NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING
Extraordinary meeting
Brussels, 25 April 2018
National Networks: Spanish case
Brussels, April 25th, 2018

RUEPEP: General information
Postgraduate & Lifelong Learning Studies University Network
Association with legal status & VAT number

Members:
• 46/50 Public Universities (92%)
• 6/35 Private Universities (Deusto, Mondragon, Vic, Ramon Llull, San Jorge, UOC)
• 13 other related institutions (FUE, SIGMA, ...)

Web: ruepep.org
Email: ruepep.correo@ruepep.org
RUEPEP: Objectives

- **Collaborative Learning**, Sharing experiences, Benchmarking
- **Harmonization of criteria** among Universities
- **Lobbying**
  - Spanish Rector’s Group consultant for LLL
  - University-FUNDAE(Vocational Training) intermediary
  - Foster Postgraduate studies & Lifelong Learning in society and University (visibility)

RUEPEP: History

- **2001**: Creation in 21th EUCEN Conference (Barcelona)
- **2010**: Legal status as Association (Statutes, elections, fee,...)
- Annual meetings since 2001:
  - **2002-2007** Management meetings
  - **2008-2015** Bologna influence ¿influenza?
  - **2015-** Balance Management-Policies
RUEPEP: Recent activities

✓ Annual meeting - Madrid, April 11-13th
  • +60 participants
  • Apprenticeships & University Vocational Training

RUEPEP: Governance

• Steering Committee (Junta Directiva)
  • President, Vice-President, Secretary-General (3 years)
  • Vocals 1,2 (3 years)
  • Vocals 3,4 (3 years)
• Types of members
  • Universities (vote members)
  • Collaborating members
  • Honorary members
    • Pau Verrié
    • Joan M. Malapeira
RUEPEP: Governance (II)

Challenges:
• **Keep balances**, to be representative:
  • Public vs Private
  • Policy(academic) vs Management(staff)
  • Foundations
  • Online
• Universities as members, but representatives **(people) as important values**
• Common criteria vs Universities freedom: Harmonization
• RUEPEP **must be useful for the members**:
  • Invest most of the fees in **GRANTS** (visits, meetings, workshops, internalizations)

Thank you!!
National Networks
Structure, Benefits, Aims
Case Study Aucen

Extraordinary National Network Forum
Brüssel
April 2018
Andrea Waxenegger /Christina Paulus

Our challenges

• Increasing diversity (age – demographic development, cultural backgrounds, migration, …) – challenge for our civil societies
• Global economic competition – international competitive environment for universities
• European Commission: focus on employability; youth unemployment, support for poorly qualified people
• What does this mean for Higher Education Institutions? For University Lifelong Learning? What are the specific roles of various actors/stakeholders? The need to position ourselves, also in ULLL
1. What is understood by “University Lifelong Learning (ULLL)” in Europe today?

Definition as developed in the EU Project BeFlex, led by EUCEN:

“ULLL is the provision by higher education institutions of learning opportunities, services and research for the personal and professional development of a wide range of individuals – lifelong and lifewide; and the social, cultural and economic development of communities and the region.
It is at university level and research-based; it focuses primarily on the needs of the learners; and it is often developed and/or provided in collaboration with stakeholders and external actors.”


Universities commit to:
1. Embedding concepts of widening access and lifelong learning in their institutional strategies.
2. Providing education and learning to a diversified student population.
3. Adapting study programmes to ensure that they are designed to widen participation and attract returning adult learners.
4. Providing appropriate guidance and counselling services.
5. Recognising prior learning.
7. Strengthening the relationship between research, teaching and innovation in a perspective of lifelong learning.
8. Consolidating reforms to promote a flexible and creative learning environment for all students.
9. Developing partnerships at local, regional, national and international level to provide attractive and relevant programmes.
10. Acting as role models of lifelong learning institutions.

Challenges at national level:

- Implementing Lifelong Learning in all educational sectors and cross-sectoral ➔ National Lifelong Learning Strategy
- University – State relationships; autonomy of universities
- Implementation of the European Universities’ Charter on Lifelong Learning
- Implementation of European Tools, e.g. develop a National Qualifications Framework
- Quality Management and development/assurance
- Funding – rethinking the models of funding: Who should pay for what?
Challenges at institutional level:

- Who are our learners and how can we support them in offering individual pathways into higher education and in transition periods throughout their lives?
- How can we as universities find our priorities in a competitive higher education landscape?
- How can we support business and industry/the public sector/NGOs with short- and long-term provision?
- Quality Development and Assurance
- Organisation and staff development, a growing area of employment – new roles, new skills needed

How can a national ULLL network help? Case Study AUCEN – Austrian University Continuing Education Network

- Founded in 1996; AUCEN is the first network for University Continuing Education (UCE) and staff development in Austria.
- Two “Mission Statements”.
- AUCEN promotes UCE and Staff Development at Universities
  - at policy level – through involvement and lobbying at national and European level to establish adequate conditions in these areas
  - at organisational level – through networking and professionalisation of the experts and persons in charge at the universities
  - at content level – through quality development in continuing education and staff development
AUCEN - Case Study - A history of the network

- In the course of the implementation of the UOG 93 (Universities Organisation Act) in March 1996, the then Vice-Rector for Continuing Education and Human Resources Management at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences invited colleagues from other universities to a round table to exchange experiences and to explore the potential of university continuing education and staff development.
- The round table developed into a network. In 1998 the name AUCEN and the aims and guidelines were established and a representative as “Spokesperson” designated.
- From October 2002 to January 2005, the AUCEN Office was provided with staff resources financed by the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture to coordinate and advance the network.
- Up to October 2005, AUCEN was an informal network of universities for universities. Since then, AUCEN has been a registered, formal association with its office financed by the member universities.

Membership and organisational structure of AUCEN

- Membership is institutional only and all public Austrian universities are potential members. Each member university (currently 20) nominates and delegates representatives. Membership is subject to a fee (currently EUR 600 / year).
- AUCEN has its own statutes and regulations as required by Austrian Association law.
- Steering Committee: It is composed of six professionals from different member universities; elected by the General Assembly (GA) for a period of two years. Externally the AUCEN network is represented by a Spokesperson and a Vice-Spokesperson.
- AUCEN GA: meets twice a year at the AUCEN Meetings.
- AUCEN Meetings: are held twice a year – at one of the member universities. AUCEN Workshops are usually held within the Meetings and/or separately.
- AUCEN has a permanent office
Main themes

- ULLL-strategy development at institutional level | quality development, - standards, -assurance, -management; evaluation business models in UCE - funding | Models of ULLL Units – Professionalization of management in ULLL | NQF | European development (policy; good practice examples)
- Recognition of Prior Learning at Austrian Universities
- Classification of the programs in the EQR/NQR
- AUCEN depends on the commitment and the voluntary contributions of its members and their willingness to share experiences and good practice. It is up to the members to form task groups to work on specific topics of current interest. These results are presented at the network meetings. Joint events.

Communication / Dialogue / Policy

AUCEN is a platform where persons responsible for continuing education and staff development at Austrian universities can exchange their experiences.

Both subject areas shall be advanced and professionalised jointly and in a division of labour, also at international level.

AUCEN is an active member of the task force "Instruction" of the Austrian University Conference (Uniko) and of the Lifelong Learning Advisory Board for Universities of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research.
Development of Quality and Quality Assurance

To develop and assure quality standards is a constant challenge. Members of the AUCEN network work on the advancement and assurance of quality criteria.

Strength the position in the own units

The common interest is to exchange experiences and ideas and to strengthen the position. The AUCEN network pursues joint strategies and stimulates the implementation of new concepts.
International cooperation and projects

MONITORING _ Transnational Peer Review for quality assurance in Validation of Non Formal and Informal Learning (VN菲尔) Extended
Project No 2015-1-NL01-KA204-009004 / Duration: 33 months / 01-10-2015 - 01-07-2018 [https://www.peer-review-vn菲尔.eu/das-projekt/]

Peer Review – the external evaluation of VN菲尔 institutions/providers by Peers – is a promising instrument for quality assurance and development.
• It builds on quality activities
• It is cost-effective
• It fosters networking and exchange between providers of validation of non-formal and informal learning
• Supports exchange between member states and VN菲尔 providers
• Strengthens mutual trust and enhances transnational cooperation, working towards a common standard for Peer Review on the European level.

In the project, 15 partners from 7 European countries conduct transnational Peer Reviews on VN菲尔. Project partners are adult education and higher education providers, VET organisations, and specialised VN菲尔 centres, companies and NGOs. Also organisations that impact national policies were included, as well as European umbrella organisations for learning.
Some ideas for eucen National Networks

Bi-Lateral interests
Policy
Practice
Research
On Policy

- Share national policy contexts
- Help create common themes for adult/continuing education policy,
  - like the European Charter on Lifelong Learning
- Share national experiences on shaping policy

On Practice & Research

- Share of expertise
- Collaboration on CPD
- Research e.g. national calls & H2020
- Bi-lateral exchange through Erasmus+
- Share strategies for vibrant networks
- eucen COST network
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Istanbul (TR), June 2015
National Network Forum 2015

Istanbul 02.06.2015

Beate Hörr (DE), Tamer Atabarut and new general secretary Mrs. Prof. Eser Sozmen (TR), Claire Sallic (FR), Ülle Kesli (EE), Seamus O’Tuama (IE), Bálasz Németh (HU)

Point 1. Welcome and approval of the notes from the previous meeting.

Beate Hörr welcomed all participants. The network representatives approved the report of the previous national network forum held at Warsaw (PL) during the 46th EUCEN Conference, June 2014.

Point 2. Review of status

Beate Hörr asked the representatives attending the Forum to update data if there are any changes in status, representation, etc. of national networks on registration form or inform EUCEN headquarter in order to update information on national networks on the EUCEN website and to able to be address the right person.

Point 3. National Networks Reports

Beate Hörr made a short oral report about the National Network Survey 2015: what has done, what is planned for next year and what would be the key issues for universities in the future. The presentation will be available on the eucen website as soon as all the networks responded.

Beate Hörr invited the representatives to orally report or comment to the National Networks reports:

- Claire Sallic (FR): The integration of LLL in university by creating a department of LLL, combining orientation for all and adult learning education. Challenges: MOOCS, blended learning
- Ülle Kesli (EE): Comments to new adult education regulations; preparations for next ESF period; flexible study options and extending links between CE and degree studies
- Tamer Atabarut & new secretary general Prof. Eser Sozmen (TR): Tamer and the new secretary (elected this morning) report that the Turkish Network is quite new (established in 2010, approx. 105 universities). The new network is still growing. The new accreditation system is to be discussed within the network.
- Bálasz Németh (HU) – A main issue will be the scope of the social dimensions of lifelong learning with strong influence on participation/equal opportunities; another key issue will be the growing roles of collaborative actions amongst HE, economy and civil society
groups; a great challenge will be represented by problems of provision, financing, access/equity and time.

- Séamus Ó Tuama (IE):
  1. December 1-2, 2014 (University College Cork, Cork)
     I. Meeting & Colloquium: Re-establish the National Network Ireland
     II. Conference: Lifelong Learning in Ireland: Mission, Vision and Practice
  
  2. February 28, 2015 (Ulster University, Belfast Campus)
     I. Meeting to progress re-establishment of Irish National Network
     II. Workshop on Ulster University Flexible Options

  3. May 5, 2015 (University of Limerick, Limerick)
     I. Network Meeting
        • Adopt name HELLIN, discuss constitution & role
        • Plans for 2nd Annual Conference December 2015, NUIG (Galway)
        • Plans for EUCEN Conference 2016 DCU (Dublin)
     II. Workshop on models of Access & Progression

  4. September 2015 (Dublin, venue tbc)
     I. HELLIN Network meeting
     II. Policy framing/consultation with Higher Education Authority

  5. December 11, 2015 (National University of Ireland, Galway)
     I. HELLIN Network Meeting
     II. HELLIN 2nd Annual Conference

Beate Hörr asked why the Irish network is so active and why eucen is losing more and more Universities from the UK. Seamus assumes that there are political reasons: Ireland is very pro-european, the UK is not at the moment.

- Beate Hörr (DE): Finding new structures for the growing NatNet DGWF. If we would like to bring people back to universities there should be more part-time programmes in Master level for working people.

**Point 4. Date of next meeting**

The next National Network Forum will be held on 1st June 2016 in Dublin, Ireland.

Beate Hörr thanked all representatives for attending the meeting and closed it.
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Warsaw (PL), June 2014
eucen National Network Forum 2014

Warsaw 11.06.2014

Participants:
Hanna Riika Myllymaki (FI), Beate Hörr (DE), Helmut Vogt (DE), Mauro Palumbo (IT), Lucilia Santos (PT), Juan Carlos Rodriguez (ES), Tamer Atabarut (TR), Christina Paulus (AT), Suzanne de Jonckheere (CH), Zbigniew Marciniak (PL), Nathalie Serradin (FR), Nadine Richeux (FR), Mireille Bideau (FR), Ülle Kesli (EE), Jean Marie Dujardin (BE), Seamus Ò Tuama (IE)

Point 1. Welcome and approval of the notes from the previous meeting.
Beate Hörr welcomed all participants. The network representatives approved the report of the previous national network forum held at Charmey (CH) during the 45th EUCEN Conference, May 2013.

Point 2. Review of status
Beate Hörr asked the representatives attending the Forum to update data if there are any changes in status, representation, etc. of national networks on registration form or inform EUCEN headquarter in order to update information on national networks on the EUCEN website and to able to be address the right person.

Point 3. National Networks Reports
Beate Hörr made a short overview of National Network Survey 2014: what has done, what is planned for next year and what would be the key issues for universities in the future. The presentation is attached to the report.

There were some short comments to National Networks reports:

- Suzanne de Jonckheere: We are proud that the Swiss standard for QA was approved by government. In near future there will be 2 new laws regarding education (HE and CE) which leads the educational institutions to a new legal environment.
- Jean Marie Dujardin: There have been changes planned in legislation also in Belgium. For us the important keywords are flexibility, cooperation and transfer of research.
- Ülle Kesli: In Estonia the higher education options were quite flexible, but last year there was higher education reform in Estonia and most of the higher education studies should be free for the students. Therefore many part-time curricula were closed and for adults the degree study options decreased. Therefore the challenge for CE is to create links between CE and degree studies to support flexible study options.
- Tamer Atabarut: The Turkish Network is quite new. We have planned to organise our National Network meeting before the next EUCEN conference. There might be possibility to have common meeting with representatives of other national networks and have discussion on LLL. And I would like to welcome you next year in Istanbul.
- Christina Paulus – LLL is becoming more important for universities. It is important to respond to market needs.
- Séamus Ò Tuama: The individual should be seen as learner not as worker for certain task. Since the Irish system is less regulated by laws we can be more flexible. It is also important that LLL
should be seen in long term view not as short term objective for politicians. Therefore more attention should be paid to discussion with policy makers.

- Zbigniew Marciniak: More young people are entering the labour market to earn money and the education will remain in the background. It is important to pay attention to increasing of PhD students in Poland.
- Helmut Vogt: If we would like to bring people back to universities there should be more part-time programmes in Master level for working people.

Helmut Vogt raised a discussion regarding the organisational structure for LLL. It could be in several forms within the walls of university (at faculties, between faculties and management, at management level) but could it be also outside the walls of university? For example independent structure which provides high level LLL options in cooperation with university? The similar discussions have been also in Austria and in Finland. Hanna-Riikka Myllymäki said that for clients and learners the structure is not important, but reorganisation of existing structure influences the staff. Lucilia Santos told that in Portugal the universities are facing the situation that fewer students is entering the university. The universities have established LLL units and offer learning options which lead to the academic qualifications. The University of Aveiro is in close cooperation with university spin off company (private educational institution connected to university) that could give professional qualifications which are more attractive in labour market.

**Point 4. Cooperation EUCEN with EUCIS LLL**

Helmut Vogt made a presentations regarding EUCIS-LLL and EUCEN cooperation. The presentation is attached.

Christina Paulus appointed that the EUCIS-LLL could be a good platform and link to policy makers at European level but also at National level.

**Point 5. Date of next meeting**

The next National Network Forum will be held in June 2014 in Istanbul.

The network forum finished at 16:27.
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Charmey (CH), May 2013
Point 1. Welcome and approval of the notes from the previous meeting.

Beate Hörr welcomed all participants and thanked Suzanne de Jonckheere for their hospitality and organisation. The agenda of the meeting was accepted.

The network representatives approved the report of the previous national network forum held at the University of Malta during the 44th EUCEN Conference, November 2012.

Point 2. Review of status

There were no requests for updates on the EUCEN’s data for national networks.

Point 3. National Networks Reports

Charo Romano and Juan Carlos Rodriguez reported for the Spanish network, RUEPEP: the network is active and almost all public universities and HE institutions in the country are members (around 68). They organise an annual conference and specific seminars in management issues. Last conference was in April 2013 on how to face the economical situation
as well as about MOOCs. The network works closely with the ministry of education as well as with the VET sector with which they built a common programme.
All the network representatives were invited to join the next conference in Toledo in April 2014.

- Zbigniew Palka reported for the Polish network, PULLL, which will be officially joining EUCEN in this General Assembly in Charmey. 20 polish universities will join the network. The network was welcomed to EUCEN.

- Jean-Marie Dujardin reported for the Belgium national network, ETALV. They are currently working on EQF implementation nationally (French and Flemish), negotiating the position of LLL programmes in the qualification framework quality. In 2013, the “year of competence”, their Conference in October will be about knowledge transfer. How to implement a dual system in universities. Jean-Marie encouraged EUCEN to organise one of its future conferences about the topic of e-learning.

- Helmut Vogt reported for the German network, DGWF: there are discussions around the EC paper “Rethinking education: investing in skills for better socio-economic outcomes” http://ec.europa.eu/education/news/rethinking_en.htm (November 2012) about which should be the topics for the next 5-7 years (until 2020) of the European educational system: qualifications/competences needed for the future, strengthen approaches to STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) competences, what do all the changes in societies / labour markets / industry mean for the teacher qualification systems (teaching teachers called “learning facilitators”), collaboration between the educational system and all others, in particular with the industrial or business system, flexible learning and the potential of the MOOCs.
Helmut reported as well briefly for EUCIS LLL, the European Civil Society Platform on LLL, an attempt to build the network of networks. Until now, they are receiving an operational grant from the EC. However, with the new ‘Erasmus for all’ programme, this grant might not be received any longer and would imply many changes. They are now waiting for the EC’s decision.

- Hanna-Riikka Myllymäki for the Finnish network UCEF. All universities are represented in the network, which has 15 members. There is currently a national reform in the HE system (NQF), academic apprenticeship i.e. was not well received by the university teachers but had good results so far, some universities are working on “exporting universities” e.g. the University of Helsinki or the University of Jyväskylä have such programmes.

- Gabriella Dodero reported for the Italian network RUIAP: established 18 months ago in Genova (IT), they have 30 members so far. Three main issues: recognise the legal body in the Italian legislation, continue to arrange annual general assemblies (the next one will be very soon in Ferrara), and a great debate at the moment about quality of research, LLL.

Point 4. Report MAS Université de Genève

Suzanne de Jonckheere, Collaboratrice scientifique - Service formation continue (Université de Genève) will report about their Master of Advanced Studies Programme

Suzanne de Jonckheere, reporting for the Swiss network Swissuni, welcomed all participants at this meeting in Charmey. She explained that their network has now 10 universities and 2 federal
Continuing Education in Switzerland is clearly in the postgraduate programmes. Suzanne handed copies of their structure:

Regarding the Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) programmes, Swissuni’s task is to harmonise their standards of quality, make quality recommendations. Their governments/cantons don’t give financial support to these programmes (they have around 400), so students need to pay them fully and are expensive (the employer might pay a part). Each faculty has their own MAS programmes. Andreas informed the group about a publication with an analysis of these type of programmes in Switzerland (German and French versions available) that can be found at: [http://www.zuw.unibe.ch/content/zentrum_fuer_universitaere_weiterbildung_zuw/publikation_en/zoom/index_ger.html](http://www.zuw.unibe.ch/content/zentrum_fuer_universitaere_weiterbildung_zuw/publikation_en/zoom/index_ger.html) (For more information on this publication, please contact Andreas directly at andreas.fischer@zuw.unibe.ch).

**Point 5. Presentation of the National Network’s Survey 2013**

Beate encouraged those networks who have not yet been able to participate in the survey to do so.
Point 6. Date of next meeting & Closing

All participants were reminded that in Autumn 2013 there will not be a EUCEN Conference with its traditional format and therefore no Networks forum will take place. The next National Networks forum will be held in Warsaw, 11-13 June 2014.

The network forum finished at 17:50h
# National Networks Forum 1/2013
Charmey (CH), Wednesday 29 May 2013

## List of Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Network name in English</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tr>
<td>AUCEN - Austrian University Continuing Education and Staff Development Network</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Nina</td>
<td>Tomaszewski</td>
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<td>ETALV - Commission Education tout au long de la Vie</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>LaPerche</td>
<td>Claudine</td>
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<td>ENUCE - Estonian Network for University Continuing Education</td>
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<td>Hanna-Riitta</td>
<td>Myllymaki</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDSUFC - Conférence nationale des directeurs de service universitaire de la formation continue</td>
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<td>DGWF - German Association for University Continuing and Distance Education</td>
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<td>MELlearN - Hungarian Universities Lifelong Learning Network</td>
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<td>RUIAP - Rete Universitaria Italiana per l'Apprendimento Permanente</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Biagio</td>
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<td>PULLL - Network of Polish universities involved in continuing education/LLL</td>
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<td>Palka</td>
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<td>RUEPEP - University Network of Graduate and Permanent Education</td>
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<td>Juan</td>
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**Notes by:** Gemma Valls
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Valletta (MT), November 2012
Summary Report
National Networks Forum
44th EUCEN Conference
University of Malta, 07 November 2012 – 15:30 to 16:30

Prepared by Balázs Nemeth
Date 15 November 2012
Version 1.2
Distributed to all current National Network Representatives; all the individuals who attended the meeting

Participants

- DGWF – Germany, Representative: Helmut VOGT (Moderator);
- MELLearn – Hungary, Representative: Balázs NÉMETH;
- PULL – Polish Universities of Lifelong Learning (organisation under formation), Representative: Maria MENDEL;
- ENUCE – Estonia, Representative: Ulle KESLI;
- RUIAP – Italy, Representative: Gabriella DODERO and Giuliana MERAVIDGLIA;
- SwissUni – Switzerland, Representative: Suzanne DE JONCKHEERE;
- RUEPEP – Spain, Representative: Charo ROMANO;
- UCEF – Finland; Representative: Kari SEPPÄLÄ

Agenda

Point 1. Notes from the previous meeting
The network representatives approved the report of the previous national network forum held at the University of Graz, 43rd EUCEN Conference, 09 May 2012.

Point 2. General points
- Alfredo SOIERO sent his apologies for not being able to attend the MALTA Forum of the National Networks;
- Helmut VOGT informed the representatives attending the Forum that any changes in status, representation, etc of national networks are to be indicated to EUCEN head quarters in order to update information on national networks on the EUCEN website and to enable them to address the right person.

Point 3. National Networks Reporting
- MELLearn (Hungarian Universities Lifelong Learning Network) has decided to formally join the National Networks’ Forum of EUCEN to create a bridge between Hungarian and other European universities trying to promote and research lifelong learning with the university engagement. MELLearn is interested in collecting and sharing experience based on university continuing education and lifelong learning activities through projects and partnership-based development initiatives with the help of EUCEN and its members;
- The RUIAP representative informed the participants of the Forum that a new law is passed in Italy dealing with university lifelong learning, also stimulating the reform of the labour market. Gabriella Dodero underlined the importance of co-operation with SIE-L, the e-learning network of Italian universities, to promote RPL actions. Also, RUIAP has stated to organise seminars with the support of Bologna experts.

- The PULL representative reported that on the 25th of October a meeting of the Polish vice-rectors conference responsible for teaching took place at the Poznan University. Helmut Vogt attended this meeting instead of Andrea Waxenegger (unable to travel due to illness) and delivered a presentation on “Collaboration at European level: Possibilities and benefits for national University Lifelong Learning Networks” which turned out to be a success: The attendees decided to build up an informal network on ULLL in Poland as a first step.

- The SwissUni representative indicated that a big change is witnessed in Swiss higher education as universities will be directly linked to the Ministry of Economy (same trends are experienced at some German Länder/States). It was mentioned that SwissUni has reinforced links with the Rectors’ Conference on themes of teaching and learning development. Also, they have developed links with German universities and Lichtenstein on the aspects of quality improvement;

- The RUEPEP representative reported that public universities are facing a severe cut of 25% in their budgetary support from the State, which will result in raising the costs of courses and fees. Most students have difficulties in being able to match such challenges. Universities are hardly able to develop their educational services, but do their best to provide more on-line and e-learning oriented courses in order to reduce their additional costs. This trend will lead to more consultations with EUCEN on how to tackle recent challenges by providing better educational services at a time of worsening conditions.

- The UCEF representative pointed out that a new president of UCEF from Aalto University will lead the organisation in Finland. There is an orientation towards the realisations of aims having been defined by the GA of the organisation. A very significant perspective for 2013 is to sell courses and training programmes abroad, especially in the developing part of the world. Another element of such orientation is to focus on specialisation and expertise of students through training programmes in between the level of an MA and a doctorate degree by concrete continuing professional development programmes.
- The **ENUCE** representative also provided some information on the informal network of six Estonian universities. The short summary was outlined in a poster which was presented at the Malta conference. Recent issues of development signal an orientation towards quality issues; short courses focusing on RPL in continuing education and new work-related study forms.

- The **DGWF** representative outlined that the DGWF is the oldest network in university continuing education in Europe with about 280 members. A latest conference event in Munich was well-organised and had more than 260 participants. The conference focused on “Grows together what belongs together? UCE – part time studies – LLL”. In the general assembly which took place after the conference ended, the new executive committee was elected. The new chair of the DGWF is Beate Hörr, University of Mainz, who is a member of EUCEN’s steering committee, too.

**Point 4. Next Survey**
Participants of the Malta Forum session decided to stick to the questions of the first enquiry. They recommend to send out the same questionnaire in the beginning of the next year and to continue to do so during the following years. Thereby it will be possible, so they hope, to find out which changes take place and which trends are visible in the European field of ULLL.

**Point 5. Date of the next meeting**
Planned for the 45th EUCEN Conference in Geneva (CH), 29 May 2013.
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Graz (AT), May 2012
National Networks Forum 3/2012

Graz, 9 May 2012
15:00 – 16:00
University of Graz, Center for Continuing Education
Harrachgasse 23, 2nd floor, Graz

Present: Beate Hörr (DE), Andreas Fischer (CH), Jean-Marie Filloque (FR), Henrique Fonseca (PT), Ahidoba De Franchi (CH), Daniela Genser (AT), Hanna-Riikka Myllymäki (FI), Mauro Palumbo (IT), Daniela Pichler (IT), Juan Carlos Rodriguez (ES), Charo Romano (ES), Lucília Santos (PT), Gabriele Schaub (DE), Kari Seppälä (FI), Alfredo Soeiro (PT), Nino Tomaschek (AT), Françoise De Viron (BE), Helmut Vogt (DE)

MINUTES

I. Welcome

Beate Hörr welcomes everybody to the National Networks Forum in Graz.

II. Presentation of Survey

Beate Hörr presents to the participants the results of the feedback of the survey started in April.

National Networks
May 2012

Prepared by: Beate Hörr
Participants: National Networks in EUCEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Austria</th>
<th>AUCEN - Netzwerk für Universitäre Weiterbildung und Personalentwicklung in Österreich</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Commission &quot;ETALV&quot; - &quot;Education tout au long de la Vie&quot; du CIUF - Conseil interuniversitaire de la Communauté française</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>ENUCE - Estonian Network for University Continuing Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>UCEF - University Continuing Education Network in Finland Yliopistojen Aikuiskoulutusverkosto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>CDSUFC - Conférence des Directeurs Service Universitaire Formation Continue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>DGWF - Deutsche Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliche Weiterbildung und Fernstudium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>RUIAP - Rete delle Università Italiane per l’Apprendimento Permanente</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>L3Net - Lithuanian Universities Continuing Education Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>AUPEC - Associação de Universidades Portuguesas para a Educação Continua</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name of National Network: 
Austria AUCEN – Netzwerk für universitäre Weiterbildung und Personalentwicklung in Österreich

Respondent: Daniela Genser

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?
-LLL Strategies;
-Quality trends in Continuing Education at Universities;
-National Qualification Framework;
-Business/Finance Model in Continuing Education.

Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?
-To have a strategy – see SIRUS (EUA Publication);
-Widening Access;
-Student-centered learning approach;
-Addressing LLL in a regional context.

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?
-To open the university more for LLL issues
-To raise consciousness for LLL at all

Name of National Network:
Belgium Commission "ETALV" - “Education tout au long de la Vie" du CIUF - Conseil interuniversitaire de la Communauté française

Respondent: Jean-Marie Dujardin
Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?
- Financing lifelong learning activities in the universities;
- Validation of prior learning;
- Statistics about lifelong learners at university;
- Harmonization of practices: common framework for the management of lifelong learning in universities.

Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?
- Structural financing of lifelong learning activities and validation of prior learning;
- Quality in lifelong learning programmes;
- Positioning lifelong learning programmes in the future NQF of Belgium;
- Specificity of University lifelong learning in the global lifelong learning landscape.

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?

Support of the Ministry of Higher Education and of the rectors of the universities to develop and finance lifelong learning activities in the universities
Support of EUCEN as an international network: sharing of best practices, research in lifelong learning at European level, link between lifelong learning and fundamental research in universities: those topics could be explored in the future conferences.

National Networks: Survey May 2012

Name of National Network:
Estonia ENUCE – Estonian Network for University Continuing Education

Respondent: Ülle Kesli

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?
- Cooperation within ESF project:
  - Common principles for Quality Assurance of CE
  - Working out common principles for RPL in CE courses
- Comments on new version of Adult Education Act

Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?
- Financing of professional development courses and adult education in general
- Pressure to add VAT to CE fees
-The role of the universities in providing CE to nontraditional target groups (unemployed people, migrants, etc)

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?

Lobbying at European level that CE is one main role of the universities and there should be also mechanism for financial support to participate in short professional courses provided by the universities.

National Networks: Survey May 2012

Name of National Network:
Finland UCEF – University Continuing Education Network in Finland
Yliopistojen Aikuiskoulutudverkosto

Respondent: Kari Seppälä

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?
Embedding LLL in the university strategies and their interaction with the society has developed greatly in recent years. The same processes seem to be relevant all around Europe.

Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?
The modification and tailoring of potential capacity into export products will demand more efforts.

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?
Embedding LLL in the university strategies and their interaction with the society has developed greatly in recent years. The same processes seem to be relevant all around Europe.

National Networks: Survey May 2012

Name of National Network:
CDSUFC - Conférence des Directeurs Service Universitaire Formation Continue (France)
Respondent: Jean-Marie Filloque

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?
- Cooperation with professional organizations,
- Relations with Ministry of HE, Ministry of labor and Social Cohesion, Conference of Rectors
- Staff development program
- Apprenticeship

Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?
- The clarification of the financing model
- The strategic orientation of the university concerning LL
- The cooperation and partnership with professional organizations

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?
To have the support of a recognized and strong (by authorities…) organizations supporting the strategy concerning LLL for Higher Education either at national or international level.

National Networks: Survey May 2012

Name of National Network:
Deutsche Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliche Weiterbildung und Fernstudium e.V., Germany

Respondent: Beate Hörr

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?
Admission of Adult Learners with professional background and without university entrance qualification
Recognition of Prior Learning
Cooperation with Stakeholders and regional / local businesses
Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?

State Universities and the private university sector

New perspectives for Master Study Programmes in Germany and Europe

New target groups (non traditional students) and new formats

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?

Experience of dealing with new target groups and adult learners in the Master Programmes

Controlling and Quality Assurance in Lifelong Learning Processes

Opening the University to new target groups and cooperations

National Networks: May 2012

Name of National Network:
Italy RUIAP - Rete delle Università Italiane per l'Apprendimento Permanente

Respondent: Aureliana Alberici

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?

- Becoming a full member of EUCEN
- Improve relationships with the most relevant Italian University organizations (i.e. Italian Conference of Rectors (CRUI), the National University Board, Ministry of University etc.)

Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?

- Strategic orientation of the university concerning LLL;
- Raise awareness at University level about the relevance of this issue;
The European Association for University Lifelong Learning

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-To coordinate lobbying activities to gain the commitment of national and international organizations/institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Development of LLL at University level in different aspects, such as active citizenship and active policies for labour.</td>
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</table>

National Networks: May 2012

Name of National Network:
Portugal AUPEC - Associação de Universidades Portuguesas para a Educação Continua

Respondent: Alfredo Soeiro

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The network has as president the Universidade Tecnica de Lisboa and as Chair of the General Assembly the Universidade de Aveiro. There were no registered activities of the network except the cooperation with EUCEN.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The funding of LLL: the universities have reduced public funding and have no plans for self-supporting financing activities. The AUPEC, for instance, has practically no activities.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?</th>
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<tr>
<td>Support the transformation to LLL universities</td>
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</table>

Name of National Network:
Spain RUEPEP - Red Universitaria de Estudios de Postgrado y Educación Permanente
Respondent: Juan Carlos Rodriguez

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?
- Develop a legal framework for Lifelong Learning, that allows the registration of certain education programmes in the register of universities and degrees of the ministry of education
- Recognition of professional experience and continuing education in the graduate studies

Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?
- Training programs within a quality assurance system allowing the national and international recognition
- The impact of the crisis in Spanish universities

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?
- International policy fellowships and grants
- International mobility and agreement between universities
- New profiles of continuing education students in accordance with the new careers

Name of National Network:
Switzerland, Formation continue universitaire suisse

Respondent: Suzanne de Jonckheere

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?
- Quality
- Policy and strategies of continuing education in the Swiss educational landscape
- NQF, NCR and EQF
- Statement to the Federal draft law of continuing education
Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?

- Provide University courses to new target groups in a perspective of LLL
- Promote curriculum developments adapted to a knowledge society and to the students’ needs (LO, NTI, new fields of research and teaching)
- Clarify the relation between continuing education and LLL

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?

To promote cooperations between Universities through European LLL projects and recommendations

III. Presentation on the forum:

Survey of the National Networks

Question 1: What were the main working themes and what was the focus of your work in the last year?

Question 2: In your opinion, what will be, in the future, the main issues in the field of Lifelong Learning at Universities? What challenges do we have to face?

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?

Question 3: Our perspective on LLL: What would we be able to contribute to the key issues of European Universities in the future?

The Lifelong Learning (LLL) experts at European universities developed useful methods, tools, instruments and did a lot of research within the field of LLL.

f.i. EUCEN: tools/methods in quality assurance, in LLL strategy design, in LLL strategy implementation

To strengthen the link with research

A list of indicators has been established to measure social engagement. This may explain to university administrators how to benchmark the LLL

The responsible staff and units of LLL in the universities have a lot of experience in new formats, new target groups, in questions of strategic and structural questions as well as in finances and
controlling, knowledge which is very useful in times of fundamental structural change within the HE system

LLL contributes a lot to social interaction; universities as organizations play an important role in social interaction especially in times of crisis

LLL has to be a university strategy, it has to be implemented within the structure of research and teaching and has not to be seen as an “add on” or something different from the universities heart core activities

LLL is used to deal with the needs of non-traditional students, it has an inclusive approach and aims at open the university to new target groups needed on the labour market, civil society, communities ...

**Let’s share our knowledge and work together on the key issues of European Universities in the future**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Promote University LLL through</th>
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<tr>
<td>collaboration and cooperation with HE organizations, ministries, stakeholders...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal framework (including definition of University role, recognition, finances ...)</td>
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**IV. Next steps:**

Establish a web space within the EUCEN web page with these informations. To do this kind of survey each year.

Next meeting will take place during the EUCEN conference in Malta on 07-09 November 2012.
The European Association for University Lifelong Learning
The European Association for University Lifelong Learning
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Genoa (IT), November 2011
National Networks Forum 2/2011

Genoa, 16 November 2011
15:15 – 16:15
University of Genoa, Faculty of Economics
Via Vivaldi 5, Genoa (IT)
Aula Teledidattica, 1st floor

Present: Beate Hörr, Aureliana Alberici, Helmut Vogt, Juan Carlos Rodriguez, Ülle Kesli, Cécile Sztalberg, Jean-Marie Filloque, Luigia Melillo, Charo Romano, Reinhardt Schmidt, Eva Bodnar

MINUTES

I. Welcome
Beate Hörr welcomes everybody to the second National Networks Forum in 2011.

II. Introduction of the Italian Network of Lifelong Learning
Aureliana Alberici announces that the Italian Network for Lifelong Learning (RUIAP) was formed today, on 16th November 2011. She is the president and vice-president is Mauro Palumbo.

5-6 years ago there was an attempt to form the Italian Network, but at that time the situation was difficult in the education field as well as politically.
But fortunately now there was the possibility to work together with EUCEN and make more connection.
5 universities of the network are members of EUCEN:
1. University of Roma 3
2. University of Roma 2, Tor Vegata
3. University of Rome "Foro Italico"
4. Free University of Bozen-Bolzano
5. University of Genoa

A document (Statuto) containing their goals will be made available online in the following few days. This could help improve other networks, give new ideas etc.

A letter will be sent to the new president of university of research asking him to take part and engage in the activities of the newly formed network.
It will also be distributed to the rectors of universities in Italy, national organisations with professors, who decide about new university activities, didactics, PhD etc.
A copy of this letter will be sent to the participants of the National Networks meeting, as well.

The legal status of the Italian Network at the moment is formal free association. Mainly education institutions can become members but the association is also open to other organisations dealing with their topic. At the moment only universities are members (who can be full members, associates or individuals).

Later on the network will make steps to transform its status into legal because that way it will be possible to apply for public funding.

III. **Presentations on each national network:**

**Spain** – RUEPEP Red Universitaria Estudios Postgrado y Educación Permanente (by Juan Carlos Rodriguez)
The Spanish network was founded 11 years ago and only became legal 3 years ago. Since then even the Spanish Ministry of Education works with them.
It has around 50 members and the membership fee is 600 EUR annually.

**Estonia** - ENUCE (by Ülle Kesli)
Since Estonia is a very small country, only 6 universities are members of the Estonian network. That is why their status is informal. It would be too expensive and complicated to become formal.

They had a successful application for a project (national project by EU funds) which addresses 3 topics:
1. common principles of continuing education, Quality Assurance for short courses
2. accreditation of prior learning (APL)
3. individual studies and continuing education programs

All the members of the network participate in this project.

**Belgium** (French) – ETALV (by Cécile Sztalberg)

Formal Network with the objective to give advice to the minister in charge of higher education. The director of the network is Françoise de Viron.
Seven universities are members (French Belgium). In Belgium the universities are also merging.
In 2004 a working group for lifelong learning was created. They are involved in a project (2008 to 2013) funded by the European social fund.
They received an invitation to work together with the Flemish, where lifelong learning will also be a topic.
France - Conférence des Directeurs de SUFC (by Jean-Marie Filloque)

It was formed in 1962-1963 and became formal in 2004. Only universities can become members. At the moment it has 83 member universities, however universities are constantly merging (so the number of members decrease for this reason).
It is recognized by the Rector’s Conference as the experts in the field of HE. It has permanent contacts and representative in two groups (pedagogy and quality / RPL); 8 working groups with staff from the Universities and staff development (with fees)

Current issues they are dealing with are:
- reforms in education (lot of reforms are being made since 2007)
- autonomy: the budget of the universities come from the state. Most people do not want to change this and would like to keep higher education as a public service. This leads to debates.
- vocational/continuous education
- regional organisation

To discuss the above mentioned issues they meet very often.
Their aim is:
- to be recognised by the conference of rectors
- to create a connection with the finance commission: money for public education comes from the state at the moment, but the funds for continuing education has to come from elsewhere.
- to connect workgroups, non-representative staff of member universities.

They are also involved in staff development program, supported by the National Agency. They have 30 days a year for staff for this purpose and it has proven to have very positive result.

They only have income from members and do not get any money from the state. The membership fee is 600 EUR. They use this money to cover their travel expenses. They have one employee from one of the member universities. The president, Jean-Marie Filloque is working for free, since it is an association.

Germany - DGWF Deutsche Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliche Weiterbildung und Fernstudium e.V.(by Helmut Vogt)

It is the oldest association of LLL networks in the EU, it was formed in 1970 (had its 40th anniversary in 2010)
They have one employee in the University of Hamburg. DGWF reimburses the money to the University of Hamburg.

Not only universities, but individuals can also become members.
They have about 160 institutional members (the majority are universities) who pay a fee of 320-340 EUR. The number of individuals are 120-130 whose fee is 70 EUR per year.

They are dealing with 3 sections:
1. continuing education
2. distant education
3. learning in later life (university at the 3rd age – 50+)

Since Germany is a Federal Republic, the higher education is the responsibility of the state.

The network has 4 regional groups, and a 5th one is to be founded in Hessen. Each September the network has its annual conference with 150-200 participants. On top of this, each regional group has their own meetings and there might be special conferences, as well.

A journal is also published twice a year about the proceedings.

IV. **Next steps:**

It would be a good idea to ask for a chance to have a workshop for the National Networks at the next EUCEN conference. It would also be useful to choose a specific topic for the next workshop.

Next meeting will take place during the EUCEN conference in Graz (AT), 09-11 May 2012.
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Granada (ES), May 2011
National Networks Meeting 1/2011
Granada, 25 May 2011
17:00 – 18:30
University of Granada (ES)

Minutes

In general

- The NatNet’s Structure depends on the size of the NatNet (FR, UK, DE similar but different to smaller countries)
- A template is hard to establish
- Projects which need formal NatNets are not possible for smaller informal NatNets and even the formal NatNets are not very flexible

Report about the Status of the National Networks

- French Network is an institutional network: only the President can sign contracts and delegate work, it is a very formal NatNet, Language problem: only French speaking people, the French and the Belgian French speaking NatNets will meet in two weeks. Aim: To gain more members from these NatNets for EUCEN and to be more active.
- Belgian French speaking network is part of an official body (Ministry see law) "LLL in the University" Recommendation for Rectors and Ministry (9 Members, 2 Persons per University nominated), 1 meeting per month
- The Spanish NatNet is an association with more than 60 universities, it is formally established and has each year a big conference, the Ministry and Rector’s Conference ask them for consulting
- Estonia has an informal NatNet, it is very small, 6 Universities since 2001, the visibility is important for Project Application (ESF-money)
- UK is a very formal NatNet with a full time secretary, fees are the double of EUCEN, it has sub-groups, sends monthly a Newsletter (50 pages)
- The Portuguese NatNet is formal but without fees
- The Italian NatNet is to be built soon and should be set up until Geneva with a proposal for a statute

Next Steps

Next Meeting during the EUCEN Conference in Genoa on 16th November 2011.
Establish a Mailinglist for the National Networks for communication.
Establish a space on the EUCEN website for the cooperation of the National Networks.

Dr. Beate Hörr
Member of the EUCEN-SC (DE-University of Mainz)
Board Member of the German National Network DGWF (www.dgwf.net)
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Rovaniemi (FI), June 2010
NATIONAL & REGIONAL NETWORKS (NN) MEETING MINUTES

Present:
EUCEN Staff & Executive Committee Representatives: Alison J Hughes, Michel Feutrie, Carme Royo and Oliver Janoschka
Austria: AUCEN (Andrea Waxenegger)
Belgium (French Community): Cécile Stzalberg
Estonia: ENUCE (Ülle Kesli)
Finland: UCEF (Kirsi-Marja Varjokorpi)
France: CDSUFC (Jean-Marie Filoque)
Germany: DGWF (Beate Hörr & Helmut Vogt)
Italy: Giuliana Meraviglia Canu
Portugal: AUPEC (Alfredo Soeiro)
Spain: ACECU (Charo Romano de los Santos)
Spain: RUEPE (Juan Carlos Rodriguez)
Switzerland: SWISSUNI (Suzanne de Jonckheere)
UK: UaLL (Alison J Hughes)

1. Presentation by University Continuing Education Network in Finland
UCEF: Kirsi-Marja Varjokorpi, Secretary General
Kirsi-Marja gave a very informative presentation (Powerpoint attached) regarding recent changes to Higher Education in Finland, resulting in mergers of institutions with a reduction from 20 to 15 universities and from 26 to 18 polytechnics. The role of the Open Universities in the Finnish HE system will continue to be prominent, with new possibilities opening up for part time study for degrees and continuing emphasis on job-related CPD.

2. NN pages on new EUCEN Website and suggested additional resources on these pages
Those present were able to view the new NN pages on the new EUCEN website. After discussion it was agreed that the links in the table listing the network members should then link to a separate page for each network (as per the previous website). On each
separate page will be information in English about the network 
supplied by them) and a link to the network’s own website (where 
there is one). The Estonian, French, Finnish and German pages on 
the new website follow the previous template and are a useful 
guide for the other networks. CR will ask other networks to supply 
information in that format. Also on a NN page there can be any 
documents of interest supplied by that network e.g. recent 
chapters in the book co-ordinated by DGWF, which provides in-
depth analysis of some of the networks and also the AUCEN 
mission statement in English etc. 
EUCEN will update these pages as the information is supplied. 

It was also agreed that the table listing the networks should be 
ordered alphabetically on the basis of the European acronym i.e. 
AT for Austria, DE for Germany etc. 

It was agreed that the Irish Network HELLINN should be removed 
from the table as it is not operating at the moment. Also Charo 
Romano de los Santos noted that the Catalan network could be 
removed for now as it was undergoing changes. 

3. Issues of current interest to NNs

- It was suggested that EUCEN could become more visible 
  through the individual NNs and that EUCEN should ask the 
  NN members to make a link to EUCEN from their websites, if 
  they have not already done so. 
- The ES network (formerly RUEPEC) is now a formal legal 
  association and has been re-named RUEPEP. EUCEN will 
  change the website accordingly. The network will work with 
  the ES Ministry regarding changes to the recognition of 
  ‘unofficial’ Masters courses. 
- It was suggested that EUCEN sets up a mailing list for the NN 
  representatives to use so that they can post queries / 
  information directly to each other. 
- There continues to be a need for collection of statistical 
  data at national level regarding ULLL and a mailing list could 
  assist in queries such as this.

4. Any other business

Study Visits

- It was noted that the Associations bid for 2010 was 
  unsuccessful and so EUCEN would not be able to fund any 
  study visits between networks this year. 
- It was suggested that members could apply for Erasmus staff 
  training mobility funds to attend a study visit (AW in Graz is 
  hosting ES colleagues soon through this funding stream). The
requirement is that it is a 5-day work programme with one event each day. It is open for administrative as well as academic staff.

**Format of future NN meetings at conferences**

- It was agreed that the NN representatives preferred the meeting at the Conferences to be mid-conference and that the time scheduled in Rovaniemi was suitable i.e. early evening before the conference dinner.
- It was also agreed that where there is a NN in the country hosting the conference it is good for that NN to give a brief presentation re their network – and so CDSUFC will give a presentation at the next conference in Lille.

**Compass Project**

Oliver Janoschka informed those present about the Compass project and asked them to encourage members of their networks to complete the online survey.

**Full membership of EUCEN**

It was noted that a number of NN members of EUCEN had not yet formally indicated whether they agreed to be full members or not. EUCEN will send a letter to them requesting that, if they do agree, they send a formal letter stating their agreement to this, and also nominating their voting representative in this letter also.
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Jonkoping (SE), November 2009
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, Agusti 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/](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](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](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/](http://virqual.up.pt/)

- 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?’
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Hannover (DE), December 2007
Hannover, 1 December 2007

EUCEN NATIONAL & REGIONAL NETWORK (NN)
MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES

Present:
EUCEN Executive Committee Representatives: Alison J Hughes and Carme Royo
Estonia: ENUCE (Kadri Kiigema)
France: CDSUFC (Jean-Marie Filloque)
Germany: DGWF (Martin Beyersdorf)
Finland: UCEF (Hanna-Riikka Myllymaki)
Lithuania: L3net (Ruta Leonaviciene)
Portugal: AUPEC (Alfredo Soeiro)
Spain: RUEPEC & ACECU (Charo Romano)
UK: UaLL (Alison J Hughes)

Apologies for absence from AUCEN, FACE.

1. Presentation from German National Network

Martin Beyersdorf gave a very informative presentation on the German National Network DGWF (PowerPoint attached).
It was noted that there is a strong regional focus within the network and that it represents only Higher education level LLL. The network is also very active in having spokespersons for interaction with the TV, radio and newspaper media.

It was agreed that:
- it was a helpful idea for future EUCEN NN meetings at EUCEN Conferences to have a short presentation by the NN representative of the host country, where possible.
- any presentations should be posted on the NN pages on the EUCEN website as a very useful resource.

2. Education and Training 2010 – review of national reports

Michel Feutrie, President of EUCEN, recently attended an annual meeting in Brussels with the EC (Gordon Clark) and the ministries of Education and/or Work. Michel spoke with G Clark at the end of the meeting and they agreed that the following would be a very useful perspective from EUCEN and national LLL networks:
Every Member State has produced a national report on implementation of 'Education and Training 2010' and particularly on LLL issues. Each Member States has just sent these reports to the Commission. These are on the website: http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/2010/nationalreport_en.html

EUCEN suggests that each of its NN members reviews its country's national report, comments on it and writes a short review (max. 2-3 pages). EUCEN would then collate all these reports and write a report for the Commission reflecting the European wide view, from the perspective of its NN members.

Some of the NN reps at the meeting had already started to review their national reports and had noted that the representation of LLL was inaccurate. It was also noted that in a number of the reports it would appear that the countries were interpreting LLL as VET only and that this needed to be challenged.

Those present agreed that they would work with their NNs to prepare a short review on their NN overview of these reports. AJH will also request feedback form the other NN members of EUCEN. Deadline - mid January 2008

AJH to email request to all NN members

3. Future study visits
It was agreed that the study visit organised by the Hannover Conference hosts had been very successful. It was also agreed for future study visits that the main issue for participants is the cost of travel and accommodation. It would be useful, therefore if:

- it is a minimum 1 day event
- where possible it should be attached to a EUCEN conference with a presentation and a visit incorporated
- the NN meeting at the conference could be attached to the study visit

Potentially Estonia may be able to host a study visit in autumn 2008, with a theme about academic entrepreneurship and partnerships.

EUCEN will endeavour to organise a study visit to Brussels for 2009.

AJH to take this back to EUCEN Executive Committee.

4. Any other business

- It was noted that some NNs meet infrequently and so cannot feed back immediately to items raised by EUCEN. It
was suggested that EUCEN, in making requests for feedback or action, could indicate in the communications that it is acceptable for the individual networks to respond as they see fit. In other words, 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 to take this back to EUCEN Executive Committee.

- It was felt that the NN meeting at EUCEN Conferences should be given a specific time slot in the main conference rather than being squeezed into a lunchtime or evening session during the conference.  
  AJH to take this back to EUCEN Executive Committee.

- The Poster slot for the NNs at the Hannover Conference had been useful. Some of the NNs had sent material for display alongside the EUCEN posters. It was agreed that a Poster slot should be requested for all future EUCEN Conferences to allow NNs to display material of interest to other members, e.g. general material about the network, upcoming network conference details etc.

- Helmut Vogt from DGWF has suggested that a database be compiled of LLL expertise within the NN elected officers/board members. This would help other networks who required assistance at short notice with various issues.  
  It was noted that EUCEN Executive Committee is also reviewing the need for a database of expertise and that this idea from the NNs could feed into this development.  
  AJH to take this back to EUCEN Executive Committee.

- In Spain the Universities are wanting to create space for consideration of LLL in the national Rectors Unit

- The EUCEN NN pages still require updating- see minutes from previous meeting in Ljubljana  
  AJH to take this back to the EUCEN Exec. Committee
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Ljubljana (SI), March 2007
MINUTES

Present: Representatives from Austria, Finland, UK, Switzerland

1. Discussion of EUCEN paper sent to National Networks

It was noted that some national networks met infrequently and so could not feedback immediately to items such as this. General comments received so far by EUCEN President had been positive.

The meeting also noted that the NNs could be used by EUCEN as a resource for consultation when writing policy documents/responses to EU papers etc. This would require a clear process and mechanism for consulting the NNS. 

AJH to take this back to EUCEN Executive Committee.

Also NNs could do work in their own countries (and often were doing so) that would support and underpin EUCEN’s work in this regard. The overall theme was that EUCEN can use the NNs as a think tank.

A further point was that feedback needs to be two-way. The idea of the newsletter for NNs was discussed but some felt it was better to incorporate it into the usual EUCEN regular newsletter and just have a section in each one (as and when appropriate) for NNs. 

AJH will consult other NN members to see if this is the preferred option.

It was felt that the NN meeting at EUCEN Conferences should precede the main conference rather than being slotted into a lunchtime or evening session during the conference. 

AJH will consult other NN members to see if this is the preferred option.

2. Discussion of EUCEN information on NN conferences/issues

There was no detailed discussion but it was considered a helpful document, which should be web-mounted as it provides immediate links to EUCEN members who represent the NNs at EUCEN and also direct contacts within the NNs also
3. **Discussion regarding EUCEN website – NN pages – suggestions re structure and content**

It was felt that the EUCEN NN pages need more obvious exposure on the EUCEN website and it was acknowledged that the whole EUCEN website is being redesigned, which is a good opportunity to address a number of these issues. Those present noted that it would be useful to have the following resources developed and then mounted on the website:

- A page for NN co-ordinators
- Document giving some guidance for those who do not have NNs on how to organise a NN and the pros and cons of being an informal or formal network. This had been discussed at the NN meeting in Paris.
- Links to UCEA
- Ensuring NNs link to this section of the website.
- Also ensuring there are links from NNs to EUCEN project websites e.g. Equipe Plus, BeFlex as these promote dissemination of project outputs

AJH to take these points back to the EUCEN Exec. Committee

4. **Proposed study visit to Brussels**

EUCEN will organise a study visit to Brussels for autumn 2007. It was suggested that a NN meeting could include a future session about tips on organising study visits like these, and this could then be a web-resource for EUCEN members. It was also noted that in future some study visits could be added onto EUCEN conferences, as per the EUCEN paper – but this would have to be considered on a case by case basis.

Future suggested topics for study visits included:

- the legal role of ULLL providers in different countries in CE provision
- changes within universities regarding ULLL and change management
- policy issues re quality assuring CE/LLL – the variety of national accreditation agencies and their roles. It was noted that the Equipe Plus project would provide information about this as partners were being asked to provide reports on how ULLL was quality assured at a national level.
- Quality management issues for ULLL
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Gdynia (PL), June 2006
EUCEN
National Networks Meeting
Gdynia (PL), 19 may 2006, during lunch

Present: Ulle KESLI (ES), Anna-Rikka MYLLYMAKI (FI), Ina GRIEB (DE), Paolo DE MARIA (IT), Jean-Marie FILLOQUE (FR), Alfredo SOEIRO (PT), Alison HUGHES (UK), Ann-Katherin MORDHOST (DE), Genevieve AUROI-JAGGI (CH), Juan-Carlos RODRIGUEZ (ES)

J-MF welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Review of actions from previous meetings: Study tour, Web site, National Network meetings...
3. Proposal for future local seminars or study tours (organization, location, dates, subject...)
4. Discussion about the type of "coordination" or services to be received via EUCEN

1. Introduction
   We have programmed only a short national Network meeting during this conference because of lack of time. The main issue on our agenda is to decide one study visit before the end of 2006 in the framework of EUCEN’s “Association project”.

2. Review of action points from previous meeting in Rome
   The National Networks page is now ready on EUCEN's website. Everybody is invited to complete it and bring information and links on specific national topics.
   A call for study tour subjects have been distributed and few new ideas arisen (see next point).
   Autumn conference in Paris: We propose an agenda for the National networks meeting in Paris conference (2 hours) :
   Formal/informal National Networks for ULLL : Overview of European situation, comparison of advantages and disadvantages of the two status, main criterion to choose... How can EUCEN help the new comers to self organize?
   Spring conference in Ljubljana : We have pointed out a subject of interest for all networks, related to “new learners” or “mobile learners”. This could be a subject for a conference or workshop...
for the next spring conference. There is a recent Swedish research on this topics (to be seen with Ebba Ossiannilsson). Genevieve Auroi-Jaggi can also give a speech on this subject. ACTION to ask EUCEN’s SC to consider this subject for a workshop on the Ljubljana programme.

3. **To propose the organization of new local seminars or study tours**

We have proposed two study-tours. One could be organized in November or December in Germany and the second one in Belgium.

A) Study tour in Germany: Organized by DGWF, Ina Grieb, in the university of Oldenburg. Duration: 2 days. Subject: Dual system in Germany, with a university point of view. Interactions between work and learning, Industry and universities, apprenticeship...

B) Study tour in Belgium: Organized by Belgium network. Duration: 2 days, dates: early in 2007? Subject: Lobbying for ULLL ? State of the “art”, definitions, main characteristics, Visit to EC, Strategies for a university, a network ...

The first one could be simple to organize. Ina is Ok. Some French colleagues are already interested. Jean-Marie will contact Ina to finalize the organization.

The second one must be more precisely defined. It is asked to all interested network representatives to send an e-mail to Carme with a short description of what they want to learn, what are their objectives…. This must be done for 1st September. After that, we will try to organize something.

The meeting finished on Friday 19 May at 14:00 p.m.
NATIONAL NETWORKS MEETING

Roma (IT), November 2005
**EUCEN**

**National Networks Meeting**

Rome, 17 November 2005, 5:30 p.m.

LUMSA, Roma (IT)

Present: Jean-Marie Filloque (FR), Jo Boon (NL), José Morales (MX), Alison Hughes (UK), Vaidotas Viliunas (LT), Hanna-Riikka Myllymäki (FI), Annekatrin Mordhost (DE), Ina Grieb (DE), Genevieve Auroi-Jaggi (CH).

J-MF welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

1. **Presentation of new comers network: formal or not, number of universities, main missions**
   - New comers are Jo Boon from Netherlands and José Morales from Mexico. He was here as a visitor and member of the Latino-American Network for LLL (RECLA).
   - Delegates from Spain and Italy were misinformed and apologize for not attending the meeting.
   - JMF make a short presentation of the objectives of these new regular meetings.

2. **Review of action points from previous meeting in Bergen**
   
   **JMF**

   Asked EUCEN to create a section on the web called “National Networks”. In this section there will be a page of information from each organisation (formal or informal). The SC (1st July) answers yes. The work has been done recently by Carmen. The section is open under “members room/focus on”. It consists currently of a short presentation of objectives, a table with 15 entries for national network. 8 of them have given an abstract for the presentation of their structure and activities (AT, EE, FI, FR, IE, LT, ES and UK: UALL).
   - 5 have given only a link to their website (DE, HU, PT, CH, UK: FACE). IT and Catalonia have not got a web site and have not sent a summary yet.
   - We asked all existing Networks to send their abstract to Carmen. Carmen to bring the “National Network” section to an upper level in the web site, directly accessible from “Members' room”.

   **NatNets**

   To allow a seminar for National Networks to meet in Rome. This has been set up. One seminar on 17/11 and another one on 18/11. The second one specifically concentrate on a presentation by Pat Davis on the consultation organized by EC on new Grundtvig program and EQF.

   **CR**

   **JMF**

   To find out if there is any funding available for members of the National Networks to attend the Rome Conference. At this time, nothing new have been find. The CEDEFOP gives some money to organized its own study tours.
To build an aspect on National Networks within the “Associations project 2”. The proposal was submitted for the deadline of 4 October 2005. It would give to EUCEN some funding for Jan-Dec 2006 only and cover only some aspects of our work. It includes only one study for 2006.

And other opportunity is now open for national networks through the EQUIPE Plus Project. It was accepted and has started on 1st November. It includes a large participation of national networks through several types of activities:

- Organisation of one workshop per National Network. During the 3rd year.
- Receive another National Network. During the 3rd year.
- 2 visits of others National Networks in the next 3 years.
- Redaction of a national quality report.

To organize with French Network a “RPE in France study-tour” at the end of 2005. It takes place between 20th and 22nd of October in Paris and Lille. 15 persons attend this session on Recognition of prior experience in France. The report, list of participants and documents will be soon available on web site (section National Networks).

3. To propose the organization of new local seminars or study tours (ST)

This question is treated in previous section. For the ST included in Association project a “call for propositions” must be disseminated. Some ideas have arisen during the evaluation of the 2 previous ST:

- Aging, demographic evolution and LLL.
- The overall position of the discipline of lifelong learning within individual universities and related national structures.
- The impact of ECTS on lifelong learning.
- The Danube University Krems is the only university for postgraduate university continuing education not only in Austria but in Europe and can be studied.
- Looking at specific topics in national context which are relevant for all Europeans, e.g. in how far can you use modules in BA/MA programmes for continuing education, accreditation in continuing education, how can we work more closely together in the international context, how to motivate national continuing education colleagues to work internationally.
- It would be really interesting to find out more about how the jury system operates. How are people recruited to sit on juries? Do they receive any training? Possible to video any examples of the discussion taking place between a candidate and the jury?
- Would like to know more about setting up links between universities and outside organisations...

JMF to disseminate a call for proposition, present the result for the next SC in Barcelona who will decide.

The meeting finished on Wednesday 17 November at 6:30 pm