



IPLE HOLDS 8TH FORUM ON PRODUCTIVE LEARNING

On June 23rd IPLE carried out its 8th Forum on Productive Learning at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt/Oder. The Forum's subject was "Productive Learning: an answer to the PISA Study". About 230 people used the chance to exchange PL experiences or to come in contact with PL people. In 5 workshops we talked about successes, problems and possibilities for establishing more Productive Learning projects in Germany. For the first time beside the 8 Berlin schools, 7 schools from Brandenburg and 3 schools from Sachsen-Anhalt presented their PL results. In a plenary discussion, moderated by the president of the University, the Berlin and the Brandenburg Minister of Education as well as speakers of all important German political parties argued the pro and cons of Productive Learning and its contribution in overcoming bad German PISA marks. All the politicians agreed in accepting and supporting PL and its further development in Germany.

Photos from the Forum



(The following program is one of The International Bridges Projects in New York City)

OTHERS ARE US: *Imagining You and Your World*

During the 2002-2003 school year, OTHERS ARE US piloted *Imagining You and Your World*, a project that engages children attending New York City public elementary schools in non-political dialogue with Arab Muslim and Jewish children in communities, both in the Middle East and the United States. Through creative expression and technology, children get to know and understand each other as *cultural* not ideologies and cultural caricatures. They are then given the means (through a public project presentation) to share with adults what they have learned about building positive relationships and opening avenues of communication. Children are thus empowered to play an active role in shaping their world today and the one they will inherit from us in the future. This is vital in our post-9-11 society where fear and anxiety have entered children's lives, fostering feelings of helplessness. Our pilot phase saw children from 15 schools in 4 countries exchanging visual and written messages about their schools and teachers, hobbies and recreational activities, fashion, families and pets, space exploration, food and what we know about each other's culture! Over 200 New York City public school children took part in the pilot and we plan to add additional schools and countries in 2003-2004. Our goal is to develop the program over the next three years in such a way that it can be easily implemented by teachers worldwide. Please visit us at www.othersareus.org to find out more about *Imagining You and Your World*.

Annette Swierzbinski, Director



Photos from an exhibition of some of the /



NEW MAN IN TOWN AND HE'S LOOKING FOR MONEY



At the INEPS Congress in Finland it was decided to hire someone to look for funding for the organization. We'd like to introduce him to everyone.

My name is Wolfgang Jaeschke. I'm working for IPLE since 2001 (I was responsible for the Youth Congress in Berlin and I cared for the money) so that some of the INEPS-members already know me, for example Gun whom I helped to get money for the youth congress this year in Stockholm.

If you have any ideas or suggestions on where Wolfgang might go to look for money you can reach him through IPLE (iple@sonett.asf-berlin.de). We wish him all the best and happy hunting.

NEXT MONTH: Highlights of the French American Seminar in held in New York City.