



NEWSLETTER

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INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PRODUCTIVE SCHOOLS



SEASON'S GREETINGS

REPORT OF THE 16TH IPLE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR IN HEINOLA AND HELSINKI, FINLAND

This seminar was organised in co-operation with OPEKO and MY OWN CAREER (Finland). From November 27 to December 3, 2004 took place the IPLE's 16th International Seminar on the topic

"PRODUCTIVE LEARNING – THE NEW ROLE AND COMPETENCIES OF PL - EDUCATORS"

The seminar addressed all INEPS-partners and their educators as well as administrators and politicians. 60 participants took part in the seminar coming from Finland, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Madeira/Portugal, Russia and Sweden. We were so happy to meet our friend Rita from Madeira/Portugal again, whom we have known for years. She had had a terrible accident this year and was very ill for a long time. Now she is back with a lot of enthusiasm for developing *Productive Learning*. After a long period of absence we met our old fellows from Hungary, Ildikó and Magdolna, and Svetlana and Lora from Russia. We also had the chance to get in contact with new colleagues from Hungary and Lithuania and new PL-educators from Germany. But we missed our old friends from France, Greece, Italy, Spain, USA, etc a lot. All of them had problems coming because of difficulties in their projects, money problems, time problems etc. We missed them and their important experiences and contributions to our seminar topic. We hope that all of them will be "back" at the next INEPS-Congress in Moscow, April 2005.

The subject of the 16th International Seminar was closely related to IPLE's last seminar in Berlin in October 2003, which was entitled "*Productive Learning – its Methods in Practice and in Theory*". The educator as an "animator" of every *Productive Learning* project has to transform PL-ideas and PL-methods into concrete educational activities. Therefore the educator has to develop a new professional role, a new professional understanding of him/herself, and a setting of new professional competencies.

The seminar offered workshops which presented, tried out and discussed the most important role aspects of PL educators as well as corresponding competencies.

- Workshop 1: "*The New Professional understanding of oneself as PL Educator*"
- Workshop 2: "*From Being an Instructor to Being an Educational Counsellor*"
- Workshop 3: "*From Being a Subject Teacher to Being an Individual Curriculum Developer*"
- Workshop 4: "*From Being a Lesson Reader to Being a Communication Group Facilitator*"
- Workshop 5: "*From Being the Lord of the Classroom to Being a Community Educator and Project Developer*"

All participants worked in very creative ways on the different topics in our workshops. We built altogether a "tree of competencies of the PL-educators". The result was shown in a visual way (see picture below (right)). A special documentation of results of the seminar will be produced in January 2005 and put on our web page.

But good results could not have been gotten, if we hadn't worked in an extraordinary atmosphere. Our Finnish friends, particularly Jussi, had done their best organizing the seminar in snow-covered surroundings, with activities in the snow like Nordic-Walking and simulation of skiing, well equipped seminar-rooms and last but not least with delicious food in Finnish wooden rooms. Thank you Jussi and your team for the wonderful co-operation!

We wish all of our friends and colleagues a nice Christmas and a happy Hanukkah and a good start in the new year 2005. Please keep in mind that the next INEPS Congress will take place in Moscow from 23rd to 29th of April, 2005. You have to register very early: **end of January 2005**. If you would like to know more please get in contact with Nata Krylova.



Ingrid, Jens and the IPLE-team

