

EUCEN 38th Conference



Jönköping, 7 November 2009
Time: 14.30 – 15.30

NATIONAL & REGIONAL NETWORKS (NN) MEETING MINUTES

Present:

EUCEN Executive Committee Representatives: Alison J Hughes, Toril Eikaas Eide, Agustí Ten and Carme Royo

Austria: AUCEN (Andrea Waxenegger)

Finland : UCEF (Helka Urponen)

France: CDSUFC (Jean-Marie Filloque)

Germany: DGWF (Helmut Vogt)

Italy: (Guiliana Meraviglia Canu)

Portugal: AUPEC (Alfredo Soeiro)

Spain: ACECU (Charo Romano)

Spain: RUEPEC (Juan Carlos Rodriguez)

UK: UaLL (Alison J Hughes)

1. Revision of NN pages on EUCEN Website

- NN members had no specific suggestions for changes to the NN pages on the new EUCEN website. But see item below re advertising NN events.
- DGWF has recently collected a description of ULLL NNs in Europe and it will go on its website soon. HV to email details to AJH and CR, who will circulate it to all other NN members. This could be used as a basis for EUCEN NN site information about the individual networks, where networks have not recently updated their information directly with EUCEN.
- It was agreed that future changes should always be routed through CR.
- It was suggested that examples of formal organisational statutes used by NN members (e.g. DE, FR, ES UK) could be posted on the website to be used for guidance by other networks wanting to have some formal regulation.

AJH will email NN members to ask if they will agree to this. It was agreed that it may not be appropriate yet to post existing NN internal regulations on the website

- Advertising the various NN conferences. It was agreed that they could be promoted through the EUCEN News on the home page. NNs could enter the details themselves in this section - the new webpage will alert CR to this as she has to authorise changes before they are posted to the website. She can then put this information on their individual pages in the NN Section also. Also the NN section top page will have space for news on conference events/conferences.

2. Future NN activities

CR advised that in the Associations bid there would be:

a. Study visit for 2010:

After discussion it was suggested that it should be only for NNs – open to their Board members or specified representatives. We would suggest a limit of 20-25 people ie 1-2 per network.

Suggested topic – funding of LLL in universities.

It was also suggested that a bid for funding to attend a study visit can be applied for by participants through Grundtvig. It was noted that funding can also be applied for to organise the study visit eg for a cedefop study visit - €2000 grant.

b. 2 other visits:

After discussion it was suggested that these should be to 2 EU member states where there is no NN to help the universities champion LLL e.g. IT or HU. CR would visit them and talk to them about the resources to help them establish a network – e.g. the EUCEN website with information on the advantages /disadvantages of informal or formal networks plus the PT example of documentation for an informal network.

3. Any other business

• DG EACEA Adult Education Unit (AEU) queries re APEL and QA of ULLL

EUCEN has been asked to send to AEU (for it to distribute to the other AEU Working Group members) information on QA of ULLL and APEL. It was noted that AJH had asked NNs to respond to the request. **AJH** will re-circulate her request. NN members at the meeting also advised of some relevant projects:

QA of adult learning.

AEU has asked for details of QA studies and practice known to EUCEN about QA of either HE organisations or HE staff – could be training opportunities/ qualifications/NN-level staff development-training seminars etc.

NN suggestions at the meeting:

- DAETE project (PT info) Project facilitates self-evaluation/reflection as well as external accreditation. It is an EU- USA project and Chinese have translated the resources into Mandarin <http://daete.up.pt/>
- Uni-QM was a project looking at Quality Management in Uni centres of LLL <http://www.cfp.upv.es/webs/uniqm/inicio/index.jsp>
- EVETE Lapland working with project. LT (Kaunas) the coordinator re E-vocational education <http://www.evete.org/cms/evete/app>

APL

It is important that EUCEN feeds back to AEU re what already has been/ is being done in projects in the HE sector re APL. AEU is particularly interested in case studies where people with few qualifications have used APL to access HE and then continued successfully.

NN suggestions at the meeting:

- HV re project ANKOM.
 - AF re VIRQUAL a project about EQF and recognition of virtual qualifications <http://virqual.up.pt/>
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- Representatives from universities in Cyprus, and Turkey at the Conference are interested in starting a national ULLL network in their own countries. Members of EUCEN NNs will provide some advice.
 - **Format of future NN meetings at conferences:**
 - It was noted that the NNs preferred the meeting at the Conferences to be mid- conference and not at the end or before the start. In future it will be scheduled eg for early evening before the conference dinner.
 - It was also noted that, as with previous meetings, where there is a NN in the country hosting the conference it would be good for that NN to give a brief presentation re their network.

- **Topics for discussion at future meetings:**
 - It was proposed that a special focus of the NNs meeting at the next EUCEN Conference in Lapland will be on starting new ULLL national/regional networks and how to encourage this and also the advantages/disadvantages of informal or formal networks.
 - Also each year NNs will be asked before the meetings to identify 3 major issues they are dealing with and would like to be discussed that year.
 - Another future topic could be 'how do we in ULLL organise our own learning?'