

Chemistry is All Around Network Workshop on "Successful Experiences" Bratislava, Slovakia, 26.3.2014

Agenda

Timetable of the workshop: from 8.30 – to 16.00

Our Slovak workshop was held in office of TRANSFER Slovensko. 12 teachers of chemistry from elementary schools and from high schools participated at this workshop. In comparison with the original group there were three more teachers of chemistry from secondary vocational schools in Nitra and Prešov. Moderator of this workshop was Juraj Dubrava. He welcome new teachers and thank for their effort for preparing of comments to papers and publications.

Topics:

8.30 – 12.00

The first part of the workshop was focusing on papers and publication about Successful Experiences which are published on the project web page. Teachers appreciated all the lectures and very good outline of publications dedicated to successful experiences in teaching chemistry. The first interesting lecture was from the Czech Republic which provided review of all successful experiences focused on various competitions, activities, portals, Olympiad etc. All teachers appreciated these information mainly because of the fact that many of these activities is done also at Slovakia. Polish lecture was very innovative in the means of tools for better motivation of students towards chemistry. Spanish contribution about cooperative learning was also interesting. Teachers discussed also about interesting Belgian report about use of ICT technologies during teaching chemistry and about digital school. Slovak publications in which were teachers interested were the ones which explained chemistry in unusual way. They discussed mainly about publications as Chemistry and Cooking, Olives in salmonia and fruit in syrup, 3D visualisation types in multimedia applications in science education and New games in chemistry for attractive chemistry education.

13.30 - 16.00

The second part of the workshop was focusing on current problems in teaching chemistry and natural sciences at Slovak primary and secondary schools. Katarina Javorova from Department of Didactic and in Science presented short output which OECD published few weeks ago results of project PISA – the biggest and the most important international research in the area of measurements of education results, which takes place all over the world. In solving problems Slovak students achieved average result which was 483 points. These results are significantly lower than average results in other OECD countries. Teachers discuss about this results and especially about the proposal of Ministry of Education that chemistry should have more teaching lessons. Big discussion was about decision that teachers could share their experiences with students of teaching in combination with chemistry during three semesters (in years 2012 – 2014) within the project *Incubator of innovative teachers of scientific subjects at elementary and secondary schools* (KEGA Project n. 035UK-4/2012). We realised more than 20 professional lectures connected with seminars and workshops for students of Faculty of Science UK. Students were presented experiences from years of pedagogical practice of innovative teachers of elementary and secondary schools. Discussion was about help which need teachers at Slovak schools try to make some changes and know how to teach „good“ but they need also support from school leadership, municipal offices, National Education Office and mainly from Ministry of Education. It is needed to end the reform, make new curriculum and textbooks, to state what has to be taught (in which year) and let teachers (school) to teach in their way.

Juraj Dubrava thank all participants and wish them successful teaching and experiences in teaching chemistry on your schools.