

Edinburgh, 5 June 2008

EUCEN NATIONAL NETWORK (NN) MEMBERS' MEETING MINUTES

Present:

EUCEN Executive Committee Representatives: Alison J Hughes and Carme Royo
Estonia: ENUCE (Ülle Kesli)
Germany: DGWF (Ina Grieb) – apologies from Helmut Vogt
Finland: UCEF (Kauko Hämäläinen)
France: CDSUFC (Michel Feutrie) – apologies from Jean-Marie Filloque
Latvia: (Marika Burkovska)
UK: UaLL (Alison J Hughes)
Scotland: SUaLL (Theresa Hoare)
Spain: RUEPEC (Juan Carlos Rodriguez)
Switzerland: Swissuni (Suzanne de Jonckheere & Florence Aschierio)

Apologies for absence from: Austria: AUCEN (Andrea Waxenegger) ; Portugal: AUPEC (Alfredo Soeiro) ; Spain: ACECU (Charo Romano)

1. Presentation from Scottish National Network

Theresa Hoare gave a very informative presentation on the Scottish National Network SUaLL (document attached). It was noted that the activities are carried out by active enthusiastic sub-committees although this is all carried out on a voluntary basis with no paid staff for the network. The sub-committees address issues such as widening participation, research, management and administration of University LLL and workplace learning. The members comprise both academics and administrative staff.

2. Items from previous meeting (Hannover)

- AJH had emailed NN members re the Education and Training 2010 review of recent national reports. She had collated the responses and forwarded them to the EUCEN president to reflect in the EUCEN response.

- AJH had taken back to EUCEN Executive Committee the NNs' concern that some networks meet infrequently and so cannot feed back immediately to items raised by EUCEN. EUCEN Executive Committee has agreed that when making requests for feedback or action it will confirm that it is acceptable for the individual networks to respond as they see fit. So where time is an important issue, sometimes the elected representatives of the network may wish to reply without having to formally obtain feedback from all its members. It would always be left to the individual networks to decide on the most appropriate action. AJH has been incorporating this in emails to the NN members.
- EUCEN Executive Committee agreed that NN meetings at EUCEN Conferences will be given a specific time slot in the main conference.
- The suggestion made by Helmut Vogt from DGWF re a database of LLL expertise within the NN elected officers/board members has been reviewed by EUCEN Executive Committee. This fits in with its other discussions about expanding EUCEN databases and will be taken forward in conjunction with this.

3. Revision of NN pages on EUCEN Website

The NN pages on the EUCEN website are now accessed directly from the EUCEN home page. AJH has amended the current text of the main NN page and Carme will replace the old version soon.

There will be a link from the table on the main page to a separate sub-page for each NN, which will contain updated information. It was agreed that consistency in the information presented by the various networks is desirable and to that end AJH will provide a template outlining the information and format required to update the current information.

AJH to contact NN members with the requested format for updated information

4. Post-Education and Training 2010 – review of national reports

It is likely that EUCEN will need to respond to the EU's proposals re post- E&T 2010, and so in due course AJH will be asking NNs for their views.

5. Future study visits

EUCEN Executive Committee has agreed that future study visits, where possible, will be attached to a EUCEN Conference. The next study visit will be in Tallinn, EE in November 2008.



There will also be a study visit in Spring 2009 to the EC/ EU Parliament in Brussels organised in conjunction with the EUCEN Conference at Louvain/Leuven.

6. Future NN activities

- Those present agreed it would be useful for their NNs to include the discussion of European LLL issues as a standing agenda item in their own meetings (if they do not already do this).
AJH to convey this suggestion to all NN members.
- The issue of restructuring of HE providers was arising in a number of countries (e.g. DE, DK, FI, ES). It was agreed that NNs could assist in this ongoing debate.
- DGWF asked those present re their experiences and views on the use of paid staff in their NNs –e.g. does this 'professionalize' the work of the network, the effect on member fees etc. It was agreed that the NN would discuss this in more detail at the next meeting.
AJH to circulate this request for information.
- It was noted that there are various mobility grants (e.g. Grundtvig) that would enable study type visits between networks for development of ideas/projects etc.
AJH to identify the websites containing this information and post it on the NN webpage and also notify all NN members.
- It was agreed that NNs could make use of the EUCEN newsletter to raise questions, notify conference dates etc.
AJH to email NN members before each newsletter is due to be published to request any items for inclusion.

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