UCEF

University Continuing Education Network in Finland

Contact details
www.ucef.fi

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Background
UCEF is a National Cooperation Network for Finnish Universities’ Continuing and Adult Education Units.

- Founded in 1990
- Member organizations at 12 universities
- Number of employees in member organizations approximately 1000
- Steering Committee with 8 members
- Part-time Secretary General
- Office situated at University of Helsinki Centre for Continuing Education

Focus
Objectives:

- Regard lifelong learning as one of the core activities of universities
- Influence and represent interests in UCE policy
- Enhance regional, national and global policies of knowledge society
- Encourage cooperation between universities
- Share experiences and good practices in organizing and developing UCE
- Share best practices in international cooperation
- Emphasize UCE in dissemination of university research and innovation
- Create models and methodologies for professional development programs with UCEF members universities
- Promote the formation and implementation of shared principals in UCE
- Increase public awareness of UCE
- Support the social and regional function of universities

Interest Groups and active co-operation:

- National and regional public authorities: Cooperation with Ministry of Education, good relations with the Parliament of Finland, contacts with Finnish National Board of Education and regional authorities such as municipalities, Regional Councils, State Provincial Offices and local authorities of Ministry of Labour

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eucen National Networks: UCEF
Cooperation with Universities Finland UNIFI and The Open University Forum
Contacts with the labour market organizations
Regional cooperation with adult education centres, polytechnics and other vocational institutes

Core activities
- Annual seminar
- 9 annual Steering Committee meetings
- Gathering and dissemination of information on important current issues in the university field
- National and regional co-operation, international co-operation, meetings and projects
- Newsletter by email
- Web page www.ucef.fi

Current issues
- Structural reorganization of HE and UCE sectors continues.
- New degree launched by Ministry of Education and Culture to be developed cooperatively by universities and work life for specializing at work.