



Newsletter

of the International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance

Number 59 October 2007

Editorial Number 59 of the Newsletter comes out with a change of editors. As new editors of the Newsletter, we wish to thank Peter Plant for his dedication during these past years, keeping the membership informed. We hope to continue along the same line, sharing with you information relevant to our Association on a regular basis. We will welcome your contributions.

Suzanne Bultheel and Beatriz Malik General Editors

The IAEVG International Conference
"Guidance and Diversity: Research and Applications", was held in Padova, Italy, from 4 to 6 September, 2007.

The conference gathered over 700 delegates from all over the world, and focused on how guidance theories, assessment procedures and intervention programs can adequately address diversity. As Professor Soresi stated in his presentation *"Diversity and specificity belong to all individuals and represent the normality of career counselling"*. This sentence can summarise the conference conclusions, among which we can highlight that diversity should be regarded as positive, and the

need to use contextual theories, together with combined assessment methods (qualitative and quantitative) should be used to respond to individuals, but taking into account their personal context. The conference was preceded by the **IAEVG-SVP- NCD A Symposium: Vocational psychology and career guidance practice - an international partnership**, held on 3 September. The conference conclusions and some selected papers will be published in IAEVG's Journal – IJEVG, and in the Career Development Quarterly (CDQ).

Beatriz Malik General Editor



Members of the former Board after a meeting at the IAEVG Conference.

Padova
september 2007

New Board takes to the stage at the IAEVG General Assembly

The Four Yearly IAEVG General Assembly took place on a beautiful sunny day in the historic city of Padova, Italy. IAEVG members were warmly welcomed by colleagues from the University of Padova, who hosted the successful 2007

Conference and General Assembly, attended by over 700 counsellors and guidance practitioners.

This particular General Assembly was a poignant one for retiring President, Bernhard

Jenschke, who has been an active member of IAEVG for 24 years. Bernhard reflected on the many successes the organisation's members had achieved over the years he has been active. Particular highlights for him were:

- The development of the EVGP Accreditation
- Continued liaison with NGO's such as UNESCO, the International Labour Organisation and the Council of Europe
- Developing guidance networks within the EU to improve the quality of guidance
- Over 16 conferences have been held and a number of related events, in many countries across all continents
- Improvements in electronic communication and through the IAEVG website and Journal and the very first electronic election of Board members in 2007
- The setting up of the Administrative Centre in Canada, which has streamlined fees and membership and launched the very first IAEVG electronic voting system
- The development of a Five Year Strategy Plan to give the organisation focus and direction

Members' Meet In Padua

Despite the early morning timeslot, the members' forum in Padua attracted nearly 40 members who contributed enthusiastically and constructively to the 90 minute session. This forum followed on from the successful members' forum held at the Copenhagen conference last year and will be a feature of all future IAEVG conferences. Although the focus of the meeting was around the Association's current strategic plan and direction the discussion covered a wide range of topics. Our new president, Bryan Hiebert is producing a summary of the meeting and will post this on our website for all to see and comment on. An additional outcome of the meeting was that a number of National Correspondents met,

IAEVG Board of Directors Election results

Lyn Barham, the former Treasurer, reported in the last Newsletters on the first ever IAEVG online election process. We include here a summary of this process and the election results. In August of 2006, a detailed schedule of election preparatory activity was approved by the Executive. This included both a comprehensive communications strategy and steps required to select/develop and manage the first ever online elections tools for IAEVG.

During the meeting, Four Yearly reports from the Secretary General, Linda Taylor, and the Treasurer, Lyn Barham, were presented and unanimously accepted by the members. Any members who would like a copy of these reports should contact Linda Taylor at lindataylor@connexions-southlondon.org.uk. Delegates also heard from Leonardo Evangelista and Elvira Repetto about the European Accreditation Project from, which is based around the Competencies of Counsellors.

Finally the President thanked all retiring Board members and then read out the results of the recent electronic election. The newly elected Board members were asked to join him on the platform.

The incoming President, Bryan Hiebert, expressed his delight at being elected to this important post, and how much he was looking forward to building on the firm foundation laid by Dr Jenschke. He thanked Dr Jenschke for the enormous effort and commitment he has shown to IAEVG over the past quarter of a century.

Linda Taylor General Secretary

exchanged emails and are setting up some web communication links. Any National Correspondents who weren't at the forum want to join the web chat group, please contact Ruth Hawthorn by email on: ruthhawthorn@btopenworld.com

The main purpose of these forums is to allow members to have their say about IAEVG/AIOSP to the Executive and Board, and to contribute ideas about how the Association can better meet their needs. Based on the numbers of members that supported the forum in Padua, it was worth getting out of bed for!

Lester Oakes Vice-President

Following market research, Realdecoy (a Canadian company specializing in database solutions) met with the Executive Committee in March 2007 and was engaged to create a tailored elections tool for IAEVG. It developed an elections tool in the four official languages of IAEVG.

Sareena Hopkins, of the IAEVG Administrative centre acted as Elections Manager, coordinating all communications, and managing the

Realdecoy technical team to ensure the election proceeded in accordance with IAEVG Statutes. The vote opened on June 25 and closed August 6, 2007. All eligible voters were sent either a link to the voting site or a paper ballot if they did not have internet access (only 4 members voted via paper ballot).

Of a total of 226 eligible voting members, 148 (65.5%) voted. Seventy-eight (34.5%) did not vote. Once weighting of National Association votes are considered, 433 (79.6%) of a total field of 544 possible votes were cast.

Election 2007 results.

Executive committee: President: Prof. Bryan Hiebert (Canada); Vice-presidents: Lester Oakes

Future Conferences:

IAEVG International Conference 2008 "Guidance as a Proposal for Social Ecology" September 18-20, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Organized by Universidad del Salvador (USAL), Fundación OVO (Orientación de las Vocaciones y las Ocupaciones), Asociación de Psicólogos de Buenos Aires (APBA) and Horwarth Argentina.

Bringing together the themes from past conferences, this event will cover a wide range of topics: Economy and Social Ecology, Policies for work and social development, Family counseling, Vocational Guidance at different developmental stages, Health assistance and prevention, Educational and Vocational Occupational Guidance, Guidance in Ethics and Values learning, Guidance mission in non governmental organizations, Social responsibility for companies and their contributions to Holistic Guidance, and Guidance for social inclusion.

Conference languages: English, Spanish, and French if there are enough participants.

New Zealand's Career Services: A view from the outside

Professor Tony Watts visited New Zealand in June 2007 to undertake a review of Career Services (the government owned, independent careers information, advice and guidance service) in the context of the 2004 OECD Report on Career Development and Public Policy. He concluded that: "Career Services represents the most fully integrated example in the world of the integrated all-age organisational structure that was favoured by the OECD Career Guidance Policy Review...It is now firmly established as a well-respected, well-managed organisation, offering high-

(New Zealand), Dr. Julio Gonzalez (Venezuela), and Karen Schober (Germany); General Secretary: Linda Taylor (UK); Treasurer: Michel Turcotte (Canada). **Board of Directors Members:** Beatriz Malik (Spain), Diana Beatriz Aisenson (Argentina), Suzanne Bultheel (France), Prof. Dr. Raoul Van Esbroeck (Belgium), Sasa Niklanovic (Slovenia), Raimo Vuorinen (Finland) and Dr. Mark L Savickas (USA). **Substitute Members:** Hannah Denga (Nigeria), Ronald Sultana (Malta), Maria Eduarta Duarte (Portugal), Huiling Peng (Taiwan), Jane Goodman (USA), Laurent Venecia (Switzerland), and Silvia Gelven de Veinsten (Argentina).

Beatriz Malik and Suzanne Bultheel

Call for papers:

Proposals must be sent by **May 5, 2008** and must include: (a) title, name(s) of presenter(s), (b) title of presentation or poster, (c) a 300 to 350 word abstract (the abstract should in both conference languages - English and Spanish), (d) relevance to the symposium themes, (e) description of the needed AV equipment.

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Conference website:

www.aioconggreso2008.org.ar

IAEVG International Conference 2009

"Coherence, Co-operation and Quality in Guidance and Counselling" June 3-5, Jyväskylä, Finland.

November 2009. Wellington, New Zealand. Date and further details to be confirmed shortly. Please watch the IAEVG website for more information.

quality services, with close links with public policy."

Professor Watts' review also endorsed a number of other strengths identified in an early internal review, including that Career Services is at the forefront internationally in the provision of services and resources to indigenous peoples, and that Career Services has credibility with government and involvement in government policy, with its contribution to government goals and outcomes recognised.

His report was based on an extensive analysis of written material, as well as in-depth interviews he

conducted with a range of stakeholders, including the Minister of Education and senior government officials, and observation of some of the delivery undertaken by Career Services.

In light of the benchmarks provided by the OECD Career Guidance and Public Policy Review and the six challenges to policy-makers which the review indicated had received minimal attention in most OECD countries, Professor Watts says that Career Services emerges strongly.

He concludes that Career Services is 'poised for further development', and gives five key challenges:

- addressing comparatively low levels of public awareness and service penetration in comparison to, for example, LearnDirect in the United Kingdom,
- addressing the needs of adults, particularly adults in the workplace and older workers,
- developing a clearer and more consistent policy regarding relationships with other career guidance providers,
- developing a stronger evidence base for our work, and

- fostering strategic leadership within the career guidance industry.

These recommendations are forming the basis for Career Services' strategic planning for the coming year. Professor Watts believes that if these challenges are addressed, Career Services has the potential to become a significant world leader in the career guidance field. Lester Oakes, IAEVG Vice President and Chief Executive of New Zealand's Career Services is very pleased with the report's findings. "This report will provide a real boost in our discussions with policymakers about the role that Career Services plays in achieving wider government policy goals. The report also provides further challenges for us and is a healthy reminder that there is always more to be done. We look forward to making further progress and showcasing our achievements as part of the IAEVG conference that will in November 2009 (watch the website for further information). **Lester Oakes**

The full report can be viewed on <http://www2.careers.govt.nz/1532.html>

Brief on Vocational and Guidance Counselling in Venezuela 2007 Events

Background: Vocational and guidance counselling is a well-established profession in Venezuela. Venezuelan counsellors get formal training at bachelor level; two academic programs of five years at undergraduate level exist today in Venezuela: They are housed at The University of Zulia in Maracaibo city and at the University of Carabobo in the city of Valencia. Also, several colleges in the country offer ten academic counselling master level programs. Counselling professional activities started in early 30's and professional college level training began during the 60's.

UNFOLDING CRITICAL EVENTS

Research, Academic, Legislation, and Organization

During the last 20 years, a large number of Venezuelan professional counsellors celebrated 20 encounters in different cities around the country until 2003. Then, they decided to move forward on organizing a national professional interdisciplinary conference annually. Because of the historic and current development of the profession; counsellors decided that an annual conference would be the best way to further strengthen the profession's accomplishments in traditional and non-traditional settings in the

country. The main annual conference purposes were identified as:

- To create a space in which counsellors could communicate their professional practice and research experiences.
- To make the conference accessible for counselling students free of charge.
- To make it possible for Counselling National Organization (FAVO) to engage counsellors in professional organization debates, so a stronger professional identity is expected to be unfolded. As consequence of this decision, four large conferences have taken place in 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007. Each conference attracted more than 400 attendees.

Among the conferences' achievements, the following can be highlighted: several issues have been discussed, agreement has been reached, and plans are unfolding so far. Several key issues were heavily discussed at the 2007 Conference. A number of commissions were officially posted to further study and produce agreements during 2007 and 2008. The following are some of the major professional topics:

1. To create a Venezuela Counselling Profession Academic Institution that will be responsible for the promotion and preservation

of counselling national knowledge production, as well as, to create mechanisms for counselling development and applied research.

2. To draft a new updated version of the Venezuela Counsellors Code of Ethics.

3. To introduce the Professional Counsellors Practice Law proposal at the National Assembly.

4. To create mechanisms for further development of the Venezuela Counsellors National Organization (FAVO) in each Venezuela state.

5. To study the creation of a counselling professional practice certification.

To develop a national system for counselling academic program of accreditation.

6. To articulate a national system for credentials and for counsellors continuing education.

7. To promote the creation of a counselling interdisciplinary doctorate.

George Davy Vera, PhD University of Zulia
Maracaibo-Venezuela, gvera@intercable.net.ve

September 19th to 21st 2007, French Association of Psychologist Guidance Counsellors (ACOPF) held its national meeting in Tours, in the centre of France.

Do you remember 2001 and the AIOSP congress in Paris? Each year, as it did in 2001, ACOP-F gathers professionals, decision makers, and university teachers working for guidance services and organizes a National Studying Congress in a university town.

Between Metz in 2006 and Grenoble in 2008, Tours welcomed nearly 500 psychologist guidance counsellors from all over France, around the topic of "frantic behaviours" or how in a moving world, a society in crisis, which gives to school the professional integration imperative, the promise of future turns into a threat of future. How to create the desire of passing on, learning, sharing and integrating well into society? What allows the person to give a sense to their personal development and to build themselves as a subject within the construction of their professional project and the grabbing of their vocational training and their professional integration process? The psychologist guidance

counsellor has to put up with these questions in their everyday professional experience.

We invited jurists, philosophers, psychologists, psychoanalysts and sociologists in order to debate these issues.

The satisfaction of our colleagues who attended these meetings shows that we were right to insist upon our position as psychologist guidance counsellors within the school.

These meetings took place in Tours François Rabelais University, along the river Loire, royal river at the core of the Val de Loire region (UNESCO'S World Patrimony). The last days of summer gave us a magnificent light and we tasted the Loire's wines.

In a nutshell, these studying days presented a very positive evaluation.

The meeting texts will be published by the ACOP FRANCE publication: "Questions d'Orientation", to be released and to be read on :

www.acopf-jne.info/ **Hélène Gervais.**

International Symposium on Career Development and Public Policy, held in Aviemore Scotland, on 22-25 October 2007, led by a UK Steering Group chaired by Careers Scotland

The Symposium builds on previous Symposia in Canada and Australia. The main aim of these Symposia is to build closer dialogues between the career guidance service deliverers, researchers, and policy-makers in education, lifelong learning, economic development, and social inclusion. The theme for the 2007 Symposium is Growth, Groups and Geographies: Maximising the value of career development for sustainable growth and social equity.

The working method of the Symposium is based on peer learning and from wider evidence base related to career development policies and practices. The countries participating in the Symposium are invited to nominate a country team, which should include at least one policy-maker (usually a senior government official) and

at least one professional leader (e.g. the President of the most representative professional association in the career guidance field). Each team is responsible for preparing a country report, on aspects of the symposium theme, for circulation to all participants in advance of the symposium. The report should be based on consultation with relevant national authorities and with key actors and information sources. The country reports represent a major source of the knowledge that informs the symposium discussion on the following five sub-themes.

- Blending economic and social goals
- Strategic leadership
- Harnessing diversity
- Impact evidence

- Role of the citizen

Another task for the country teams is to prepare a national action plan towards the end of the symposium, with a programme and timetable for pursuing it with the relevant national authorities and other key stakeholders. The International Symposia on Career Development and Public Policy have close liaison arrangements with other relevant bodies or networks, e.g. with IAEVG and

the International Centre on Career Development and Public Policies, ICCDPP.

There is also a commitment to have an interface with parallel national and other transnational conferences on lifelong guidance policies. The country papers and a synthesis report along with the outcomes of the discussions will be available at the Symposium website <http://www.is2007scotland.org.uk/>

Raimo Vuorinen

Raising the Profile of Career Guidance: Educational and Vocational Guidance Practitioner (EVGP)

In April 2007 IAEVG launched the Educational and Vocational Guidance Practitioner (EVGP) credential.

More information on the EVGP application process can be obtained from the IAEVG web site <http://www.iaevg.org> under the "About IAEVG"

window, or by connecting to the appropriate CCE link directly <http://www.cce-global.org/review-management/evgp>.

A full article on the EVGP by Bryan Hiebert, IAEVG President, will be published in the next Newsletter.

Book reviews

Peter Plant (Ed.), (2007). *Ways-On Career Guidance* Danish University of Education Press. 296 p. ISBN 978-87-7684-171-3, 299 DKK. Review by Suzanne Bultheel.

How does one find *ways*, which are equally fruitful to the individual as well as in relation to society and the labour market? *Ways-on Career Guidance* maps out recent developments and new concepts of Nordic guidance and current research in the area.

The contributions stretch from career guidance over supervision to philosophical counselling, thus depicting the breadth of the Nordic guidance and counselling field. The authors represent a network of experts within sociology, education, psychology, ethnologie, informatics and philosophy. Among them are internationally well-known scholars of the guidance field, including Dr. Peter Plant, former Vice President of the IAEVG.

Gavilán, Mirta. (2006). *La transformación de la orientación vocacional. Hacia un nuevo paradigma*. Rosario, Argentina: Homo Sapiens Ediciones (Transformation of vocational guidance: Towards a New Paradigm). Review by Julio González.

This book is structured around eight chapters, addressing vocational guidance and its history, with special emphasis on some Latin American countries. It reviews the current state of guidance in the European and the Latin American contexts. In Chapter VII, the author proposes an operational theoretical model, whereby she suggests that the structure of guidance must be able to respond to the complex problems of a multifaceted reality with acceptable possibilities of solutions.

For more information, you can visit the following website: <http://www.homosapiens.com.ar>

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