



international academy for diaconia and social action, central and eastern europe, o. p. s.

NEWSLETTER

Dear colleagues & friends,

We are pleased to introduce you to the 2nd edition of the interdiac Newsletter 2009. The last 3 months were full of the excitement of working on the contents and methods for the Pilot Module. Alongside of this, all the Resources and Materials have been put together in order to be prepared for delivering the "Social Inclusion, Participation and Diaconia" module in August 2009.

You are kindly invited and welcome to read more in the latest Newsletter.....

interdiac Team

New Interdiac staff member

Ms. Barbara Nastulczykova was appointed as Programme Supporter on the 20th April 2009. Her responsibilities at interdiac are divided in 3 main lines: educational, administrative—technical and logistical support of the pilot module students. Besides this, she coordinates particular actions of newly approved Visegrad Strategic Project and the accreditation process by Social Ministry. She performs her job with a lot of enthusiasm and joy to learn new things. We are happy to have her among and with us !

Training of Trainers, 4th—6th May 2009

The 3rd Training of Trainers Workshop built on the solid results of 2 previous workshops in March 2009 and June 2008. Each of the 4 topic related working groups presented the outcomes of their work. The inputs on 'exposure' and the student's research project were elements elaborated at the Workshop. The working groups were asked to come up with the daily Study Plan that was built on the presented outcomes and the new inputs. The responsibilities and further actions were shared in order to make the final version of study plan that will be published on the BlackBoard (ICT platform) at the latest by the end of June 2009. The second part of the Workshop was mainly devoted to the definition of the student's tasks for work experience in the placements. Specifically, the aims and activities of supervisors were designed.

What has been done ?

- **Examination & Interview Process is still under way.**
- **Training of Trainers Workshop III. took place from 4th till 6th May 2009.**
- **The Executive Board met on 6th May 2009 on line.**
- **Interdiac was presented at Eurodiaconia Education Working group and at Companionship Meeting in Philadelphia.**

Since some placements in the partner countries do not have experience with the supervision of international staff, a handbook on supervision was suggested. Mrs. Nana Agapishvili took responsibility for the working process on this learning tool. The Placement Agreement was elaborated and its finalization was incorporated into the Action Plan. This Training Workshop was co-financed by International Visegrad Fund.

Executive Board, 6th May 2009

interdiac Executive Board met on 6th May 2009 on—line. As well as reviewing activities since February 2009, strategic decisions on cooperation with European umbrella organizations and global partners were made. Specific attention was also drawn to the second part of the interdiac vision on 'research and development projects'. Work on this will be initiated in the second half of year 2009. The involvement the partners from Central European region is essential but Diak and HDL will play a role, especially through Mrs. Marja Tuomi, a HDI new staff member and Esko Kahkonen of Diak . The next Board meeting will be held in October 2009. The Executive and Advisory Board members will come together.

Presentation of interdiac in Europe and worldwide

interdiac was introduced at Eurodiaconia Education Working Group at Companionship Meeting in Philadelphia, both in May 2009. In addition to that, interdiac was introduced at face to face meetings with national and international representatives.

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1st Annual Report of Interdiac

The first interdiac Annual Report has just been published. The Report was mainly distributed to the Partner Organizations and Association Partners of interdiac. Those organizations who are interested in having a printing version of report, please contact interdiac office via e-mail : office@interdiac.eu

As the first half of the year 2009 is over and the days of summer holidays are approaching, we wish you many relaxing days ! Let's look forward to meeting virtually and personally in September when we bring you the first news about the contact teaching of pilot the module.

Rev. Tony Addy made a presentation on interdiac at the Eurodiaconia Education Working group in Brussels. The network development of existing partner organizations and the participative approach to learning was seen to be innovative in relation to already existing educational models within Diaconia in Europe. interdiac is open to continue its involvement in Eurodiaconia.

Ms. Jana Adameova introduced the interdiac initiative at Companionship Meeting of Southeastern Pennsylvania Lutheran Synod, Evangelical Silesian Church, Silesian Diaconia and Lutheran Liberty Services in Philadelphia, U.S. As four main priorities on further cooperation were defined, interdiac will probably join the priority on Education after the pilot module finishes. The cooperation with other global partners is open.

Newly founding Christian College in Czech republic showed an interest in cooperation with interdiac. Ms. Jana Adameova met the President, Tomáš Evan in April 2009. interdiac and Christian College continue informing each other about developments. At the moment there is no field where we can collaborate because of different developmental starting points, and significantly different approaches to learning and to the target group of students & the contexts they come from.

Rev. Uhland Spahlinger, Bishop of the German Evangelical

- **Face to face Meetings with national and international representatives were organized to develop further cooperation.**
- **The working process for the Accreditation of the interdiac Bachelor Degree Programme has already started.**
- **Interdiac co-organized a Cable Workshop in Odessa.**
- **Interdiac received grant support from Visegrad Strategic Programme of International Visegrad Fund.**

in Ukraine visited Slezska Diakonie and interdiac in June 2009. He was mainly interested in the development of diaconia and its related education in post communist countries since his task is to build up diaconia in Ukraine. The German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ukraine will soon apply to be a partner organization of interdiac.

Cable Workshop

The workshop, held in June in Odessa with interdiac partner Living Hope centre was aimed at strengthening community development in the region. There were 14 participants from 7 countries (mainly non EU). The workshop was co-organized with the ECG and Diak. Financial support was from the WCC Ecumenical Solidarity Fund and the partners. CABLE is an innovative approach to learning for community development and the workshop also aimed to develop the model further in the region. Follow up actions are planned.

Joint Bachelor Degree Programme

Rev. Tony Addy and Ms. Jana Adameová met in April & June 2009) with Dr. Jiri Halama of the Evangelical Theological Faculty of Charles University Prague in order to plan the work on the accreditation of the Joint Bachelor Degree Programme on Social Services and Diaconia. The Faculty already decided in favour of future cooperation on this new study programme in January 2009.

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