

Editorial

The tasks of EUCEN are based upon communication and exchange of experience mainly. Therefore, two annual conferences are conducted, several working groups are in operation and first interuniversity cooperation projects have been started. However, the EUCEN Steering Committee has realised the need for additional communication for the benefit of member universities. We have decided to start a "Newsletter" providing relevant information on issues such as:

- EUCEN Steering Committee activities
- EUCEN Working Group results
- EUCEN interuniversities projects
- EUCEN conferences follow up
- EUCEN membership development
- Higher Education policy in the EC/EFTA
- Contacts with the European Commission
- Programmes for UCE funding
- Activities of other networks and organisations.

This first EUCEN - Newsletter edition is a pilot project touching a few of the above issues only. Members are invited to comment on it and to contribute in future for further development of EUCEN.

P.V. Mitschke-Collande

History of EUCEN

Questions such as "How can university continuing education with a European emphasis be expanded?" and "How can we expand continuing education without requiring the very considerable additional effort required by most European activities at present?" were discussed in May 91, at a meeting in the University of Bristol of representatives of fifteen European universities. It was decided there that it would be valuable to establish a European Universities Continuing Education Network.

A second meeting of the Network took place in the University of Hannover in November 1991. Here the objectives of the Network were discussed and the decision was taken to set up a small central organization with the minimum formality that will be required if it is to be regarded seriously by the European Community.

At the third meeting in the University of Liège in May 1992 the Network was formally established, the Statutes agreed and the aims and objectives of EUCEN incorporated in these Statutes.

The fourth meeting in the University of Leiden in November 1992 concentrated on the European Commission's Memorandum on Higher Education and EUCEN's views on the continuing education aspects of the document. These were subsequently reported to the Commission.

The fifth meeting took place at the University of Barcelona in May, 1993. The theme was Continuing Education in Spain and in Europe with workshops on Education in the Automobile Industry and the first General Assembly. At all these meetings collaborations have been initiated and Working Groups set up.

The sixth meeting will be in Porto hosted by the University of Porto in October 1993 and the seventh meeting will be held in Helsinki in May 94 organized by the Centre for Continuing Education of the Helsinki University of Technology.

Description of EUCEN

For the purposes of EUCEN, continuing education is defined as any form of education, vocational or general, restarted after an interval following the end of initial education. This may include education for full-time mature students, as part-time degrees and diplomas, as post-experience vocational education courses, as liberal adult education and as open access courses.

EUCEN aims to enable its member-universities to serve most effectively the people of Europe, particularly in their own regions, through the provision of high quality continuing education and to influence the development of university continuing education policy throughout Europe.

EUCEN Update Membership

There has been a widespread interest in becoming a member of EUCEN and the institutions that are actual members or have applied for admission are:

Belgium:	Universitaire Instelling Antwerpen, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Université de Liège, Université Catholique de Louvain.
Denmark:	Aarhus University.
Eire:	University College of Cork.
Finland:	Theatre Academy of Helsinki, University of Helsinki University of Jyväskylä University of Joensuu.
France:	Université Catholique de l'Ouest à Angers, Université Michel Montaigne Bordeaux III, Université Charles de Gaulle Lille III, Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Toulouse.
Germany:	University of Hannover.
Greece:	National Technical University of Athens, University of Patras.
Israel/West Bank:	Birzeit University (associate member).
Italy:	Politecnico di Bari, Università degli Studi di Pavia, Università degli Studi di Trieste.
Netherlands:	University of Amsterdam, Eindhoven University of Technology, University of Leiden.
Portugal:	Universidade do Porto.
Spain:	Universidad de Barcelona, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia.
Sweden:	University of Örebro.
Switzerland:	Universität Basel, Universität Bern, Université de Fribourg.

United Kingdom: University of Bristol,
University of Cambridge,
Coventry University,
University of Dundee,
University of Exeter,
University of Leeds,
City University of London,
London Business School,
University of London:
King's College,
London School of Economics,
University College,
Loughborough University of Technology,
University of Oxford,
University of Sheffield,
University of Strathclyde,
University of Ulster,
University of Wolverhampton

EUCEN Working Groups and Projects

There are four working groups and six projects currently active and involving several members of the network.

- The first working group is led by Prof. P. v. Mischke-Collande and involves an European Summer School in Law: Legal Impact of EC on European Industrial Cooperation. The universities that participate are Orebro, Liege, Hannover and Bristol.

- The second is coordinated by Mr. G. Windsor and addresses Language Training for Professionals. The active members are Bristol, Bordeaux, Hannover, Leiden and Trieste.

- The third group is directed by Prof. E. Thomas and considers the question of Credit Transfer in Continuing Education. Cork, Leuven, Liege, Exeter and Bristol are the universities researching the subject.

- The last working group is mainly directed to contacts with the European Commission and is coordinated by Prof. de Kosinsky.

- The six projects under way are Marketing and Membership Drive (Prof. Thomas), State of Continuing Education in Europe (Mr. Kommer), Institutional, Legal and Tax Barriers to CE Participation (Mr. Dawson), Database and Email (Mr. v.d. Einjnde and Prof. Soeiro), Newsletter (Prof. Soeiro) and Training Needs Analysis (Mrs. Mitchell and Prof. de Witte).

All the Projects and Working Groups are open to other members and wider participation is welcome by those already involved.

Themes for the Porto Conference 29-31 October, 1993

The conference will be hosted by the Rector of the University and will have a strong contribution from other Portuguese universities. The Friday afternoon session will be dedicated to the Portuguese experience in continuing education. It will have the participation of the Minister of Education and of local authorities involved in continuing education. The Saturday will have as its theme "Motivating Academia for Continuing Education". This is a major obstacle in continuing education management mainly arising from faculty attitudes towards educational innovation. It is difficult to gauge in advance the level of support provided by administrators and staff for a continuing education program. This requires more work, more commitment, more preparation and more counseling than routine teaching.

The invited speakers will try to meet the wide variety of participants needs. The speakers are from the European Commission, from the

European Parliament, from the CRE, from the IRDAC, from the European Round Table of Industrialists, from academia and from services. There will be a Saturday afternoon session with workshops and general debates following on this theme when all participants will be able to contribute. Sunday morning will be a plenary session to "network" on existing and new projects. And to prove that it is not all work and no recreation we will have a Friday dinner hosted by the Rector, a Saturday reception by the Mayor of Porto and a Sunday lunch with a visit to the Port wine cellars. In the name of my University I welcome you to the conference and with my colleagues we will do our best to make it both a useful and an enjoyable weekend.

Alfredo Soeiro

P.S.: TAP will support air travel. Please contact for further news.

Information about Porto

Porto was founded by the Lusitanians, before the roman occupation, with the name Cale. When the Romans came they added the name Portus as the river offered security for his boats and thus it became Portucale. The name was extended to the region and later to the country founded in 1143 but the city kept the name Porto. A description of the city is given by a contemporary writer from Porto:

"There are loopholes, slits, passageways and bridges and river-mouths in front of our eyes focused on that tremendous presence of rock, whitewash and concrete. A deep steep riverbank determines the river cut, whose green waters in the Spring reflect the growing shadow of rabelos with full sails. The sun looks low over the city secluded from the stone-quarry; a transcendence of melancholy floats and touches us. The wall instills in us a sweet european sadness, an active pride, a picture of slaves and splendours, an economic dream and an impracticable faith in freedom. The wall grows with its small seaside palaces, its irreplaceable tin and cardboard homes, its banking houses, the many passionate crimes, and the happy heads of families with a woman on each arm. Behind its stones there is the Moorish nobleness, there is the shrewd Jew, the big Phoenician, the fault-finding and lethargic Lusitania man. The city is the wall, settled by blue collar workers and construction workers, by college students, by artists and by the capital."

(free translation from "Muralhas" by Agustina Bessa Luis)

Steering Committee

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Prof. Dr. E. J. Thomas, U. Bristol, Secretary General;
Prof. Dr. V. de Kosinsky, U. Liège, First Vice-President;
Prof. Dr. A. Soeiro, U. Porto, Second Vice-President;
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