

INEPS NEWSLETTER

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INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PRODUCTIVE SCHOOLS

16TH INEPS CONGRESS HELD IN VILAFRANCA, SPAIN SUMMARY OF THE CONGRESS

Once again INEPSers from all over Europe and the United States gathered in Vilafranca, Spain for a week long Congress. The theme of the Congress was Productive Learning For a Better Understanding. The Congress consisted of a daily plenary session featuring various speakers followed by a series of seminars and workshops. The Congress was opened by the Mayor and Roberto Labandara, member of the Catalanian Parliament. The keynote address was delivered by Marta Mata, President of Angels Gariga Foundation and a firm supporter of educational reform. We also were treated to examples of Productive Learning as practiced in Vilafranca through the MAP Project. In addition various members from INEPS delivered Key speeches. The seminars dealt with different aspects of using Productive Learning as a tool towards cultural understanding. The workshops worked on different issues and concepts for the future if INEPS. In addition the members took a side trip to Barcelona and the site of Forum 2004. Another field trip was to Escola-Viver Castell de St Foix de Sta Maria de Martolles, a school devoted to training students with special needs in farming, gardening and landscaping. In honor of our visit a commemorative tree was planted. As usual on the final day the General Assembly met to discuss a variety of issues and to vote on various items including selection of a new Administrative Council and the sites for the Student Congress and the INEPS Congress in 2005.



Photos from the INEPS Congress

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONGRESS

- The participants were officially welcomed at the City Hall by the Mayor and other local officials
- There was a news conference for the local press corps and articles appeared in the local papers.
- Every night there were video clips shown on the local TV station featuring highlights of the days conference. Thanks to Josep Alsina who made sure that happened.
- Melissa Sanfiorenzo had her book published by IDAP. It is called **Imtajes de Vilafranca del Penedes**. To commemorate the event there was a celebration in downtown Vilafranca which was introduced by the Mayor.
- Alan Schulman and his daughter Casey both celebrated birthdays and were warmly serenaded by the INEPSers.
- Mark Bashmakov flew in all the way from Lahore, Pakistan just to attend.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL FOR 2005

PRESIDENT: Angela Passa (Greece)
VICE PRESIDENT: Juha Lahtinen (Finland)
2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Nata Krylova (Russia)
SECRETARY: Gun Nilsson (Sweden)
TREASURER: Ingrid Boehm (Germany)
MEMBERS:
Alan Schulman (United States)
Lahcen Abbahassine (Finland)
Hildburg Bistram (Germany)
Heike Borkenhagen (Germany)
Mercè Marcé (Spain)

TENTATIVE SITES FOR NEXT YEARS CONGRESS' AND SEMINARS

September: Workshop in Finland
April: INEPS Congress in Moscow
Spring: Youth Congress in New York City



CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Newsletter this picture was mislabeled as Cyprus. It should have read Sweden. We apologize.

