CHEMISTRY TEACHERS’ TRAINING IN SLOVAKIA

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“Education of the highest quality requires teachers of the highest quality.”
Australian government slogan for the knowledge economy and education, 2000

1. Initial Teacher Training in Slovakia

- ongoing reform on increasing the quality of school system in Slovakia was reduced by creation of school law and resulting creation of state and school educational programs without involving the most important part – teachers, employers of graduate institutes and universities

- the Science subjects as Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Math and Geography are not the favorite ones and students classify them as difficult. They do not choose them for their future study. The main problem for experimental sciences is retreat from experiments at elementary and high schools, decreasing amount of hours of teaching scientific subjects and missing laboratories at most of the schools.
1. Initial Teacher Training in Slovakia

- Education in Slovakia is dependent on the level of teachers, quality of preparation at the universities but mainly on providing conditions for professional and personal development of a teacher.

- We have in Slovakia 11 universities which prepare future chemistry teachers at the bachelor level BSc. and master level Mgr. From those 7 universities prepare future teachers of chemistry for ISCED 2 and ISCED 3 mainly at scientific faculties (UK Bratislava, UKF Nitra, UMB Banská Bystrica, UPJŠ Košic) and pedagogical faculties (TU Trnava, KU Ružomberok, UJŠ Komárno – only BSc. level). Study programs of each university differ even though there are perennial efforts for an uniform attitude in preparation of the scientific teachers.
“Education of the highest quality requires teachers of the highest quality.”

*Australian government slogan for the knowledge economy and education, 2000*

1. Initial Teacher Training in Slovakia

- It is needed to say that there is insufficient amount of applicants for studying teaching, mainly in scientific subjects. Almost half of the applicants come from grammar schools, the rest from vocational schools but also from secondary vocational schools, those are mainly students who got only average or below average results or they consider studying of teaching as something temporary because they were not successfully admitted to non-teaching subjects departments.

- For the improvement of the selection of applicants for the job of a teacher and their preparation it is needed to increase attractiveness of teaching. In the process of selection it is needed to focus on the most successful students of high schools, work out the professional standards and improve the preparation for teaching, provide sufficient pedagogical practice at training schools (average duration of pedagogical practice in Slovakia is 6 weeks (1 approbation subject during their study).
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### 2. In-service Teacher Training in Slovakia

- At the Faculty of Natural Sciences of UK in Bratislava there is the Department of Natural Sciences, Psychology and Education which prepares future teachers. It is the creator and leader in many national and international projects since 1999, for example Infovek ([www.infovek.sk](http://www.infovek.sk)), COMENIUS, RAFT, MVP ZŠ and MVP SŠ ([www.modernizaciavzdelavania.sk](http://www.modernizaciavzdelavania.sk)).

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✓ 1999 – 2005  National project INFOVEK Slovensko
www.infovek.sk

✓ 12/2008 – 11/2013  National projects of the Modernization of the educational process
www.modernizaciavzdelavania.sk

Modernization of education at Elementary Schools (MVP ZŠ)
- For Bratislava region
- For other Slovak regions

Modernization of education at High Schools (MVP SŠ)
- For Bratislava region
- For other Slovak regions
MODERNIZATION OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS AT ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOLS

**MODULE 1 – Digital literacy of the teacher**
- The same position in the field of general digital literacy for all teachers involved in the project.
- Implementation during the first year of the project (2009) – Module 1 training finished by **February 2010**.

**MODULE 2 – Modern didactic technique in teacher’s work**
- Getting to know the modern didactic technique and its effective use in the teaching process.
- **April 2010** – beginning of the Module 2 training.

**MODULE 3 – ICT utilization in the selected teaching subject**
- 1. level elementary subjects, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics, Geography, Art and Music Education, Slovak Language, History.
- **September 2010** – beginning of the Module 3 training.

**Source**: www.modernizaciavzdelavenia.sk, elfa, s.r.o.
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MODERNIZATION OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS FOR THE SUBJECT OF CHEMISTRY

Number of participants due to their attending of the final training camp in the subject of chemistry (as of 10.6.2013)

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Source: www.modernizaciavzdelavania.sk, elfa, s.r.o.
A TEACHER OF THE 21. CENTURY

According to ISTE (2008) a teacher should:

- Inspire
- Develop students’ creativity
- Be a role-model in using modern technologies
- Be student oriented
- Keep in touch with broad local community
- Follow research etc.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION