

HUMAN PLUS 2004

**First Conference of the Archipelago of Humanistic Thematic Networks
"The role of the humanistic arts and sciences in European society, education and research"**

Name: Hanneke van Bruggen

Work group: 1 conceptualising why humanistic sciences are of fundamental importance

Thematic Network: ENOTHE

Definition Humanistic area: The sciences concerned with human sciences

In our country there is not really an area of humanities within the universities.

Our TN is fitting in the humanistic archipelago, because our area is studying human beings as occupational beings; the relation between occupation, health and wellbeing and the interaction between persons, occupations and environment.

Our area has relevant links to humanities, health care, the psycho-social area and also to the technological area.

Participation through occupation for all (in particular for those who are occupational deprived) is the core concept of our network and at the moment very valuable in the disability strategy in Europe. A central issue in Europe is participation in the labour market, avoid marginalisation and poverty of persons with disabilities.

Our network sees as the value of the humanistic area:

- Creating an inclusive society (the right to participate in all life areas)
- Europe for all ages and of equal opportunities
- Occupational justice for all
- Designing for all and accessibility for all

The above mentioned themes are as well important in education as in research and could be approached from a multidisciplinary approach in the archipelago.