



Welcome to this special edition of the EPEA Newsletter

Even though we are already a few weeks into the New Year, I would still like to express my wish that 2020 will be a good year for all you colleague-professionals in prison education! It has been a while since you've heard from us. That doesn't mean we've sat still.

We are looking back on turbulent and exciting times, with highlights such as our 2019 Dublin Conference. The IPEA local organising team really have done an excellent job and managed to offer us a wide variety of high quality speakers and prison visits.

In December, the EPEA Steering Committee has met for a weekend meeting in Timisoara Romania. The Steering committee itself has undergone quite some changes in its composition. We have said goodbye to our Regional representatives Ioana Morar & Hubert Skrzynski and our treasurer Nyggi Aggernaes. All very much appreciated for the enormous amount of time and effort they have put into the work of EPEA SC. Unfortunately we are still in the process of the handover of treasurer's duties, which, due to our international setting, is a more complex matter than one might think.

Every goodbye is luckily at the same time a warm welcome for new colleagues. We are happy to have RR's Cristina Teoroc & Thomas Wüthrich and Claire O'Connell, our new treasurer in our midst.

2019 was also a memorable year for a very frustrating reason, since the Steering Committee experienced an internet fraud that resulted amongst others in a financial loss. A phenomenon that is unfortunately a practice we have to take seriously. It has led to an adaptation of our protocols and this will hopefully prevent this from happening again.

We have celebrated our 25th anniversary, and would have liked to present the result of the fabulous work that our 'historians' are doing, but we have to ask you to be little

more patient. The team is finalising their efforts and it will be presented over the coming year.

Also we have looked into ways of storing the EPEA archives, and we have found the perfect place through our Norwegian colleagues. We will let you know how the archives can be accessed as soon as we have come to a final agreement. But we are very glad with the progress in this area.

Looking forward to what the rest of 2020 will bring, I am pleased to say that we are releasing a vacancy for new chair within the next months. Please keep your eyes open for news in our next newsletters and or our website.

Wishing you all a great year with hopefully good results in your professional and private lives,

On behalf of the EPEA Steering Committee,

Annet Bakker

- Chair EPEA

News from the SC

- [Constitution changes Vienna 2017](#)

Introduction of new SC members

- [Central Region - RR](#)
- [Treasurer](#)

Projects

- [Life Space Intervention training - Bordeaux, France](#)
- [EAEA Events in 2020](#)



Constitution changes Vienna 2017 - *important*

Dear members,

You are probably aware of the constitution amendments that were discussed and voted upon in Vienna in 2017. The changes consisted mostly of an added possibility to have digital voting possible instead of the postal ballot that is mentioned in our constitution. This is considered to be a rather outdated and very labour-intensive way of anonymously consulting the membership. The other and most important proposal concerned more flexible management of the Steering Committee positions. The 2019 GC in Dublin rightly stated that the current Steering Commission had misinterpreted the regulations around the member consultancy. We decided that we would consult all of our members, before each Vienna-amendment is accepted or rejected.

We are happy to release the first stage of this membership consultancy.

In the coming weeks we will send you a link to vote on the first matter, which has not led to much discussion; the possibility of a digital vote.

Please keep your eye open for this important first step.

If electronic voting is possible we will start the 2nd and most important part. We will send you the amendments as they were sent out in Vienna and give you some time to discuss these within your own professional setting. We will organize two moments of online discussion on this topic and then send you a link for the actual voting.

Please check whether you and maybe your colleague EPEA members have received this newsletter (and that has not ended up in the spambox).

Inform us if you know of anyone that has not received the newsletter, so that we can work with the most complete and updated email list.

Kind regards,

Annet Bakker

- Chair EPEA

New Central Region Representative



Thomas Wüthrich [1958]

Master of Arts in History and Social Anthropology University of Zurich

Executive Master in Nonprofit Management University of Applied Sciences Solothurn

I have been working in the penitentiary sector for twenty years now. During 10 years as a director of an NGO which, on behalf of the state, offered work places in a recycling workshop for the execution of community sanctions. In addition, a home for prisoners released from prison and a residential facility for prisoners for the stay before their conditional release belonged to that foundation.

After an interlude as director of a housing cooperative, I joined the prison education system in 2011. Here I have the function of a headmaster and am responsible for 14 teachers in 10 prisons in Eastern Switzerland.

As a volunteer of the Association for the Development of Probation in Eastern Europe I co-design and monitor projects in the penitentiary sector, e.g. in Romania, Greece and soon in Moldova, funded by the Lottery Fund of the Canton of Zurich in Switzerland.

New Treasurer



Claire O'Connell

Claire has worked as a teacher and guidance counsellor with City of Dublin Education and Training Board (CDET) Adult Education Centres and the Educational Service to Prisons since 2008.

She is currently working in number of prison education centres and is primarily based on the Mountjoy Prison Campus, Dublin. She holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Adult and Community Education and a Masters in Education. She is currently undertaking PhD studies in Dublin City University.



Life Space Crisis Intervention - training

The next LSCI training session will take place in September 2020 (exact dates to be fixed) and you are still able to submit an ERASMUS PLUS Staff Mobility application till **February 11, 2020** at 12:00 Brussels time (as deadline is postponed till then) to get a European grant that will cover your costs (including travel, accommodation, and course fees).

Participants will have the opportunity to learn a new method of positive pedagogical construction, while exchanging good practices and experiences.

More information [here on the EPEA website](#) [pdf-file].

EAEA events in 2020

The European Association for the Education of Adults released an overview of their events in

2020. From the final conference of Skillhubs to EAEA's Annual Conference and General Assembly, you'll find all the dates worth saving [here on the EPEA website](#) [pdf-file].



Copyright © 2020 EPEA, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

