

02-2017

Editorial.

We are in our 21st year and still growing strong. It was wonderful to return last September to Austria the country that hosted our first conference. But the Europe of today is far removed from 1996 when social and political barriers were dissolving and co-operation was flourishing. Our planet and its inhabitants face troubling times. We are threatened by the loss of biodiversity, overuse of resources and climate change. At the same time, Europe is being torn apart with the growth of nationalism and xenophobia.

Working in the outdoors we are in a position to open eyes, minds and hearts to these changes. This Newsletter gives many examples of how we continue to share knowledge and good practice. I believe that together we can inspire, question, challenge and take action for a fairer and more sustainable world.

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EOE is twenty!

EOE celebrated its 20th year by returning to the place where the idea for the network first emerged, Salzburg, Austria. Our hosts provided a fantastic seminar in a wonderful location and laid on brilliant sunshine amongst the mountains! Perhaps the most inspiring aspect for me was the number of young people just starting out in our field who attended. Many of them are students of or graduates from the EOE university group's joint MA Transcultural European Outdoor Studies. They enlivened events with their questions, workshops and presentations. Having the next generation involved bodes well for our relevance and our future.

The seminar was proof of the vibrancy of EOE in many ways – so many excellent seminars and workshops, news from the active groups and members collaborating across Europe, new groups forming, a publication in preparation to mark our anniversary and all done in a sense of community by voluntary effort, the key to the success of EOE.

Thank you to all the organisers. Bringing us together in community is central to our work together. That's why it's so good to know we have seminars in preparation in England (2017), Slovenia (2018), Ireland (2019) and Poland (2020).

There is much more news about these events and many others in this Newsletter. Thank you for all your efforts to support our network.

Chris Loynes

Chair EOE Network

EOE Board Members

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Jochem Schirp (Germany) Treasurer
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Jakob Frimann Thorsteinsson (Iceland)
Marta Jonca (Poland)
Sibylle Roth (Germany)
Tomas Aylward (Ireland)
Martin Lindner (Germany)

For more information on Board members see:
www.eoe-network.eu/the-institute/board-members/

New Members 2016

Camp Laugar (Iceland)
School of Education (BangorUniversity/UK)
Mariya Gorgieva (China/Bulgaria)
Zivar Pečavar (Slovenia)
Güney Çetinkaya (Turkey)
Riikka Rouvinen (Finland)
The Finnish Youth Center Association (Finland)
Fielker, Mark (UK)
Erika Sarivaara (Finland)
University of Lapland (Finland)
Zackary Banegas (US)
Outdoor Education Ireland
Joanna McInerney (Ireland)
Christopher Maddock (UK)

Salzburg Conference, 2016.

The organisers' point of view:

The 15th European Seminar of the Institute of Outdoor Adventure Education and Experiential Learning (EOE) took place in Salzburg/Hallein-Rif, Austria in September 2016. Around 120 researchers, practitioners, and students, from more than 15 countries met in order to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the organisation and to share their knowledge and experiences on learning in the outdoors with reference to the conference topic: "Changing Horizons: Challenges to Outdoor Education in Europe". The seminar was partially funded by Erasmus+ and by the province of Salzburg.

Thanks to the vast number of submissions, we were able to offer a programme which was ambitious and inspiring: 4 keynotes on the 3 subtopics (economisation, didactisation and certification), 40 presentations, 13 practical workshops and 9 posters.

With the enthusiasm of the participants, and in the fabulous surroundings of Schloss Rif (University of Salzburg, Department of Sport Science and Kinesiology) we managed to present the educational and therapeutic work in outdoor education in Europe and beyond by an open and free discussion respecting and valuing diversity. We also want to highlight that for our Austrian team, consisting of staff from the University of Salzburg as well as of members of the two local outdoor associations Initiative Outdoor-Aktivitäten (IOA®) and IOA (Association for education) it was a pleasure to welcome so many professionals of the field: We learned a lot from you!"



EOE Conference 2017.

The University of St Mark & St John, Plymouth UK will host the 16th European Institute of Outdoor Adventure Education and Experiential Learning Seminar (EOE 2017) from 28 June to 2 July 2017. It will bring together experts from all over Europe to exchange and share knowledge on learning in the outdoors.



The Seminar theme is “***Outdoor atmospheres and narratives***”. It is about the sensed, aesthetic outdoor world and the narratives that we construct when we experience powerful outdoor spaces. We plan to consider aspects of the romantic as well as the critical, the aesthetic as well as the cognitive and how this new way of thinking can engender curiosity, raise cultural sensitivity and enrich outdoor practices.

For further information see:

<http://www.marjon.ac.uk/courses/our-faculties/faculty-of-education--social-sciences/eoe-conference/>

The organisers, Mark Leather and Fiona Nicholls (see photo) have re-submitted an application for Erasmus Plus funding and

have extended the call for abstract submissions to a **deadline of March 31st**

To date they have received around 30 abstracts from interested people and there are some wonderful keynote speakers lined up.

It would be good for you to identify participants for the seminar – especially those who will benefit from an Erasmus subsidy – and to encourage them to present/participate at the seminar.



Support EOE with Book purchase

Dear Members and Friends of the EOE, as you know, until today, EOE has not demanded membership fees. However, there are running costs – like the website – that EOE has to pay for.

To raise funds for EOE we are offering EOE-publications for sale at reduced prices. It would be much appreciated if members and friends of the EOE would support this campaign through buying the following book-package (4 books in total). We are offering 3 conference proceedings and the 10 years-anniversary book for a total price of 30.00 EURO (including packaging and postage). This is a saving of 40% on the full price of the books.

1. Higgins, P./Humberstone, B (Eds.) Celebrating Diversity. Learning by Sharing Cultural Differences, conference proceedings, 79 p., Edinburgh 1998
2. EOE (Ed.). Other Ways of Learning. Outdoor Adventure Education and Experiential Learning in School and Youth Work, conference proceedings, 111p, Rimforsa/Sweden 2000
3. Becker, P./Schirp, J./Weber, C. (Eds.): Water – Space for Experiences. Youth and Outdoor Education in Europe, conference proceedings, 170 p., Marburg 2010
4. Becker, P./Schirp, J. (Eds.): Other Ways of Learning. The European Institute 1996 – 2006, 369 p., Marburg 2008

Please support the EOE and send your purchase order via mail to contact@eoe-network.eu

EOE on Facebook

The EOE Network is very active on Facebook with 238 members and growing. Posts cover information of interest across Europe including conferences, trainings, publications, internships and news from member organisations and individuals. It is a closed group so very secure. Members and non-members with an interest in OE across Europe are welcome.

To join search on Facebook for ‘European Outdoor Education Network’ and ask to join.

Learning Away in Europe

Would you like help and ideas to make your outdoor residentials, trips and camps more impactful? A recent UK project has published an extensive report on its findings about ‘Brilliant Residentials’. The results were developed in partnership with 60 schools over 5 years. The findings, case studies and resources can be viewed on the Learning Away website www.learningaway.org.uk

The outdoor residentials group in the EOE are exploring the possibility of seeking EU funding to disseminate and enhance these findings by applying them to outdoor centres in other European countries. We are currently seeking a provider of outdoor residentials to lead on the application. If you are interested in this project as a member or, potentially as a leader contact Chris Loynes at chris.threshold@phoncoop.coop

News from the Special Interest Groups

EOE has a policy group

How can we help you to lobby for Outdoor Education in your country and encourage EU policies that encourage our work across Europe? This question has led to the formation of a new EOE group at the Salzburg conference. Ideas so far include:

- Partnering with EOE member organisations in bids for EU and other funding
- Providing an evidence base for Outdoor Education from EU wide research to support your lobbying
- Getting to know the members of EU committee for informal education
- Supporting members in conducting research and evaluation to create their evidence base

If you are lobbying your policy makers in your country or are looking for support from the EU and have ideas about how we can help you then contact Chris Loynes chris.threshold@phoncoop.coop As with all EOE groups we are small and voluntary so our actions will be driven by the needs you share with us.

Empowered by Adventure

Jari Kujala writes about EOE partners planning a project for excluded 13-17 year olds: Our youth exchange is about **“European Citizenship through Landscapes”**. It will consist of two youth meetings:

1. A River expedition in Finland (6 days)
2. A mountain trip in Austria (6 days).

The project is designed for excluded youngsters, school drop-outs and those with multi-dimensional problems.

4 partner countries have been identified:

Finland – Jari will make the application Slovenia – Irena- CSOD Austria- Markus – IOA Bildungsverein Germany – Anna and Peter-BSJ. Each country will participate with two adults and 4-5 youngsters.

The main idea is that young people with fewer opportunities are alienated from their natural environment and nature. Wilderness-based programmes offer opportunities for lifelong learning. Aaron Antonowsky describes the importance of salutogenesis (based on resilience) rather than pathogenesis (based on risks). Facilitated learning will be based on social construction rather than on instructive methods.

Contact Jari for further information:

Jarikujala1@gmail.com

European Network of Outdoor Centres (ENOC).

Marta Jonca submitted the Erasmus Plus proposal **“Developing methodologies, educational resources and training for outdoor educators”** developed by the five partners from Slovenia, Poland, Germany, Finland and UK but it was unsuccessful.

The group is keen to consider ways of revising their project and will meet at the Plymouth Conference. In the meantime Outdoor Centres in several countries have had exchanges for job shadowing.