



EUNEC-newsletter 15 January 2008

1 Membership EUNEC

All councils received an invitation to pay the **membership fee 2008** before March the 15th. We would like to ask the councils to pay in time and to send the registration form to the EUNEC secretariat (eunec@vlor.be)

2 EUNEC as European organisation acting in the field of education and training

The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) awarded EUNEC with a Framework Partnership Agreement (2008-2010) with a Specific Operating Grant for 2008. This means that EUNEC will be recognised and granted as **European organisation** acting in the field of education and training under the Jean Monnet Programme (call for proposals n°28/07). This gives the network the opportunity to present an ambitious annual plan to its members. You can find the **annual plan 2008** on the website (www.eunec.eu).

3 EUNEC Executive Committee

The **Executive Committee** of EUNEC met on December the 17th in Brussels. The Committee evaluated the daily working of the network and prepared the annual plan for 2008. You can find the **minutes** of the meetings and the **annual plan 2008** on the website (www.eunec.eu).

4 EUNEC conference (Lisbon, 8-10 October 2007)

On 8-10 October EUNEC organised a conference in Lisbon in association with the Portuguese presidency of the European Union. More than 80 participants out of 19 EU-countries worked together on two current European education issues during this conference. On Monday we dealt with the theme of '**Evidence based education policy**'. The theme was elaborated during a symposium in Frankfurt in March 2007 and the European Commission edited a Staff Working Paper on this issue in August 2007. EUNEC wanted to get a better view on the content of this concept and to examine the role of education councils on this theme. On Tuesday EUNEC exchanged ideas on the issue of '**Equity in education**', based on research by the OECD. The OECD presented the results of their study; the European Commission explained its point of view and there also was time for a presentation of examples of good practice. On Wednesday 10 October the EUNEC member councils reflected on **the role of education councils** in the education and training policy and formulated **statements of conclusion**.

You can download the **report**, the **presentations** and the **statements** of this conference on the website (www.eunec.eu).

5 OECD publication “No More Failures: Ten Steps to Equity in Education”

The OECD announces the publication of “**No More Failures: Ten Steps to Equity in Education**”, the final report of the OECD Thematic Review on Equity in Education, which was presented during the Lisbon conference. You can find all information on: http://www.oecd.org/document/54/0,3343,en_2649_33723_39676214_1_1_1_1,00.html

No More Failures challenges the assumption that there will always be failures and dropouts, those who can't or won't make it in school. In fact, initiatives in many countries demonstrate that it is possible to successfully tackle school failure and dropout rates – and to reduce the huge social cost of adults without basic skills. This book offers a valuable comparative perspective on how different countries have handled equity in education. Among the issues it explores:

- tracking, streaming and academic selection
- school choice
- secondary education structures and second chance programmes
- grade repetition
- links between school and home
- early childhood education
- resource allocation
- targets for equity
- the special needs of migrants and minorities

The book identifies three key areas for delivering equity in education: the design of education systems, classroom practices and resourcing. It proposes ten concrete policy measures, backed by evidence, on how to reduce school failure and dropout rates. It will be of special interest to policy makers, school leaders, teachers and parents. This page provides the cover image, the blurb, the executive summary, the table of contents and information on how to obtain the publication.

6 A State of affairs European education policy

It is not easy to keep up with all the activities in the European education policy. For that reason, the EUNEC secretariat made a **State of affairs (December 2007)** of all the running processes in the European education policy. You can find this document on our website. The document of 11 pages is a treasury of information on:

1. The New Treaty of Lisbon
2. The Citizen's Agora
3. The adoption of the EQF by the European Parliament
4. New documents of the European Commission
 - 4.1 2007 progress report towards the Lisbon objectives in Education and Training
 - 4.2 Draft Joint Report Education and Training 2010
 - 4.3 The European Institute of Innovation and Technology
5. The conclusions of the European Council of Education (15 November 2007)
6. The priorities of the Slovenian presidency

7 Questions

You can send all questions and remarks on EUNEC and this newsletter to eunec@vlor.be