NEWSLETTER

EUROPEAN SOCIAL WORK

- Commonalities and Differences -

TNP 104315-CP-1-2002-1-IT-ERASMUS-TN

THEMATIC NETWORK PROGRAM

EUSW

European Social Work
Commonalities and Differences

Issue no. 1 – September 2002

EUSW – European Social Work: Commonalities and Differences

Hello to all our partners in this exciting project.

This introductory newsletter is to help us plan how to proceed in the immediate weeks.

We received confirmation about the EUSW application's final approval last week from the Italian Socrates National Agency.

Since the Programme requires us to start making outcomes happen promptly, we are already planning events in order to help things run smoothly.

This newsletter will provide the following information:

- TIMETABLE OF ACTIONS AND WHAT EACH PARTNER MUST CONTRIBUTE, 2002-3;
- KEY POINTS OF THE APPLICATION AND ITS BACKGROUND;
- OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE EUSW AND ITS INTENDED OUTCOMES;
- TIMETABLE AND EXPECTATIONS, 2002-3

The first EUSW meeting, as announced in the original application, will take place in Parma from October 31st to November 3rd 2002. This meeting is primarily to agree a structure for advancing the aims of the EUSW. In accordance with the original application, the meeting will be used to divide up members into special interest subgroups, which will then take responsibility for the implementation of the expected outcomes (see 6.8 in the original application).

Each TNP member is kindly invited to be clear about the content of the original application and come to the first meeting with any questions, comments and ideas. Of course, it would help if any queries were sent prior to the meeting to the co-ordinator and chairperson (see below for further details).

The deadline for confirming participation in the first EUSW meeting is **15th September 2002**. Please fill the form enclosed to the newsletter and send it to post, fax or e-mail to:

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PREPARATORY WORK PRIOR TO THE FIRST MEETING
Please gather and collect basic information on Social Work education at your college. Tell us what the content of the programme is and at what academic levels it is taught. Please tell us also how much of the course is practice. This information should be in English, extremely brief (strictly 5 minutes to present), and if possible on an overhead projector slide.

CONSIDERATIONS
Every member of this network will be involved in a subgroup working towards one of the expected aims. You will need to organise your work so that you have some time for these activities during this 2002/2003 academic year.

Please consult the timetable in the original application , pages 48-49.

A further meeting will also be arranged for the 2003 summer, mid to late June.

One more final way in which your help is needed is to locate further partners for EUSW. Particularly, we could benefit from members from the following countries: Estonia, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Slovakia, and Turkey.

REMINDER OF THE OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE NETWORK AND ITS PROPOSED OUTCOMES
The primary aim of EUSW Thematic Network is to encourage a comparative approach to Social Work. With the involvement of academic and professional bodies across Europe, this network aims at establishing a shared knowledge base in relation to Social Work education, practice and evaluation through:

- a consideration of the transferability of social work knowledge across European national boundaries;
- an analysis of Social Work education and practice in relation to values, theories, knowledge and skills;
- the establishment of a data bank providing information on Social Work training, practice and evaluation in all European Countries;
- promoting a comparative approach to Social Work education

For this project to progress well and successfully achieve its outcomes there must be a direct and complete commitment fromy each participating institution. The first annual meeting, which will take place at the beginning of the first year, will help to identify the specific working groups in charge of implementing each output. Under the direction

of one of the institutions on the Project's Board, the different working groups will operate in order to achieve specific outcomes. Additionally, systems will be instituted so that all the working groups will interact with each other in order to facilitate a constant exchange of information.

TIMETABLE OF ACTIONS 2002/2003
DB = Direction Board
WG1 = Working Group 1. Responsible for the organisation of the annual meetings and conferences
WG2= Working Group 2. Responsible for the production of the book.
WG3 = Working Group 3. Responsible for the newsletters.
WG4 = Working Group 4. Responsible for the web site implementation.
WG5 = Working Group 5. Responsible for the implementation of student related activities.

The members of each working group will be defined during the first Annual Meeting in Parma.

Sept. 2002	Direction Board meeting
Nov. 2002	First Annual Meeting
Jan. 2003	Working Group 3 meeting
Jan./Feb. 2003	Working Group 4 meeting
Feb./Mar. 2003	Working Group 2 meeting
Mar./Apr./May 2003	Working Group 1 meeting
	Working Group 5 meeting
Jun. 2003	Second Annual meeting
Sep. 2003	Final Report

EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR THE FIRST YEAR
1. Collection of relevant information about Social Work education
2. Definition of the working groups and their areas of competence
3. Set up of EUSW Web site
4. Collection of materials and information for the production of a comparative book on Social Work in Europe
5. Production of regular newsletters (3 a year)
6. Implementation of questionnaires
7. Publication of the book
8. Setting up the basis for the future implementation of an International Summer School in Social Work aiming at improving students' and staff's knowledge and skills in pan-European Social Work practice
9. Improving communication between European Countries and Social Work institutions

All partners have been consulted about the original application, and some people contributed ideas. All this produced a successful bid, and now we must all work towards turning this into an equally successful project, which can offer much to Social Work education at a European level. We thank you all for your efforts and contributions to the achievement of the expected goals.

EUSW – European Social Work: Commonalities and Differences

EUSW DIRECTION BOARD AND HEADQUARTERS

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EUSW – European Social Work: Commonalities and Differences

Confirmation of participation
EUSW 1st Annual Meeting
Parma, October 31st/November 3rd

Please fill in capitals

Title _____

Surname _____

Name _____

Sex   M ☐   F ☐

Address _____

Phone   +   /   /   _____

Fax   +   /   /   _____

E-mail   @   _____

Institution
represented _____

Erasmus ID code _____

No. of persons _____

Hotel   reservation
required   Yes ☐   No ☐   If yes, please indicate the hotel type   ** ☐   *** ☐   **** ☐
                                                Single room ☐   Double room ☐

Desired Working   ☐ Working Group 1 => Organisation of meetings and conferences
Group –1st and   ☐ Working Group 2 => Book production
2nd choice   ☐ Working Group 3 => Newsletters production
                            ☐ Working Group 4 => Web site implementation
                            ☐ Working Group 5 => Student related activities

                **IMPORTANT: your choice will be used as primary selection method but it is
                possible that, according to the number of partners involved in each group, you
                may be assigned to another Working Group during the Annual Meeting.**

Presentation   Yes ☐   No ☐   If yes, please indicate the approx. duration   Min. _____

Please send by the next 15th September. Thank you

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