

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PRODUCTIVE SCHOOLS



IDAP participates in the Second International Conference Grundtvig 2 of the European Union Program Socrates

The center from Vilafranca presented the Mirror Web Site Project in representation of Spain.

The Productive Learning Institute "Rodolf Llorens I Jordana" (IDAP), from the town council of Vilafranca del Penedès, participated in the Second International Conference Grundtvig 2 in the framework of the communitarian program Socrates, which took place in Rimini (Italy), from October 23rd to 26th.

The Grundtvig 2 program has as its main objectives, the continuous education through transnational cooperation, the development of new pedagogical views and the usage of new technologies in all training process not only related to the school framework. This program has financed in Europe more than one thousand projects, 140 of which have been developed in Spain.

IDAP was invited by the Italian Socrates National Agency to present the Mirror Web Site project as coordinator, together with three other centers from the United Kingdom, Estonia and Germany, as good examples of the final aims that the European Union is looking for in relation to education for youngsters and adults. The center director, Mercè Marcé, and the student, Daniel Cano, were the ones responsible for the presentation of the benefits and products obtained during the project, to the participants, representatives of all the Socrates National Agencies, and educational centers from whole Europe.

In the Mirror Web Site project, youngsters and educators have visited, during a whole year, each of the educative centers associated analyzing their way of working, the training methods that they use and their educative results. Each visit was documented through video, photographs and texts that were being published in Internet, in the web site created among all the partners (<http://www.mirrorwebsite.net>).

Due to the good results of the project, this was prorogated for one more year to keep on working in the same way, having, in this second phase, the participation of other European centers from Germany, Hungary, Greece and France interested in the project.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK CITY IN JUNE ENTITLED "FACING DIVERSITY IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD"



Dear Colleagues;

We are planning to hold an International Conference dealing with Urban Policy and Educational Responses to the new influx of immigrants into our societies to be held in New York City from June 9th through 11th. The genesis of this conference came about through several meetings with the European Union Ambassador to the United Nations John Richardson, the Executive Director of the National Academy of Alternative Schools, Bret Schlesinger, the Director of International Bridges, Alan Schulman and the President of the International Network of Productive Schools, Jacques Bonnisseau, during the spring of 2003.

The purpose of the Conference will be to open up the discussion on the on the issue of the increasing phenomenon of immigration and globalization taking place in Europe and America, especially as it manifests itself in our urban communities Using New York City as the model for the United States part of the conference will include 6 Town Hall Meetings, to be held inside representative New York City neighborhoods, exploring the experiences of various Post World War II 'new' New York City communities, including those from:

- 1- Puerto Rico in the 1950's
Cuba in the early 1960's and 1980's
Santo Domingo in the 1960's
- 2- Northern Asia including South Korea and China
- 3- South Asia including India, Pakistan and Bangladesh
- 4- African American from the South after WW II
and African Caribbean
- 5- Arab Islamic
- 6- Russian and Eastern Europeans

Part of the conference will be devoted to the European experience. To this end we hope to concentrate on certain cities within Europe to analyze what strategies they are employing to meet the needs of their new communities. INEPS has played a key role in dealing with these communities from the very beginning and has developed a unique expertise in this area. Among the cities which are being considered are Berlin, Paris, Stockholm, Moscow, Vilafranca and Patras.

Hopefully this conference will bring the experiences and successes INEPS has enjoyed to the attention of a wider audience within the halls of the European Union and the United Nations.

In the January newsletter we hope to be able to give you more information on the details.

Alan Schulman Bret Schlesinger Jacques Bonnisseau Christine Heike