



*European Forum on Educational Administration  
Forum Européen des Administrateurs de l'Éducation*

# NEWSLETTER

*FROM THE EXECUTIVE OF EFEA, DECEMBER 2009*

## **Welcome:**

The Executive Committee [EC] of EFEA is pleased to send you the first edition of the new style of our Newsletter for all members of EFEA, be they individual members or members of our National Associations. We intend to publish a newsletter every March, June, October and December as this newsletter is designed to offer our members a regular update of the work of the EC and the Steering Committee [SC]. We have introduced this regular newsletter as a direct response to feedback we have received from the review of the workings of EFEA.

## **The report of the work of the President, Peter Taylor**

**Updated EFEA Brochure:** I have updated the EFEA brochure and sent out a copy in November with my letter to members. [The new French version is being translated at present and will be sent out as soon as it is completed.] The brochure sets out the basic facts relating to EFEA with some basic statements relating to our purpose and function.

**Minutes of the last SC in The Ukraine and the agenda for the next SC meeting in Bulgaria:** In early December these were sent out to the Presidents and National Correspondents of all associations, a French version will be circulated by Juan Salame, our Secretary. We sent the minutes and the agenda out, well in advance, so associations can discuss the content and be prepared for the next SC meeting well in advance; again this new process has been set up as a direct result of comments from members during our review of the workings of EFEA.

**Team working in the EC:** As the new President of EFEA one of my first tasks has been to build a small but effective EC team. It is my aim to make the EC more responsive and more flexible in the carrying out of EFEA work. We now email much more often and communicate on a regular basis more as a team and less as a very formal committee. I have asked all EC members to ensure they focus only on the work of EFEA and I have asked them to ensure they do not continue to work as national Correspondents for their home associations. It is important that the EC thinks and acts as Europeans first and not as members of national associations as there is a conflict of interest at times when there is some discussion or even disagreement between a national association and the rest of EFEA.

Since the last SC meeting I have attended a conference of the Spanish Forum and was made very welcome by the organiser and the ordinary members. At the conference I was asked to speak on the subject of Motivation of Staff and leadership issues in general. I also attended the conference of the German Association and was made very welcome by the members.

**Networking:** Some of our members continue to make very good use of EFEA as a network. In the last few months BELMAS has helped one of our Ukrainian members get a tutor at Cambridge University and the researcher has used our members to access work on autonomous school from Bulletin and other sources. Several researchers in BELMAS have used the EFEA network to gain access to our national association as has a German colleague who used EFEA to set up an EU project. As we keep reminding you EFEA is not a service provider, we employ no staff, we have no office and all the EC and SC members do this as voluntary work. EFEA only charges some associations a few Euros per member, to cover basic expenses, so it is up to you to make EFEA work and EFEA will only be as good as its members. If you only ask 'what can EFEA do for me' maybe you are not really understanding that our association is a group of friends and colleagues working together for the children of our nations.

I have produced a PDF copy of many of our old copies of Bulletin, our journal, and these will soon be placed on our website for easy access. I have also started to discuss ideas for a new version of Bulletin, possible on the Leadership of Autonomous Schools, please let me know if you wish to edit a copy on Bulletin or contribute to a future copy.

**Report of the work of the Vice-President, Zita Gotte:**

The next European Intervisitation Programme [EIP] April 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> 2010, Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria; Delegates will need to arrive on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2010 as the programme will start on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>

- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2010 Arrival of the members of the Steering Committee. [Executive Committee meeting late PM.]
- Friday 9. April 2010 Arrival of the participants [the SC members will hold an SC meeting at 9.30 AM]
- Saturday 10. April 2010 Equality of chances and European Education  
The equality of chances and the Bulgarian educational system:  
Equality in the post-socialist epoch, national educational politics,  
Challenges and faults of the school programs also with the influence of different religions.  
Meeting with the staff of the regional inspection of the Ministry of Education and members of  
the responsible groups for equality of chances in the Ministry of Education  
Workshops /exchanges between the participants about equality of chances and  
the European educational systems.
- Sunday 11. April 2010 Cultural Program [networking, social contact]  
Visit of the architectural reserve of the village Arbanassi  
Visit the old city of Veliko Tarnovo and the fortress Tzarevets and the house Sarafkina  
Show 'Tarnovo- music and light'
- Monday 12. April 2010 School visits  
school visit : High School of social sciences with the chance to get in contact with the  
organisation of the Forum of young historians  
'Investigations of men and women in the Balkan States' April 2007  
secondary school 'Emilian Stanev' - presentation of the school project  
'The equalities of men and women and the civil rights'  
Bilingual grammar school and the Comenius project about the images of men and women  
  
General Assembly of EFEA all members welcome [the agenda will be provided at the EIP]
- Tuesday 13. April 2010 Planned program about the cooperation of structures in formal and non-formal education about the  
chances of equality  
visit of the European Centre of Veliko Tarnovo  
Meeting with the university of pedagogues and others educational partners (NGO's, City Hall,  
etc.)  
Discussion of a possible European projects in EFEA about the European education and the  
equality of chances  
Conclusion of the visit
- Wednesday 14. April 2010 Departure of the participants

TRANSPORT from Sofia there is every hour a bus to Veliko Tarnovo, duration 3.30 hours , price 18 leva /9€

PRICE of the Visit - about 500€  
Hotel 4 stars  
- Including meals, visits, cultural program)  
- Single and double room Foreign exchange 1€ = 2 VISA and EC card

**Further information from Kina Kotlarska of the Bulgarian Association**

***kinakotlarska@yahoo.fr***

The EC thanks the Bulgarian Association for its work in this matter. As you may know the EC of EFEA does not actually organise the EIP as the host association organises all the details. The EC has been in regular contact with the Bulgarian association and offered advice and instructions but in we are in the hands of the host association and must thank them for the EIP and its quality. As a result of our review we may change the way we organise the EIP in the future.

**Report of the work of the Secretary, Juan Salame:**

The review: This has completed an overview of the main findings was presented to the EC. The EC is to meet in Dusseldorf in early January to discuss the findings and the EC will then present a draft plan of action to the SC in Bulgaria. The EC has started to put in to action some of the more obvious improvements but the more subtle improvements and changes did need reflection and discussion. The SC will produce a final report of the review findings soon after the SC meeting in Bulgaria. If possible the General Assembly may [at the EIP] may discuss and agree some of the changes recommended by the EC and the SC.

The Treasurer and Vice President worked to close our base in Paris, they have moved our archives and we will need to consider a new base [administrative base] for EFEA. The Manchester Metropolitan University in England has offered itself as a base for EFEA and BELMAS [UK] has also been involved in discussions about a new base for EFEA. EFEA is still operating under French law for the near future as to change our legal basis is very complex.

**Report of the work of the treasurer, Juan Salame [assisted by Zita Gotte]:**

The main work of the treasurer has been retrospective and not linked to the review. As we no longer think of EFEA as having its base in Paris the treasurer has had to ensure our banking arrangements work well. The EC decided to leave our bank in Paris and manage our accounts on line. This took a lot of work and in the end the treasurer and Vice president had to attend a meeting in Paris to sign papers etc. The accounts have also had to be brought up to date and the treasurer has been collecting in membership fees from this last year and last.

**Report of the work of the Publications Officer, Pedro Navareno:**

There has been some real progress in this matter as the EC want the website to be greatly improved and to be more interactive. We have already updated the old website and started to add publications from members in a variety of languages. The EC agreed our formal languages should continue to be English and French but the publications can be in any language as well as either English or French translations. We have also set about completely redesigning our website with a new and more up to date structure and function. We hope the web site will be our main link with our members in the future.

The President has published a PDF version of many of the back copies of Bulletin, our journal, and these will be put on our website soon. Already some members have requested copies of Bulletin for research work they are undertaking. We hope, in the future, to use the web site to offer links to a variety of Journals from member states. We will soon have links to back copies of Professional Development Today, and English Journal.

*A Merry Christmas*  
*and a*  
*Happy New Year*  
*To all our members*

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