions from Poland, Bulgaria, Italy, UK will be invited.

Wednesday, May 23rd

1. Introduction University College Vilnius (Vilnius Kolegija VIKO), Sigita Leistrumiene (International Coordinator)

VIKO: University College as an University of Applied Sciences, it is not the University of Education Vilnius.

The pedagogy department consists of 4 programmes: preschool (1,5 – 6): 3 years, primary school (6-11) 4 years, social pedagogy: 3 years, sign language: 3 years

Practice: 25% of the programmes.

6 ECTS course on “Reflective Pedagogy” in English

30 ECTS programme in English almost finished

Possibility to do placements and to come for research

s.leistrumiene@viko.lt

www.viko.lt

Visitors speaking English are very welcome.

2. Evaluation International Weeks

a) Positive Aspects:

Very intensive experience, much appreciated by all the participants

A stepping stone for longer exchanges in the future

Good international experience for all (also for those who otherwise do not go abroad)

Great enthusiasm among teachers and students

Good opportunity to come as a guest teacher

Impact on the internationalization of the institution and higher visibility of international activities within the institution (which can stimulate colleagues to participate)

Wider dissemination of the results due to the higher number of institutions involved.

Recognition thanks to ECTS

New insights and interdisciplinary

Group work and shared leadership

Combined activities can even increase the impact of the weeks: reports, presse releases / press conferences, international thematic days, events for Erasmus students, school visits.

New opportunities instead of the concept of “holidays”.

b) Aspects which can contribute to an improvement of the weeks:

There should be a clear clarification of the costs. Involve more home students and teachers – not only by numbers, but also by activities. Invite more teachers from abroad. Ask students to prepare a presentation of their experience. Provide the weeks with ECTS – which really get recognition, or

certify the international experience in another way. Reasonable application deadlines should be maintained. Think about the reduction of administrative work. Think about the length of a project (by adding preparation and follow-up). The programme has to be accepted as a whole concept (not as a range of activities to be chosen or not by each student). Include the numbers of participants into the mobility statistics. Announce the programme as early as possible (also on the Comenius Website). Clarify the conditions and the expectations; organise a preparatory meeting for the outgoing students. Find accommodation and pay it before the week starts. Accommodate participating international students with Erasmus students. Try to have a reciprocal exchange – if possible. Include cultural activities and school visit to have a big variety of activities. Concentrate on English as working language. Advertise the project among first semester students.

The five essential aspects of a successful international week are:

- inclusion of school visits, cultural events and discussions.
- concentration on a specific theme
- practical activities within the group
- research activities
- inclusion into the course programme of the host institution.

3. Evaluation IP

3.1 Juan Maria Senent, Valencia: *Memories of the past – hope for the future*

Positive team spirit.

Teachers were really involved. Everything well prepared avant and on site.

For most participants: unknown territory: relationship young and elderly people. Intensive, deep discussions.

Preliminary work of an IP is enormous. Otherwise it does not work. The two weeks are only one part of it. Close cooperation teachers and students is necessary.

Practicalities: food and accommodation. The students should be prepared to live in different conditions.

Work to be done after the project:

Evaluation

Website: www.ipmemories.X90X.net

Blog and Webquest

3.2 Genevieve Laloy, Louvain-la-Neuve: *La Philosophie à l'école : un outil pour développer la Citoyenneté européenne*

3rd (and last) year: 28 students and 11 teachers (also from outside the project).

Space for reflection

The group was a real team

Visibility of the IP: most work has to be done during the IP (most participants do not have time to dedicate after the project): e.g. the webmaster joined the group during the last two days.

Good cooperation with a local school.

Funding: not sufficient. Funding added from the University and from OM money.

Very philosophical discussions about THE END. → follow-up seminar in December with Teaching Staff Mobility.

www.citphilip.be

3.3 Chantal Muller, Namur: *Early Years: discovery with all the senses*

40 students, 18 teachers involved.

2 preparatory meetings: a lot had been discussed beforehand, teachers knew each other beforehand. Teachers from all possible subjects, a very wide range. Well connected through good preparation and through teachers staying there.

Simple living conditions, therefore less financial burden to students.

Positive side effect of the simple conditions: no internet connection stimulated communication; most students appreciated it after a while. Students spent a lot of time in a natural surrounding, having time to reflect upon what they did.

Outcomes week 1:

- 1) Toolbox: what to do with little children outside in the nature.
- 2) Booklet: Self-reflection: Personal development, intercultural development, professional development.

Week 2: Work with children – even if they did not share the language. The students spent 3 mornings with children.

Very positive feedback by students, children, teachers.

4. Evaluation Erasmus Student Mobility and Teaching Staff Mobility:

- Which things concerning Student Mobility should be discussed at our next meeting?
- What made your teachers go?

These two aspects will be discussed in depth during the Budapest Autumn meeting.

5. Tove Heidemann: Leonardo-Project for school leaders “Training the change agents”.

No teacher training, but in-service training (in this case for school leaders).

The project is running on its own: decentralized programme – easy to handle for the coordinator.
“International weeks” for school leaders and teachers: 5 day study week; the programme consists of school visits, lectures, discussions, presentations.

Participants apply for mobility (=1 person travelling abroad for 1 night).

The only thing you have to prove is to have sent 24 persons abroad per institution.

Each partner can send 4 participants (also HEI teachers) in order to create an international group.

Kingston, Namur, Fontis Amsterdam, Utrecht, Kiel, Eskeshehir; Antwerp has applied, but they have not got support.

International weeks so far: Kolding, Fontis Amsterdam, Kingston – and very soon in Namur.

Follow-up: Eskeshehir might coordinate the next round.

Main problem: recruiting enough participants (solution: at some places it is part of an international Master programme in further education).

Funding: 500 Euro as support per person (which is enough in most cases).

Last chance in 2013 (the programme will disappear with the next Erasmus generation), but somehow it will continue

6. Monika Roethle, Stavanger: TODDLER

Interim progress report (and an internal interim report) has been handed in.

Advise: from the content and the richness it is good to have many partners, but for financial reasons it is a problem: it makes meetings more expensive.

Results so far:

State of the art report (French-speaking Belgian)

Portugal: report on well-being

DK: reflective practitioner

Practical advice for any EU project: if the director/president of an institution is changing, please tell it to the EU – if possible by registered letter.

Final Toddler conference, 7th/8th October 2013, Ghent.

CA members are invited; Norway: they hope to motivate members of the city administration of Stavanger

Call: each institution is invited to send colleagues and connected persons interested (parents' organisations, trade unions, municipal administrations, etc.)

Call to Toddler members: send colleagues to Comenius seminars, so they know how such a seminar works.

Call: send colleagues to the TRAM-Conference in Munich in June and to the EECRE conference 2012 in Porto. Monika and Helen are going to give a lecture on Toddler.

Plans to continue with an IP.

Dissemination is very important and has to be improved.

7. Carla Gutmann-Mastelli, Lausanne: PEERS (=“projets d'équipes estudiantines en réseaux sociaux”).

International teams of 3 students and 1 teacher from two different institutions (one of them HEP Vaud).

The teams work online and in 2 tandem contact seminars throughout an entire year. The topic fits into the students' curriculum (e.g. science, sustainability, geography) The students can get credits (either geography or science).

Different international partners (topics: science, sustainability):

HEP Vaud, LU Boston, SDSU San Diego, HSU Arcata, USIP Cochabamba (Bolivia); Singapore will join in 2012.

Only the Swiss participants get funding – international partners are welcome, but they will have to find funding on their own.

Research at 3 different levels: students, teachers and institution. A publication will be finished by 2014.

8. Future IP-projects:

IP Hradec Kralove: March 2013. “New ways how to teach”

Stavanger, Haderslev, Hradec Kralove, Timisoara, Mechelen: approved, will take place in March 2013

IP Liege / Mechelen: “Sound shaping music”

Approved, takes probably place in March 2013

IP Liege / Mechelen “Generation Y”

Approved, takes probably place in March 2013

(both projects have been initiated by Martine Chevalier)

IP Valencia: second edition „Hopes for the Future”

Approved, will probably take place in March 2013

IP Namur: Early Years

Beginning of April 2013 (has already been accepted)

IP Santarem: ICT and Education

March / April 2013 (if approved)

IP Santarem ICT and personal environment

March / April 2013 (if approved)

IP Valencia Catolica: Anthropology of Landscape

There will be the opportunity to arrange a preparatory meeting during the Hungary meeting in autumn.

9. Other projects:

Vienna: Erasmus course in English

Target group: teacher training students able to understand English.

Duration: 3 months, 20 ECTS plus extra things to add.

Includes teaching practice especially for incoming international students

The “normal” incoming students will also be welcome.

Bridges in Education (Ghent)

English programme, 3 or 4 months, including school practice

Living and Learning Together (Haderslev)

Little changes: new option: Learning through the senses AND Learning through creative and practical experiences

10. Workshops

I: Teaching Practise: follow up of the results of the Dublin meeting

A list of “things to know” will be handed to all member institutions. The result will be an overview of placement options.

➔ Rather guidelines for international coordinators than an information sheet for students!

II Research: academic and applied research

Participants: Chantal Muller, Monika Rothle, Helen Sutherland, Lia Frederiks, Marianne Öberg-Tuleus, Myriam Guerra, Vera Tauchmanova, Judith Payzoni, Claudia Capanchoni, George Camaco, Joan Maria Senent, Chris Verstraeten, Tove Heidemann, Carla Gutmann-Mastelli.

According to the board, there are two different types of research going on in the institutions. Both should be appreciated in the same way.

Every institution should be able to answer the following questions: Which type of research takes place in our institution? Which type of funding has been successful in the past?

The Comenius Association can take three different roles: mediator (to create contacts between partners), door-opener through personal contacts and platform for networking and dissemination.

The Association should be aware of the calls from the 7th European Framework.

Due to its legal status, the Association itself is unable to apply for funding, but the personal contacts could compensate for that.

During the Budapest meeting, there will be a PhD student presenting her research on the impact of mobility in connection with research.

11. Administrative council:

11.1 Next meetings:

- Autumn meeting 2012: Budapest October Tuesday 2 – Friday 5th 2012 (Meeting will be finished by afternoon).
- Autumn meeting 2013: INHOLLAND: complete re-organisation of the institution, therefore no decision yet about 2013 meeting.
- Autumn meeting 2014: Lausanne

Klingenthal meetings, procedure for the future:

Registration deadline: March 1st

The board will send a confirmation immediately after the deadline

Priority will be given to one person per institution. After the application deadline the meeting will be opened to more than one person per institution (under the condition that participants might share a room if there are not enough rooms available).

11.2 New potential members to be invited:

Winchester (UK) , (Bulgaria), Lecce (Italy), (Estonia) and Poland: They will be invited for Budapest (with the accommodation for one persons per new institution being paid by the Association)

For next Klingenthal: Finland and France (Bordeaux)

11.3 Wim's party: gifts, organization, charges, etc.

11.4 Leaflet: will be finished as a paper version and an electronic version by the Budapest meeting.

11.5 Website: The board has taken in charge the website again. The 5 board members can make changes. All the members can make changes and contributions, but one of the 5 board members has to approve them.

Most information will be open for everybody, only the reports and pictures will be put on internal pages.

11.6 Journal:

Deadline journal 30 June. Board will take over the proofreading.

Call to send in complete contributions (to save time and efforts); cf. call Judith Payzony.

Thursday, May 2012 24th

1. The future of the European Programmes (Tove Heidemann, Haderslev)

Cf. presentation "Erasmus for all"

Main tendencies:

Change from sector division to activities. Reason: much money has not been spent

From small scale projects to large scale projects

New Erasmus:

- 1) Individual Learning Mobility: 80% of the money (students, teachers, trainers, adult educators, school teachers, youth, volunteers, youth workers)
- 2) Institutional cooperation: Partnerships with businesses will be prioritized, web-based educational resources, formal and non-formal covered
- 3) Policy cooperation: open method of coordination: pilot projects

High priority:

- long term mobility for staff
- Knowledge Alliances with private enterprises
- Non-formal / informal learning
- Dissemination strategies will be more important!
- Middle-East and Northafrica (“neighbouring countries”), but also Brazil, China, India.

Budget increase: +73% compared to 2014 – 2020

Erasmus IPs: will probably be maintained due to the intervention of all the National Agencies

Discussion themes:

- IPs?
- Many small projects or fewer larger?
- Support novice institutions or well established networks?

At the moment there is money to be spent before the current generation will end.

Suggestion for one of the next meetings: how to establish contacts with the private sector?

Other suggestion: the role sports and art in humanistic education

Follow-up by Tove in Budapest (September).

2. Reflection on the values behind the Comenius Associations and behind internationalization (Carla Gutmann-Mastelli, Lausanne)

Ice-breaking activity: second name and mother’s family name. → Names imply identities, but they might mislead.

Reason behind the value-workshop: Find out what are the common values of the Comenius Association. If we are more aware of our values and our aims we will know how to proceed in difficult / changing times.

Activity: Statements and connected values

First activity: (individually) identify situations which determine the individual's relationship towards others and which determine his/her behavior.

Second activity: (group) connect these situations with certain values.

Third activity (plenary session): which are the values emerging within the Comenius Association?

Remarks: some instructions have not been clear enough, some translations might have been misleading, fundamental values missing in the list of values (e.g. openness).

Afternoon: Guided tour Strasbourg (guided tour and free time)

Evening: Wim's celebration

Friday 25th of May 2012

1. Future of the Erasmus IP (Wim Friebe, Alkmaar)

Useful advice for a successful IP:

6 categories, 20 credits each.

Minimum per category: 11 credits! (even if it is only below in 1 category, the project is rejected)

Overall minimum: 70

Good projects normally get 14 – 15 credits per category, but only the projects with the highest number of credits will get accepted.

Some differences per National Agency, although the procedure would be the same for all NAs.

(The following numbers refer to the chapter numbers in the IP application form)

4.1: relevance of the project:

Specification is essential.

The added value is very important

Multi-disciplinary approach

4.2: Summary.

Difference learning outcomes and expected output (i.e. products for dissemination). Dissemination is always a problem

4.4: Project objectives

Transversal competences are very important.

Be careful to be realistic; if objectives are not fulfilled, there will be problems after the report.

Do not hesitate to repeat things!

4.5: Methodology

Frequent problems: “level” – often not specified clearly enough

ECTS: 3 points for 2 weeks (not more unless you prove it).

4.6.: Work programme

Activities 6-7 hours a day. As detailed as possible (including names of the teachers, detailed programme)

Crucial category: Things from 4.1 – 4.5 will have to be mentioned again.

4.7: Partnership

What is the specific task?

Ways of communication and cooperation.

Describe the profile of the participants

4.8: Project management

Refer to previous categories

Difference between Evaluation and Monitoring:

Monitoring: the general way you are looking over the programme

Evaluation: backview to improve next time (more details).

General tendencies of the programme “Erasmus for all”:

Change of the programme is politically wanted

3 divisions:

1. Individual mobility
2. Cooperation between institutions
3. Educational policy

Future of the IPs: the NAs want them to continue.

Discussions in September and October.

www.ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-for-all/

Although this type of programme will not continue after 2014, the basic principles will remain the same in other projects.

2. Short feedback of the workshops:

I Teaching Practise: Guidelines

Martine Wilmots will share her document with the Association

More specific information will be added, e.g.:

Age group

Context (e.g. immigrants, special needs)

Police check / CRB check

II Research

Gap between applied research – academic research

3 questions: What kind of research? What kind of funding? What do you expect from the Association?

Conclusions:

- Share information by e-mails
- Networking and attending conferences (academic conferences and coordinators conferences like EAIE).
- CA: platform to disseminate ideas to implement research

Literature recommended by Monika Röthle: *Mobility Framework and Standards for teachers Trainees (2 volumes)*. Publié en 2012 par Artevelde. ISBN: 978 90 441 2888 8

3. New projects:

- Tove Heidemann:

Within the 7th Framework (especially the Cultural Encounters framework)

Outline submitted: long-term impact of school exchanges (at the age of 15/16)

Partners: Matchmaking conference Berlin: Frankfurt/Main, Kiel, Kingston, Linköping: submitted 4th of May, answer expected by July. Detailed project description has to be handed in after approval.

- Monika Röthle: Idea to have an IP emerging from Toddler, as one way to disseminate the project, but another partner than Stavanger will have to do it.
- Chantal: Idea: IP on sciences: for secondary science teachers. It would be coordinated by Namur, but located at Schwäbisch Gmünd.
- Genevieve Laloy: Idea on an IP about Sustainability / Socio-economic environment

4. Wim Friebel:

- thanks for the celebration and the gifts
- offers airplane reformed cheese to everybody ;-)
- announces to be in the background of the Association
- informs us that there are still 5 Comenius plates left
- proposes to show the pictures of the grand children ;-)

5. General Assembly:

5.1 Journal: the call has been sent around. Deadline 30 of June. Please respect (not try to respect). The journal will be done in cooperation between Vacs and Mechelen

Suggestions: Include the MOST-Project coordinators into the Journal

5.2 Meetings:

Budapest: 2 October (starting 5/6 p.m) – 5 October 2012 (end after lunch) (board arrives on Monday 1st); excursion on Thursday afternoon. More time provided for Comenius Association activities.

Topics:

- *How do HEI cope with the financial economic crisis. How can the exchange programmes help?*
- *Research*

Klingenthal 2013:

Dates to be confirmed by the Foundation, between May 15 and May 31 2013 (quite likely between May 28 – May 31)

Procedure: earlier deadline (invitations sent by 1st of February, deadline 1st of March). When the deadline has passed, send the list around immediately and propose to send a second person.

Autumn 2013: to be confirmed by Harlem (the meeting should be close to the Toddler final conference at Aartvelde/Ghent)

Autumn 2014: Lausanne (confirmed)

5.3 New members:

Potential new members from Estonia, UK (Winchester), Finland, Bulgaria, Poland, Italy (Lecce), France (Bordeaux). They will be invited for Budapest (the Association will cover the costs for the accommodation and for the meals for one person per institution; the travel expenses will have to be covered by the institutions) If they will not be able to come to Budapest, they will be invited for next Klingenthal.

5.4 Comenius Leaflet:

Short texts, to be ready for the Budapest meeting (in paper and electronic versions)

5.5 Comenius-Website:

www.associationcomenius.org

An important tool for the Association, but a “Loch Ness monster” for a long time.

The previous website did not respond to the reality behind the Association.

Geneviève recalls the enormous work Kia has invested to have a very interactive website. The new website contains website of the old “static” and the previous, very interactive one; the new webmaster will be located in Belgium.

Almost everything on the website is public. Exceptions are the reports and photo galleries.

Each member can make changes, but one of the 5 board members has to confirm. Genevieve Laloy is going to provide us with a manual how to use the website.

There will be a call to develop a new, more dynamic logo of the Association – also to underline this important step in the life of the Comenius Association.