European Prison Education Association

www.epea.org

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Greetings from the EPEA Chairperson
I am sorry that I cannot be with you for your conference – however, I am very happy that the EPEA Regional Representative for the Northern Region Kerstin Ekholm-Erestam is able to make a presentation to you on our behalf.
Overview

• EPEA came to life in the early 1990’s in support of European Recommendations on prisoners’ rights to education

• EPEA has members from across Europe – from Iceland to Greece and from Ireland to Russia

• Our numbers continue to grow and we offer individual and organisational membership to anyone who has an interest in prison education

• We also have a number of branches, where countries have more than 10 members
Our status

• We have participatory status at the Council of Europe and attend meetings of 2 committees – Education and Culture, and Human Rights
• We are represented on the Scientific Committee for the International Juvenile Justice Observatory
• We are members of the European Association for Adult Education (EAEA)
• We have either led or been partners in Grundtvig projects, funded by the European Commission
• For 2010, we have been awarded funding from the European Commission through the Jean Monnet Action
Recent Activities

• Supported the EC conference celebrating the 10th anniversary of Grundtvig prison projects
• Signed a co-operation agreement with the Romanian department of social reintegration
• Linked to the Italian partners of the ESF-funded Ex-offenders Community of Practice network
• Supported the conference for German prison teachers
• Co-hosted the conference for Directors of Prison Education (Luzern)
What we can offer you

• A friendly organisation which listens to the voice of prison teachers, administrators, and professionals with an interest in prison education

• A network of contacts that stretches across and beyond Europe

• A website that offers resources, references, lists of new publications, and information about upcoming conferences

• A bi-annual Magazine (which we encourage you to contribute towards!)

• An occasional Newsletter keeping you up-dated on current issues and upcoming events
More opportunities!!

• Between November 6\textsuperscript{th} and 7\textsuperscript{th} 2010, we are organising a meeting in Amsterdam for Liaison persons and Contact persons who will help us take forward the aims of the EPEA. We would like as many countries to participate as possible.

• In November 2011, we will be holding our next EPEA International conference in Manchester, UK. EPEA members get a reduced fee and we will be sending out an invitation for formal registration in January 2011.
How to contact us or join EPEA

• Our website is www.epea.org
• You can join by going to the website and clicking ‘membership’
• You can contact the Regional Representative for the Northern region - Kerstin
• You can contact the Liaison person or Contact person for your country – a list is on the website (If your country does not have an LP or a CP maybe you would like to consider becoming the EPEA representative in your country!)
Most importantly!

• Prison education and the voice of prison educators are rarely heard – EPEA offers an opportunity to take your concerns forward

• Prison teachers are often isolated – EPEA offers a chance to connect with others concerned with the same issues

• EPEA is an open, friendly, vibrant, energetic, and welcoming organisation – but we need new members to keep the organisation alive. The more members we have the louder our voice can be.

Please consider becoming a member of EPEA