



Newsletter

Number 10 - Summer 2009

Editorial

When you read these lines our colleagues Jesus Rodriguez Rodriguez and Ragnhild Lund are very busy with organizing the 10th IARTEM conference in Santiago de Compostela. A conference with the highest amount of participants ever, as it looks now. A very interesting program full of paper presentations, keynotes, a theoretical session, school visits, a conference dinner and so on. It will be nice to meet again after two years in the midst of crisis and fever.

One year ago I wrote about the fact that IARTEM is an organization with a highly volunteering character, and that we have to live with and understand the fact that paper authors do not send their paper for the Conference Volume in time, and that our editors have more to do than just editing papers. Or that the next issue of our e-journal is dependent on the time authors spend to write their article. And then we need the time of peer reviewers to review the articles, and in the end the time of the editors of the e-journal.

Every time it is amazing that we HAVE a Conference, a website, a Newsletter, a Conference Volume, and an e-journal, albeit sometimes later than we hoped. We may be thankful to anyone contributing to the growing IARTEM- community. And hopefully more and more colleagues will help us in that respect.

Wish all the participants an inspiring conference!

(Arno Reints)

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NEWS FROM IARTEM

Boarding-news

In Memoriam: Alain Choppin

This summer we received the sad news of the death of Alain Choppin. Alain was a board member from the very beginning of IARTEM. He was our first treasurer and was closely involved in the formal status of IARTEM, of which Paris until 2004 was the formal seat. Alain was an historian with a warm interest in education and textbooks. In several conferences Alain presented his work on how teachers could be helped in choosing the right (history) textbook. Alain was a warm and dedicated colleague to whom we bear many good memories.

Many participants at 10th Conference at Santiago de Compostela

At this moment more than 130 participants have registered for the 10th Conference of IARTEM in Santiago de Compostela, which will be held on September 3-5. They come from 31 different countries from all continents:

Africa: 6 participants from 4 different countries

Asia: 10 participants from 3 different countries

Australia: 3 participants from 1 country

Europe: 105 participants from 18 different countries

North America: 4 participants from 1 country

South America: 6 participants from 4 different countries

Not all participants have paid their fee yet. We kindly ask them to pay as soon as possible to cover all the costs for the conference.

The program as well as all the abstracts will be on our website within a few days. So see for www.iartem.no for the latest info.

Conference Volume of the Tønsberg-conference finalized

Just before the beginning of the 10th Conference, the editors of the 9th Volume proudly announce the finalization of the Volume of the 9th Conference, which was held in Tønsberg. Mike Horsley and Jim McCall have done a great job in editing the Volume. Within a few days the Volume can be seen on our website www.iartem.no. There also will be a paper version of the Volume, which is in preparation now.

Next IARTEM e-Journal soon available

Editors Mike Horsley, Staffan Selander and Natalija Mazeikiene have recently finalized Volume 2 no 1 of the next IARTEM e-journal which also will be published on our website within a few days.

(Arno Reints)

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Conferences

DESIGNS FOR LEARNING

2nd international conference 2010 - towards a new conceptualization of learning

17th - 19th of March 2010
Stockholm University
Campus Konradsberg SWEDEN

FIRST CALL

2010 conference will focus on a new conceptualization of learning in terms of media, arenas, artefacts and spaces used for learning. Conference paper presentation will be organized around different themes. Additionally, workshops will be organized around specific areas of interest.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is October 26th 2009. Abstracts are limited to a maximum of 2 000 characters (no spaces) and should contain purpose, theory, method and preliminary result or corresponding. Papers accepted for the conference may also be published in the peer-reviewed online journal Designs for Learning.

Theo van Leeuwen and Jonas Linderöth will be two among the keynote speakers.

Forms for registration and submission of papers will be available from the conference website in May.

Further information see the conference website:
www.designsforlearning.nu/conference.htm

(Staffan Selander)

Other news

Many entries for the Best European Schoolbook Awards 2009

This year the European Educational Publishers Group (EEPG) has launched a new competition called **Best European Schoolbook Awards 2009** which co-organized by the Frankfurt Book Fair, IARTEM (International Association for Research in Textbooks and Educational Media) and the EEPG. In January we sent more than 600 invitations to educational publishers in all European countries - and after the deadline 28th of February the results were:

26 educational publishers are participating with 23 books for children up to 11 years of age and 25 books for learners of 12 years upwards (i.e. 48 schoolbooks in total).

These publishers cover the following countries (number of books from each country in brackets): Armenia (1), Austria (1), Bulgaria (1), Croatia (2), Czech Republic (2), Finland

(2), Germany (6), Greece (1), Hungary (6), Italy (2), Norway (1), Poland (3), Portugal (8), Serbia (4), Switzerland (2), Slovenia (3) and Spain (3).

The special award ceremony with important guests from the world of education and politics will be organized by the Frankfurt Book Fair immediately following a whole day international conference on education in the Conference Centre of the Book Fair. The event will begin at 4 p.m. on Saturday 17th of October.

You can find out more about this competition by visiting the web site

www.schoolbookawards.org

(Preben Späth)

Georg Eckert Institute introduces Award for Excellence in International Educational Media Research

In the year 2010, for the first time and subsequently every two years, the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research will award a prize donated by the Westermann Publishing Group in Brunswick for academic excellence in the field of international education media research. The award will comprise prize money of € 2.500; printing costs for the successful work will be covered by the donor. The prize will be awarded to a monograph, dissertation or post-doctoral work of outstanding scholarly quality. Jointly written works will also be considered provided that all authors apply for the award. We will accept applications from authors as well as nominations by third parties.

The work entered must be hitherto unpublished study, written in either German or English and at the time of application no more than two years old.

The successful candidate(s) will be selected by a jury of renowned scholars and a representative from the Westermann Publishing Group, with the exclusion of legal proceedings. The prize will be awarded in Spring 2010.

The successful work will be published in the academic series *Eckert. Die Schriftenreihe. Studien des Georg-Eckert-Instituts zur internationalen Bildungsmedienforschung*, with V&R unipress, Göttingen.

For more information:

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(Verena Radkau)

What makes an effective textbook?

In the beginning of 2010 a three-day course on **textbook writing and evaluation** will be organized in Utrecht, The Netherlands. After a successful running of the courses in February and September 2008 with 30 participants from all over the world, the course will be organized now for the third time. The course leaders are James McCall (The Stirling Centre for International Publishing and Communication) and Arno Reints (CLU. University of Utrecht). The course is meant for educational publishers, teachers, educational quality managers , ministries of education etc.

How to obtain the quality of textbooks will be the leading theme of the course. The course is organized around four categories for evaluation:

- quality of content
- pedagogical approach
- design and presentation
- production standards

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