

## **Workshop**

### **Working together to promote teacher education in the field of health education and health promotion**

In 2008, a team of international professionals, with specific interest in supporting teachers in health education (HE), launched an initiative to join global forces to advocate for and to strengthen teacher education in health promotion. This initiative is happening in collaboration with the SHE network\*, IUHPE\*\*, and ISHN. \*\*\*

The main goals of this initiative are to:

- Identify and share relevant information and resources on health education and health promotion in teacher education
- Stimulate international partnership work
- Advocate for inclusion of health promotion and health education in the training of all teachers
- Support the institutes/colleges/universities in the provision of initial and in-service teacher education
- Promote international research in the field

As this initiative progresses a simultaneous research program is happening within the scope of the work of the SHE Research Group. The research programme intends to strengthen the evidence base in this field while also supporting the team to further developments of teacher education in HE.

A first open meeting was held during the 8<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Health Promotion and Education in Turin, Italy in September 2008. Twenty-two people from 13 countries attended. After short presentations from representatives on the national approach to TT/E in HE/HP, in their countries a discussion followed on the proposed international collaboration.

Since this meeting, work has continued together to move this proposal forward. The SHE research group then met in Amsterdam in November 2008 and again in Egmond aan Zee in February 2009 and on both occasions this proposal was discussed.

A workshop (90 minutes) is planned for the "BETTER SCHOOLS THROUGH HEALTH" conference (15 -17 June 2009) in Vilnius, Lithuania, in the aim of moving this collaboration forward. It is intended that as many colleagues who wish to join this workshop as possible attend as it is a central goal of this collaboration to be as inclusive as possible in order to effect global support in this field.

The workshop moderator will be: Patricia Mannix Mc Namara (Lecturer Health Promotion, Department of Education and Professional Studies, University of Limerick, Ireland).

The proposed agenda for the workshop is as follows:

1. Introduction
2. Discussion on the position paper
3. Research

4. Creation of a working group to organize a symposium on teacher training for the 20<sup>th</sup> IUHPE World Conference July 11-15, 2010 in Geneva, Switzerland

A web site had been developed as an electronic resource explaining the collaborative process to date. It includes a position paper outlining the aims of the collaboration and also includes a module where people can upload resources to share with global colleagues. It is the aim of this website to keep colleagues informed of the process and also to provide an electronic network. Prior to the workshop, attendants are invited to visit the website at:

<http://www2.ul.ie/web/WWW/Faculties/Education%20%26%20Health%20Sciences/Departments/Education%20and%20Professional%20Studies/Together%20to%20promote%20health%20education>

\* School for Health in Europe network

\*\* International Union for Health Promotion and Education

\*\*\* International School Health Network