

Supported and funded by:



Second International Online Conference on “Innovation in Training Practice” 9-10 November 2009

Who is the conference for?

The conference is for all those interested in the training and professional development of teachers and trainers. This includes teachers, trainers, researchers, managers and policy makers.

About the conference

The conference will take place on through the internet. We hope this will not only reduce the carbon footprint of our activities, but will also allow wide participation by those who might not be able to travel. The conference will utilise simple web-based tools and will be accessible by anyone with an internet connection and a web browser. For those of you not used to presenting on the internet, we will provide full technical support and a short pre-conference training course.

Conference Structure

The conference will take place over two days. On each day there will be two formal sessions, one for each of the themes. Each session will last for about two hours, allowing four presentations of 15 minutes each, with 15 minutes of discussion. The live sessions will utilise on-line e-conferencing software, allowing video and audio presentations and feedback from participants. Sessions will be recorded and made available for later viewing. Papers will be made available to participants in advance and the conference will also provide opportunities for asynchronous text-based discussion.

Conference themes

The conference will be organised around four themes.

Theme 1: Innovations in Work-based Learning for VET Teachers and Trainers

Work-based learning is seen as being based on practice and supporting the development of applied work practice knowledge. Against classroom-based training it tends to be more authentic and situated and may be more cost-effective in contributing to production processes.

Theme 3: Technology Enhanced Learning / ICT for innovation and training practice

e-Learning is increasingly impacting on training. Larger enterprises are developing in-house e-learning programmes for employees. The internet is increasingly being used for informal learning. Internet-based tools offer opportunities for accessing learning in the workplace and for communication. E-portfolios can be used to record and reflect on learning.

Web 2.0 tools offer opportunities to develop customised multimedia materials to support training.

About the Network

The European Commission funded Network to Support Trainers in Europe examines the role of trainers by looking at different aspects of training practice and policy. A key objective is to foster exchange between training practitioners, researchers, policy makers and stakeholder institutions. Topics that the Network addresses include trainers' work, skills, status, professional profile, the recognition of their work and trainers' continuing professional development.

While the Network seeks to establish support structures for trainers in different European countries, we also have created an on-line platform to link different initiatives, studies and activities on trainers at the European and international level. The platform provides access to research results and recent developments in policy and practice as well as practical tools for practitioners and the training of trainers. A communication forum for practitioners, researchers, managers and policy makers is also available.

In 2008 a main activity of the Network was an online conference which involved some 70 participants. Given that this conference was highly successful, we wish to build on this with a second online conference this year.

Network of Trainers in Europe



Key Actors of Lifelong Learning

Theme 2: Equality and Diversity: Innovations in training practice for socially disadvantaged groups

The provision of training for socially disadvantaged groups is a high priority for the European Commission and for many European governments. Social disadvantage may have a wide variety of meanings – including gender, ethnicity, the long-term unemployed, ex prisoners, refugees etc.

Targeted provision for these groups is usually focused on social inclusion within education and training or within the workforce.

Theme 4: Innovations in company-based training

The present high rate of change in processes and products and technology implementation is driving a focus on lifelong learning and company-based training. This can take different forms including formal courses, on-the-job learning, coaching and Technology Enhanced Learning, and includes both initial and continuing vocational training.

There is also increasing interest in informal learning in companies and in the recognition of informal learning. Competence development and frameworks for competence development are another theme which has attracted much debate over the past period.

The following programme is a final draft. We will be adding more information in the next few weeks. Please visit our homepage for updated information. Please note that all times Central European Time!

**Conference programme
Day 1 - 9 November 2009**

**09:30 – 10:00 – Introduction
to Conference**

**10:00 – 10:30 – Keynote Presentation
[Speaker and topic TBC]**

**10:30 – 12:30 – Innovations in work-
based learning for VET teachers and
trainers**

Session organisers and moderators:
Hemmo Smit, Jaap van Lakerveld, Erik
Kats, Juliana Dobreva, Svetlana Moro-
zova, Hana Ciháková

*10:30 – 11:15 Theoretical input to session
plus discussion*

*11:15 – 11:50 Short Shot Trainings (Maria
Nickolova, Bulgaria)*

*11:55 – 12:30 Training the trainers in the
Finish KOKEVA Osaaja-project (Matti
Kurikka, Finland)*

BREAK

**14:30 – 16:30 – ICT for innovations in
training practice**

Session organisers and moderators:
Graham Attwell, Cristina Costa, Olesja
Bokova

*14.30 – 15.00 Creativity as a starting point
of Innovation process (Stanislav Nemerzit-
ski, Estonia)*

*15.00 – 15.30 Microblogging for Networked
Learning (Gabriela Grosseck and Carmen
Holotescu, Romania)*

*15.30 - 16.00 Podcasting in Education
(Andreas Auwärter, Germany)*

*16.00 - 16.30 Facilitating new forms of
learning with collaborative technologies,
(Alev Elci, Cyprus)*

**16.30 – 16.45 – Summary of Day 1
(Graham Attwell)**

Day 2 - 10 November 2009

**10:30 – 12:30 – Innovations in
company-based training**

Session organisers and moderators:
Simone Kirpal and Jose Luis Molina

*10:30 – 11:15 Innovation through evalua-
tion and quality monitoring of in-company
training and workplace learning. (Ludger
Deitmer & Lars Heinemann, Germany)*

*11:15 – 11:45 Cooperation between SMEs
for apprenticeship training in Austria.
(Silvia Weiss, Austria):*

*11:55 – 12:30 Two parallel sessions with
discussion*

*Session 1: Interview with Carlos Gómez
Plaza, Manager of Tripartite Foundation for
Employment (in Spanish)*

*Session 2: The training and changing roles
of in-company trainers in Spain*

BREAK

**14:30 – 16:30 – Equality and diversity
in training practice: recognising so-
cially- Disadvantaged groups**

Session organisers and moderators:
Martti Kurikka, Markku Kuivalahti, Babis
Floro, Dora Thymiopoylou, Silvia Weiß

*14:30 – 15:15 Vocational education and
training in inclusive society; needs for
teacher and special teacher education.
(Kaija Miettinen, Finland)*

*15:15 – 16:30 Social learning and sharing
in VOIMAA-project. (Sanna Ruhaalahti,
Finland)*

**16:30 – 16:45 – Summary of Day 2
and conference conclusions (Graham
Attwell)**

Call for participation

We invite ideas from people who are in-
terested in contributing to the confer-
ence. We are especially interested in sup-
porting contributions from those who
have not presented before at an online
conference. Support will be available for
participants in developing their presenta-
tions and in using the online conference
platform.

We are open to different formats for the
sessions. We are not requiring a formal ab-
stract but would like to here your ideas on
what you might wish to present and any
ideas you have on how you might do this.
Ideas for participation might include (but
are not limited to):

- Informal conversations
- Workshops
- Petcha-kutchu
- Showcasing examples of practice,
artefacts, handbooks etc.
- Videos about practice or projects
- Research, papers

Please email your ideas to Cristina Costa
cristinacost@gmail.com and/or to Gra-
ham Attwell graham10@mac.com to dis-
cuss your ideas

Timetable

October 4:

Deadline for submission of ideas

October 20

notification of results of review

More information

If you would like more information you
can access the Network's web site at
<http://www.trainersineurope.org>.

You can also email the project coordina-
tor Simone Kirpal – kirpal@uni-bremen.
de – or the conference organiser Graham
Attwell – graham10@mac.com.

Registration details and further informa-
tion about the conference will be avail-
able on the platform.