

NOCIES

Newsletter, June 2009

Dear Members,

The expression, "the road to Hell is paved with good intentions" seems appropriate at this time. I have not been able to live up to my good intention of a bi-annual newsletter, as is unfortunately apparent.

I wish, however, at this time to report on what has happened since March, 2008. The NOCIES website is up and running thanks to Heidi Biseth and the work that she has done. The address is the following:

<http://www.nocies.org>

The Symposium which we organized at the CESE conference in Athens was well-attended and gave an interesting picture of some of the research that is taking place in the Nordic countries. In the Symposium, entitled View from the North on Education: Practice, Policy and Method, the following members participated, with Lennart Wikander as chairperson:

Heidi Biseth: "Teachers' perspectives on democracy and intercultural dialogue in Scandinavian multicultural schools"

Sara Frontini: "Finnish VET: National versus European"

Halla B. Holmarsdottir: "Educational discourse: how language, culture and gender are incorporated into the education policy and practice in Sudan?"

Marcella Milana: "The post-Lisbon discourse on skills mismatch and competence upgrading: A critical review"

Mina O'Dowd: "Social Cartography: Mapping educational and social change"

The General Meeting will take place on June 12th at Lund University. Professor Ulrich Teichler has agreed to present his research for us, lecturing on "The Changing Employment and Work Situation of the Academic Profession in a Comparative Perspective". The lecture will be followed by a light lunch and then the General Meeting.

An important point for discussion is future plans for NOCIES. I would like to ask members, who are unable to attend the General Meeting, to send their suggestions and thoughts on this topic to me to present at the General Meeting.

As many of you know, Halla B. Holmarsdottir and I have been busy with the volume entitled Nordic Voices that is soon to be published. My impression thus far is that it will be an excellent anthology.

The next major events are the CESE conference in Uppsala and the WCCES Congress in Istanbul. I would like to suggest that we plan on having a meeting at each of these events, gathering as many members as possible among those who have the opportunity to attend.

Hoping to see you all soon in Lund!

For the Executive Committee

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