

European University Continuing
Education Network
Ahidoba de Franchi-Mandscheff
EUCEN Secretary General
Balmes 132
08008 Barcelona, Spain

NOMINATION

As the appointed representative to EUCEN for the University of Turku, Finland, I present myself as a candidate for the membership of the EUCEN Steering Committee for the period 2015 – 2017.

My career in academic lifelong learning consists of various tasks with the emphasis on management and administration. Since the late 1990's, I have had the chance to acquire knowledge of evaluation and quality enhancement of higher education. For more information, see the short Curriculum Vitae attached.

I have taken part in 30 EUCEN conferences, starting from Lausanne in April 1997. I have always had the chance to share experience and expertise with European colleagues, often giving presentations or facilitating discussions. I have also been in active roles in various EUCEN-linked projects like EQUAL, EQUIPE, EQUIPE+, ALLUME and recently COMMIT. I was the evaluator of ALPINE and TULIP projects.

After all these years of benefiting from this European community of practiced and proficient experts of academic lifelong learning, I consider that it would be a good time to use my experience for the good of lifelong learners as a member of the EUCEN steering Committee.

If elected, I will accept the position, be active on the Committee, attend at least half of the annual meetings in full and when not attending a Steering Committee meeting submit a report on my actions 10 days in advance.

Turku 13 May 2015



Kari Seppälä

Director, Brahea Centre at the University of Turku

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Personal details

- Born 1957, married, two adult children
- Finnish citizen
- Master of Administrative Sciences, M.Sc. (Admin.)
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Current post

- Director of the Brahea Centre at the University of Turku since 2014
- Brahea Centre founded 1st January 2014.
- An independent institution of the University of Turku consisting of four sub-units: Brahea Development, Centre for Maritime Studies, Open University and Technology Research Centre.
- The mission of the Centre is to enhance lifelong learning and social engagement of the University regionally, nationally and internationally.

Key skills and relevant experience

- Experience in the management of academic lifelong learning since 1980's
 - Strategic leadership and practical management in university lifelong learning as the director of an independent institution for lifelong learning and social interaction in the University of Turku since 2003.
- Experience in the development of post experience training at the university and national level since late 1990's
 - An active role in the development of the national system of post experience studies in higher education (recent expert roles in projects ERKO 2011 – 2013 and FUTUREX 2010 – 2013).
- Expertise in the quality assurance of higher education
 - Chairing institutional audits (Formation Continue UNIL-EPFL, the joint continuing education unit at Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne and the University of Lausanne 2014, University of Jyväskylä 2014 – 2015).
- Expertise in the evaluation of the lifelong learning activities of higher education
 - Various evaluation roles of adult and continuing education in universities (project manager in the national evaluation of the open university 2001 – 2002, project evaluator in European projects ALPINE 2001 – 2003, ODELUCE 2001 – 2003 and TULIP 2007 – 2009)
- Long experience in international projects in higher education
 - Various key roles in international projects on academic lifelong learning (THENUCE 1996 – 2003, Making it work 1997 – 1999, EQUIPE 2002 – 2008, ALLUME 2009 - 2011, SIRUS 2009 - 2011, COMMIT 2014 – 2016)

Noteworthy roles and achievements

- Key expert role in the preparation of the report and panel interview, when The Ministry of Education nominated the University of Turku a "quality university in adult learning" for the period 2007 – 2009
- Member/vice chair/chair of the steering committee of UCEF, the national network for academic lifelong learning in Finland 2006 - 2014
- Member of the national working group for the development of specialization studies in higher education (Ministry of Education 2012 – 2013)
- Member (standby) of the Finnish national board for lifelong learning (2009 – 2011)
- Numerous presentations, articles, case studies and reports on lifelong learning and social engagement of the universities as well as evaluation activities and quality enhancement of academic LLL.