



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

NEWSLETTER

Dear interdiac friends and colleagues,

It is our pleasure to inform you about interdiac actions that have been undertaken since beginning of the year 2009.

Most of our efforts have been put into building up a framework of the pilot module "Social Inclusion, Participation and Diaconia". Alongside this, future developments guide us to the strengthening of the interdiac network of partner organizations and the elaboration of a degree level study programme accredited by Czech Authorities. You are welcome to read more in the latest newsletter...

Jana Adameova & Tony Addy

Executive Board, 19th—21st February 2009

The Executive Board took place from 19th to 21st February at the interdiac centre in Český Těšín. Activity and financial reports for the year 2008 were introduced by Ms. Jana Adameova. The Board approved the reports to LWF. English and German versions were sent to the supporting foundations & agencies. It was agreed that the audit for the first year of interdiac activities would be finalized by the end of April 2009.

The final version of interdiac Statute was discussed and approved by the Executive Board. The statute will be submitted to Regional Court in Ostrava.

The development of the Pilot Module and the Training of Trainers programme was introduced by Rev'd. Tony Addy. The study plan includes the periods of contact teaching and "in-between activities". The close cooperation with Honorary Council Members in these developments and in the student recruitment and selection process was emphasized.

Public Relations activities so far were reported on: The network of interdiac is broadening to a wider constituency. The newsletter is produced every three months and the web site is continuously updated. The information leaflet has been sent to partner organizations. A meeting with U.S. partners in January 2009 was arranged. Deeper discussion on possible

What has been done ?

- **Recruitment of interdiac students is underway. Candidates are invited to apply for the pilot study module by 30th April 2009.**
- **interdiac was introduced to partners from Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod—ELCA, U.S. in January 2009.**
- **The Executive Board met February 19th-21st at the interdiac centre.**

Interdiac actions are „on track“ with the vision expressed in the Foundation Agreement and Statute.

The Work Plan and Budget for the year 2009 were introduced. The Actions will follow the interdiac vision, which means that the goals related to Training and Research will be strengthened in the second half of 2009.

Following the adoptions of the statute, the interdiac organizational structure was confirmed. The Executive Board appointed Ms. Jana Adameova as Director and Rev'd. Tony Addy as Head of Education.

The director will appoint a coordinator of educational support and the administrative and financial framework will be assured by 'external' staff.

The request from Ndoba (Georgia) to be an interdiac partner organization was introduced. Ndoba is a non governmental organization offering professional services to people in crises and with psychosocial problems. The mission is to prevent psychosocial problems, violence, alcohol and drug abuse and to provide the social and psychosocial well being of each member of society. Ndoba also has an interest in community development. It has its seat in Tbilisi, Georgia. Ndoba representatives will act as experts for interdiac and send students. Board accepted the membership of Ndoba into the interdiac partner organization network. WELCOME to them!!

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Flash news

Executive Board accepted NDOBA (Georgian organization) as an interdiac Partner organization.

German Embassy in Czech Republic was invited to join an interdiac as Associate Partner.

Turku Diocese, Finland is committed for cooperation with interdiac. They will send a professional social worker for an internship in interdiac contact teaching and Silesian Diaconia field visits in autumn 2009.

It was agreed that the German Embassy will be invited to be an Associate Partner. More information about a statute of an Associate Partner can be found on interdiac web side in a section *"Development, How to be involved in interdiac."*

Mrs. Pirjo Hakala informed that Turku Diocese is interested in interdiac activities. A professional worker will be hosted by interdiac and Silesian Diaconia in a autumn 2009 within a contact teaching. Mutual learning through such short internship will be promoted between Finish partner organization and a diverse group of students coming from eastern and central European region.

Turku Diocese supported an internship project and other interdiac activities with an amount of 5 000,- EUR. On behalf of Management team I would like to express thanks for an opportunity to share knowledge and experience. Thank you for financial contribution that will enable such exchange.

Training of Trainers Workshop II.

The Training of Trainers Workshop II. gathered the experts of a variety of professional orientation from Latvia, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Serbia, Poland, Hungary and Georgia in order to elaborate a concrete study plan of a pilot module and get know using Black Board during the preparation and running the pilot module. The workshops referred to already elaborated material during the meetings in June and October

- **Training of Trainers Workshop II. Social Inclusion, Participation and Diaconia took place from 16th till 18th March 2009 in the premises of interdiac.**
- **Honorary Council members met in February 18th—21st February for their third meeting since an interdiac foundation.**

2008. Working groups on Spirituality, Theology and Diaconia, Exposure and Social Analysis, Group process, Social and Community Development Work built up a detailed study plan with defined tasks and responsibilities of experts according to their roles.

Each working group will continue with work on particular concepts related to diaconia, poverty, and social exclusion via on line system in between period till May Training of Trainers Workshop III.

Black Board is a is an online learning platform which will allow the users to access resources, carry out online discussions, submit assignments and receive feedback on their work. The Trainers will use it to ensure an appropriate preparation of learning process before a study module starts and follow up the learning process during the contact teaching and in a practical projects in placements and team work.

Mr. Sami Kivela lead the workshops that were devoted to an introduction and active and friendly using of Black Board.

Honorary Council Meeting

The Honorary Council members from Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, Serbia, Ukraine, Latvia came for the third Honorary Council gathering since the interdiac foundation. A already existing network of partner organisations was joined by a representative of NDOBA organisation, Mrs. Nana

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interdiac Quiz

NDOBA is a name of Georgian organization that has a special meaning. Do you know a right answer?

If Yes, send it to office@interdiac.eu. All the answers will be collected by the 3rd May 2009 and a winner will be chosen at TT workshop on 4th May. The awards of 3 winners will be published on web side by 7th May 2009.

- **Coordinator of Educational Support will be appointed on the 15th April 2009**
- **Executive Board Meeting will be held on the 6th May 2009 at 2.00 p.m. via phone conference**
- **Training of Trainers Workshop III. will be organized in May 4th– 6th, 2009 in Český Těšín.**

Agapishvili who introduced an organization NDOBA. NDOBA is a non profit organization providing the services to people who are suffering under psychosocial problems in a capital of Georgia, Tbilisi and its close surrounding. You can read more about an Ndoeba on web page: www.ndoba.org.ge

We were happy to welcome Ndoeba, represented by Nana in interdiac family and we all have hope for enriching mutual cooperation.

The first afternoon of Honorary Council was devoted to an introduction of the participants and the organizations they represent. The introduction round was done in a non—formal way. Since the partners have had basic knowledge on their institutions, their task was focused on defining the changes in organizations and their impact on interdiac's further development in regional and national contexts. There are some significant changes in terms of organizational structures and staff in partner organizations, but they do not have a big influence on interdiac. In order to get know more

specifically about success and challenges of interdiac developments in particular contexts, the country discussions were facilitated by “food taste”. For example, the participants answered a question like *Which nuts have I had ? Or What has been sweet ?*

Ms. Jana Adameova reported on interdiac activities since September 2008 till March 2009. It was agreed that a short Annual Report will be done by the end of April 2009.

The participants shared information on what has been done so far on recruitment of students. There were pointed out the obstacles that have been faced in some national contexts. Non– EU members were struggling with visa issues. To promote a recruitment process, the measures of more targeted procedure were defined. It was agreed that a recruitment of interdiac students will be postponed for a date 30th April 2009. To ensure the equal opportunity of everybody who will apply for studies by interdiac, the Interview and Examination Questions were elaborated and agreed on. The selection process

will follow the Interview Package. A big attention was paid to the elaboration of framework of in—between learning in placements. The supervisors will play a key role in this learning phase; therefore rules, roles and responsibilities of students and supervisors were precisely named. The ideas for the future interdiac developments were brainstormed and prioritized. Honorary Council members agreed on a conceptual work of degree study programme and research projects that will be considered as a starting point for new study programme. We are grateful for such committed cooperation with our partners.

If you like interdiac idea and need new inspiration, you are welcomed to join us ! Just contact interdiac office!