

Chemistry is All Around Network Workshop on "Student's Motivation" Łódź, (Poland), 13 December 2012

Minutes

Participants

The workshop was participated by 11 participants. 4 of them were project Chemistry experts and 5 Chemistry teachers involved in the project. 2 other participants were WSIU representatives Magdalena Gałaj and Magdalena Bujak. Below there is a list of experts and teachers involved in the workshop activities.

Experts:

- Dr n. Farm. I inż. Chem. Elzbieta Zurek – Medical University of Lodz
- Dr Iwona Krawczyk – Technical University of Lodz
- Mgr Helena Kaniewska – 3 Age University
- Dr Jadwiga Skowrońska – Technical University of Lodz

Teachers:

- Mgr Ewa Marczevska – ABiS Lower and Upper Secondary Schools
- Mgr Jan Stawiany – retired Chemistry teacher
- Mgr Joanna Błaszczkiewicz – School4Child Primary School
- Mgr Anna Panek – VIII LO in Lodz
- Mgr Luiza Wężyk – XXXIII LO in Łódź

Objectives of the workshop

The main objective of the workshop was to introduce Polish teachers and experts to the contents of the Project Portal and resources available there.

The workshop was also intended to involve teachers into further project activities related to planning, designing and implementing new resources on the portal and prepare them for further stages of the project (teacher training and best practices).

Workshop Organization

The workshop was organized on 13 December 2012 at 12:30 – 15:00. It was quite short due to many teachers and experts' suggestions. It has been agreed that the needed cooperation and exchange of information will be done by e-mail. However, despite the convenient timing the workshop was participated by quite a small number of teacher of teachers. Most of them when contacted on the phone excused themselves with being busy at the end of the year. Unfortunately some also quit the project in the meantime due to various reasons.

The workshop was moderated by Magdalena Gałaj WSIInf Project Expert at the premises of the Foreign Languages Department. During the workshop teachers received all the necessary materials about the project requirements to facilitate project work.

Delivery of the contents



During the workshop teachers and experts were briefly reminded about the project activities and once again were reminded about the deadlines. Teachers were introduced to the contents of the course briefly and asked to study it on their own back home.

The main part of the meeting was occupied by presenting the portal resources and assigning roles for further roles. Participants were also able to discuss the Polish situation with reference to teaching and learning chemistry and motivating young people to study the subject further on their own. Teachers and experts were also presented briefly with the outcomes of the 2 Transnational project conference in Prague.

The reaction of teachers and experts

Teachers and experts were generally quite positive about the contents of the workshop – those who were generally positive about the project and the portal recourse available online on the Chemistry is All around Network platform found it useful and for those, so far quite reluctant to cooperate fully, some bits of the workshop were difficult and the portal not user-friendly. Technology mattered here a lot as some teachers complained about poor internet connection at home when they wanted to upload their comments. It was observed that some teachers really needed support in understanding contents of the portal due to the language barrier as only a few are able to speak English.

Skills Acquired

Teachers and experts were briefly acquainted with the contents of the portal, all the resources available there and were introduced to their roles in further project assignments.

The evaluation of the portal

In the last part of the workshop teachers were distributed .doc files evaluating the portal and asked to complete the forms. Some teachers admitted a few bits of the portal were difficult for them mainly due to the language barrier and had a technical nature. For some who were more technologically minded some sections of the portal were very easy to follow and clearly presented. Everybody liked the graphical layout which made the content much more interesting and easy to follow.