

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"

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Work group: Sharing insights and knowledge with respect to learning/teaching strategies

Thematic Network: ENOTHE

Introduction of ENOTHE and ourselves:

ENOTHE: The European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education was founded in 1995 within the framework of the European Union on the initiative of COTEC (Council of Occupational Therapists for the European Countries) - financial support from ERASMUS since 1997.

General aims of ENOTHE

To unite the European Occupational Therapy Educational Programmes and proposed Programmes (Institutes, Schools, Universities etc.) in order to advance the education and the body of knowledge of occupational therapy.

Objectives

- To stimulate European standards of occupational therapy education in higher education using WFOT standards and methods of quality assurance in order to reach mutual recognition
- To introduce and promote ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) in occupational therapy education
- To encourage the development of lifelong education in occupational therapy including the development of joint education/ European programmes
- To provide assistance to institutions who wish to start occupational therapy education programmes (eg Central and Eastern European Regions) and to advise on potential resources
- To organize and run an annual conference
- To communicate with occupational students across Europe and to organize an annual workshop for studentgroups.

Project groups

Project groups have a specified task and work-plan, which are approved by the General Assembly.

ENOTHE's four themes are still related to the Berlin/Bologna declaration and the TUNING process:

1. Tuning and quality assurance in occupational therapy education (with respect for culture differences)
2. Development of the European Dimension in occupational therapy education
3. Development of continuing education and education in research in Occupational Therapy
4. Development of (innovative)teaching methods

The new extra thematic network tasks are:

1. Map rare knowledge(disappearing knowledge)

2. Map new trends and theories in the discipline and also new methods of teaching
3. Promote students mobility in the network
4. Promote teacher training (short course for secondary teachers)

Over the next few years ENOTHE project groups will address the following themes:

- Activity Analysis Teaching and Learning
- Terminology (follow up)
- Occupation in Older Age - a European perspective
- ECOTROS (*European Cooperation in Occupational Therapy Research and Occupational Science*)
- Teacher Training in OT in new EU countries
- European Master in French Speaking Language

Background in teaching and learning within ENOTHE

In TNP-1 ENOTHE (The European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education) has developed a unique book with case studies (in EN, FR and DE), which can be used for comparable studies in different fields of occupational therapy in Europe.

Also a European module in occupational therapy was formulated.

In TNP-2 ENOTHE has addressed the four themes (or action lines) of the Bologna and Prague declaration, what resulted in four products concerning teaching and learning:

- Approaches to teaching and learning 'practical' occupational therapy skills, showing best practices
- Occupational Therapy Education in Europe: PBL stories and signposts, towards a problem based learning oriented curriculum (EN, DE)
- An internet course in Occupational Therapy in Europe
- A web-based self-study package on Occupational Science

GENERAL AIM OF ENOTHE

- To enable European Occupational Therapy Educational Institutes, professional Associations and other stakeholders to liaise on Occupational Therapy in order to develop, harmonise and improve standards of professional practice and education as well as advance the body of knowledge of Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science throughout Europe.
- To facilitate through high quality occupational therapy education and practice participation of persons with disabilities in an enlarged Europe.

OBJECTIVES for 2005-2008 concerning teaching and learning

The objectives of the network are in line with the Bologna-Berlin declaration, the TUNING project, 'Equal Opportunities for People with Disabilities-A European Action Plan'

DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUROPEAN DIMENSION IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EDUCATION

- To take forward the work started in America on lifestyle redesign (JAMA, Clarke et al, 1998) for older people by developing culturally relevant versions of the lifestyle redesign manual for different EU countries (in line with towards a Europe for all ages)
- To use the work to underpin teaching modules within European occupational therapy education (How to use and connect research and teaching?)

DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE TEACHING METHODS

- Organise follow-up conferences on issues around the developments in problem based education, student centred, skills and e-learning in occupational therapy and publish results on the web-site

. Analyse and develop best practice in learning and teaching methods in occupational/analysis (the core of the occupational therapy profession) linked to competences (TUNING, line 5)

In our network, we focus on:

Student centred learning; problem based learning and practical skills in an academic environment.

Suggestions for the work-group agenda Friday, 26th of November:

Sharing first ideas/ Brainstorm about:

- How does our network support/address the development of teaching and learning strategies?
- Common interests on which we can work together
- Different points of view concerning the importance of collaboration among ourselves in the thematic network and in broader disciplinary areas, in order to contribute to the development of the European Knowledge Space
- Opportunities of sharing insights and knowledge within different Thematic Networks
- The possible role, tasks, goals, strategies etc. of the working group





