



# Newsletter

Worldwide Voice of Vocational Education & Training

<http://www.iveta.org>

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IVETA President

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Greetings to IVETA Members

I would like to take this opportunity at the start of 2007 to welcome all returning and new IVETA members to the organization, thank the 2006 Executive Committee for its leadership, and outline some of the plans we have for 2007 to improve IVETA products and services to you.

**Communications with Members:** Future communications with members will primarily be done electronically, including dissemination of the quarterly Newsletter and semi-annual Journal. This approach allows us to serve our worldwide membership quickly and efficiently, quickly update products and services, and keep our membership fees at the same rate (an important issue with many of our members from developing countries). Please log on to the internet [www.iveta.org](http://www.iveta.org) and the "members" only intranet [www.edupoli.fi/iveta\\_intranet](http://www.edupoli.fi/iveta_intranet) (the user name is "iveta", and password is "intra") on a regular basis to see how IVETA can serve you. Jack Matthews is coordinating all our internet services, with the support of CORD (USA) and EDUPOLI (Finland).

**Plan of Action for 2007:** The Executive Committee has committed itself to a detailed plan of action for 2007, this plan is available on the intranet. We will be monitoring and reporting progress to you on a semi-annual basis. Look this plan over, and help support it when ever possible as IVETA is a volunteer organization and needs your active involvement to implement its activities.

## 2007 ACTE & IVETA REGIONAL CONFERENCES



The 2007 ACTE Convention and Career Tech Expo will be held on December

13- 15, 2007 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Call for Presentations is available at : <http://www.acteonline.org/convention/cfp.cfm>. Deadline for submission of proposals is March 16, 2007.



The All Africa IVETA/Regional IFTDO/ASTD Conference 2007 will be held on May

13 - May 16, 2007 at Meridien Hotel, Mauritius. For additional details, theme, sub-themes and call for papers, see page 7 or visit: <http://ivetaafrica2007.intnet.mu> Make plans to attend and visit Mauritius; The land of dodo.

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## Special points of Interest:

- Conferences
- Call for Papers
- New Officers
- Conference Reports
- Regional Reports



## Inside this Issue:

From the President's Desk	<b>1</b>
ACTE & IVETA Conferences	<b>1</b>
IVETA 2006 Summary	<b>3</b>
2006 IVETA Awards	<b>4</b>
IVETA 2006/7 Officers	<b>6</b>
All Africa Regional Conference	<b>7</b>
Moscow Conference Report	<b>8</b>
Regional Reports	<b>11</b>
Exec Secretariat's Report	<b>16</b>
Atlanta Conference in Pictures	<b>17</b>

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

(cont'd from page 1)

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**Evaluation of IVETA Products and Services:** We have asked you to respond to a brief survey of all current IVETA products and services (i.e., Newsletter, Journal, conferences, internet services, micro-grant program, etc.) in January. To access the survey, visit: <http://webforms.indstate.edu/iveta>. When you get to the site, click on 'Add Responses' to complete the survey. Please respond to the survey as your responses will affect implementation of our 2007 Plan. Sandy Pritz, (General Secretary), will be coordinating this activity and will summarize the results and we will report the results to you via the Newsletter.

**Membership Incentive Program:** We are initiating two activities to increase membership: (a) A series of awards to individual members who recruit three or more new members during 2007 – you were sent an email on January 26, 2007. As part of this initiative we are planning to print a high quality IVETA brochure and additional promotional materials. Ingrid Trenner (Membership Secretary) is coordinating these activities. (b) The 2007 Annual Plan includes a commitment that each of our eight Regional Vice Presidents will contact key individuals in countries in his/her region to identify key liaison persons to whom we can send information about IVETA, with the long term goal of serving TVET professionals in these countries and increasing membership.

**Conferences:** Our Annual Mini Conference and Business Meeting was held in Atlanta on November 29. The Conference focused on evaluation of TVET inputs and outcomes, and was positively evaluated. I attended and presented at the Middle East Technical and Vocational Education Conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in December. It was attended by about 2900 participants from 55 countries and organizations. We look forward to serving more TVET colleagues in the Middle East and North Africa Region with support from the Regional Vice President, Saleh Al Amer from Saudi Arabia. IVETA is co-sponsoring an African Regional Conference in Mauritius from May 13-18. We hope to see many of you there, particularly those from the Africa Region. Check the IVETA intranet [www.iveta.org](http://www.iveta.org) for details and links to all the above activities.

**In summary,** the Executive Committee wishes everyone the best for 2007 and we look forward to serving you. However, IVETA is a volunteer organization and can only provide products and services to the extent that individual members support and assist the work program. If you want to help implement an existing service or product, or suggest and are willing to help implement a new service, please let me know and I will connect you with the appropriate persons to help make it happen.

Best Regards for 2007

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## SUMMARY AND COMMENTS ON THE ATLANTA CONFERENCE



**Davison Mupinga**

The 2006 IVETA conference theme was to identify the social and economic benefits of investments in Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET). David Fretwell, the Program Chair, opened the session with a brief overview and basis for evaluation. Evaluation issues highlighted include: i) evaluation framework, i.e., difficulties often associated with conducting evaluations, not knowing how to evaluate TVET programs, and erroneous views about evaluating TVET programs; and ii) variations in TVET goals that influence evaluation approaches. Various presenters followed up with examples and approaches to measure the impact of TVET.

Measuring the quality of one country's TVET program using 360 degree feedback was discussed. This approach gets program performance feedback from various entities/stakeholders that interact with the program, e.g., program staff, managers, teachers, customers, funding agencies, students etc. The importance of carefully conducting an evaluation and using evaluation as an empowerment tool and not punitive was emphasized. On evaluation of skills and competencies possessed by TVET graduates, one approach uses pre-and post-tests, written and performance tests while the other evaluates work-based learning programs by assessing the technical, work and academic skills, i.e., real world skills. While such assessments are internal in measuring the skills possessed by TVET graduates, their advantage is the elimination of bias by removing the teacher from the evaluation process. Additional advantages cited include: recognition of skills by post-secondary & business; big social impact such as reduction of unemployment; and a means to measure the impact of TVET program (see [NOCTI](#) and [VTECS](#)).

In other presentations, accreditation of TVET curriculum program within institutions was examined. Emphasis was placed on performance and evaluation of learning, and curriculum accreditation. Partnering with industry in curriculum design and adding communication skills in engineering fields to improve the quality of TVET programs was suggested. Other presentations related to TVET curriculum touched on: 1) evaluation of community based programs, especially when there is no equitable distribution of resources; and 2) evaluation of emerging technologies-ubiquitous learning systems. The ubiquitous learning system reengineers education and training and is yet to be evaluated. Furthermore, its impact and application to developing countries has not been identified. Presentations in the afternoon shared information on research studies/evaluation projects on TVET programs as well as practical approaches to evaluation.

While the difficulty of evaluating TVET programs was acknowledged, not evaluating TVET was considered not an option. The Kirkpatrick's four-level evaluation model was recommended for evaluation of TVET programs. The model measures: 1) customer satisfaction (reaction); 2) whether participants have acquired knowledge and/or increased skills (knowledge); 3) behavior changes (behavior); and 4) impact of training on organizational results (results) (see Kirkpatrick, 1987). On the whole, this conference was loaded with valuable information on evaluation of TVET and the presentations offered numerous evaluation tools, techniques and approaches. A big thanks to the conference organizers for bringing such an important and yet neglected topic to the table.

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## PRESENTATIONS AT THE IVETA AWARDS LUNCHEON



**The Silvius Wolansky Award**, to an Outstanding Leader in Technical Vocational Education, was presented by President Tom McArdle to **Dr Man-Gon Park**, Director General and Chief Executive Officer of the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education, in Manila. The College is an intergovernmental international organization for Human Resource Development in Asia and the Pacific Region. The award is sponsored by Iowa State University.

Dr Park is an expert in computer information systems and multimedia. Dr Park has been a consultant to numerous projects in many Asian countries including China, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Korea, Vietnam and other countries, funded by international bodies such as the Asian Development Board, and the International Labor Organization. Dr Park has coordinated many regional, national and customized training programs for a wide range of private companies, government and other agencies, and the development of information systems for industry and government. Led by Dr Park, the Colombo Staff College has developed a web based, cyber, teaching and learning system for open and flexible learning which can be accessed by technical education and training institutions to provide customized and cost effective training.

Dr Park continues to hold appointment as Chairman and Head Professor of the Department of Computer Science at Pukyong National University, Korea, and is Vice-President of the Korean Multimedia Society. He has a Commendation from the Korean Government for his achievements in developing networking and web-based information systems. He has held visiting Professorships at the Universities of Liverpool, UK; Kansas, USA; and been a scholar at the University of South Australia.

**The Valued Supporter of IVETA award**, to an IVETA member, for exceptional support during the past year, was presented by Raimo Sivonen Vice-President – Europe to **Dr Olga Oleynikova**, Director of the Centre for Vocational Education and Training Studies of the Russian Federation. Olga led with her team of colleagues the organization of the successful 15<sup>th</sup> IVETA International conference with the theme VET and Lifelong Learning. Participants gained insight into current VET issues, in the Russian Federation, many shared internationally, and an opportunity to experience Russian hospitality and culture, fulfilling IVETA's objectives of promoting international professional linkages, sharing problems and solutions, and facilitating dissemination.



As a coordinator of international projects Dr Oleynikova has visited many countries in Europe, Japan, Thailand, South Korea, and the United States, and participates in numerous Vocational Education projects linking Russia with the European community, currently concerning student mobility.



**The Robert D Cain Business/Organization Award**, in recognition of new or continuing support to IVETA, was made to **Buffalo City Public College FET, East London, South Africa**. Abel Modungwa, IVETA Vice President – Africa, received the plaque on behalf of Philip Loots Chief Executive Officer of the college. The award acknowledges the support the college has given to the achievement of IVETA's objectives through the commitment of Philip Loots as a recent President of IVETA. Philip has taken a major role in ensuring and sustaining the development of Regional IVETA Conferences, and in particular in Cape Town 2003, Botswana 2005 and the coming 5<sup>th</sup> conference in May to be held in Mauritius.

### PRESENTATIONS AT THE IVETA AWARDS LUNCHEON



*(cont'd from page 4)*  
**Robert D Cain Certificates** for support to IVETA throughout the year were also presented by President –elect David Fretwell to: **Edupoli**, Finland, for website support (received by Markku Kantonen, Principal)



**Indiana State University**, College of Technology, for developing on-line registration and mailing facilities  
(Davison Mupinga)



The **University of Tennessee**, Department of Human Resource Development, for support to the Journal Editor (Ernest Brewer); and **VTECS**, Consortium for Innovative Career and Workforce Development resources, for media and conference support (Brenda Hattaway and Ron McCage).



IVETA also awarded a “**Special Certificate of Appreciation**” to Leila I. Lahti, Finland, for her continuing contributions to the Association and to Technical Vocational Education and Training. When Leila joined IVETA in 1995, she was Principal of Helsinki IV College of Health Care Professionals, and Head of the Union of Vocational Principals Organization in Finland. Recognized for her exemplary leadership in health care, the President of Finland named her “Counsellor for Health Care”. Leila was instrumental in organizing the 1997 International IVETA Conference held in Helsinki. She served two terms as General Secretary, and has regularly participated in IVETA conferences and meetings. Leila received the 1998 “Joel Magisos Exceptional Service Award”. Past-President Jeanette Daines spoke of her collegiality, sense of humour and enjoyment of cultural experiences.

In conclusion, David Fretwell thanked Christopher Parkin, Chairman of the Awards Committee, for managing the awards-making process and facilitating proceedings.

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Professional Micro-Grant Program (PMGP) is available to assist individual IVETA members from developing countries to experiment, adapt, and develop new approaches in VET (vocational education and training) and disseminate the results to the international VET Community. This grant is intended to strengthen IVETA’s ability to foster and promote professional linkages, assist in the further development of VET as an international enterprise, and facilitate the world-wide dissemination of vocational education and training information. Individuals interested in applying for the PMGP grant, or who are interested in making a contribution or donation to the PMGP Fund, are requested to visit: <http://www.iveta.org/microgrant.pdf> for additional information and the application guidelines. Submit Applications or email enquires to Bonaventure Wanjala Kerre at: [bwkerre@yahoo.com](mailto:bwkerre@yahoo.com)



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**Theme:** Integration of Education and Training to Achieve Occupational Competence for sustainable Development in Africa

**Conference Date :** 13 - 16 May 2007

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Interested speakers are invited and encourage to submit their abstract according to sub-theme topics  
The sub-themes are as follows:-

- **Education and Training:** how can and should general and vocational technical education in secondary and post secondary institutions can be linked to provide youth with broad competencies that will ensure that they can continue to participate in changing economies in Africa.
- **TVET as a Tool for Poverty Alleviation:** what specific steps can and should TVET take to ensure equity of access to the labor market for disenfranchised and disadvantaged groups (i.e. youth who have dropped out of schools, women, illiterate adults, handicapped, etc.) thus allowing these individuals to benefit from and sustain the economy.
- **Importance of Growth of the Informal Sector:** how can the informal sector, which is critical for growth of employment in Africa, increasingly be part of and linked with the "value chain" of the formal sector, contribute to sustained economic growth, and sustain public services via contribution to the tax base of the State ?
- **Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Development:** what are the challenges to sustainability of SMEs in Africa, how can TVET help SMEs address these challenges so SMEs can sustain existing growth and support the internal economy, as well as contribute more effectively to the value chain of larger export enterprises.
- **Adult Continuing Education (ACE) as an integral part of Lifelong Learning;** How can the governance, administration, financing and delivery of ACE be improved to help ensure existing workers have opportunities to upgrade their skills to help sustain their employment in the changing economies of Africa.
- **Strategic Partnerships and Networking;** What specific strategic partnerships between private, public, non-government, and other institutions can help address issues of sustainability TVET, and its contribution to sustaining and growing the changing economies in Africa.
- **Financing of TVET:** TVET is often plagued by a lack of funds to sustain institutions and programs that have been initiated by special internal, and/or external bilateral or multilateral, funding. What steps can and should be done to evaluate the social and economic rate of rate of return for TVET, and what are options for obtaining non-government, private, and public funds to provide recurrent financing for institutions and programs that have proven results.

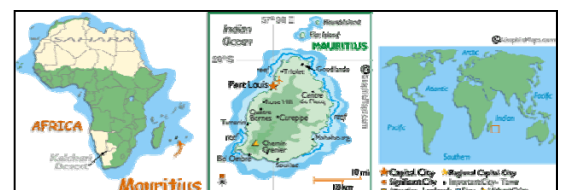
**Deadline: 30th January 2007**

**Cost for attending this conference :**

IVETA members : US\$ 450, Non-Members : US\$ 475, Partners : US\$ 250

For more details on the conference, visit: <http://ivetaafrica2007.intnet.mu>. Email us on : [headoffice@ivtb.mu](mailto:headoffice@ivtb.mu)

**Mauritius: Land of dodos**, the famous tourist destination of the Indian Ocean , known for its emerald blue water , lovely pure beaches and its cosmopolitan culture. Book your participation for this conference and at the same time enjoy the unique experience of Mauritius where hospitality is a tradition. Don't miss this opportunity!



## LESSONS FROM THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE



### **VET in the context of Life-long Learning**

The 15<sup>th</sup> IVETA Conference took place in Moscow on August 21-24, 2006. Moscow hosted the 2006 IVETA conference theme “VET in the context of Life-long Learning” upon the request of the IVETA Board to the Russian Centre for VET Studies whose director Dr. Olga Oleynikova joined the IVETA family in 2004 at the 14<sup>th</sup> IVETA Conference.

International organizations at the Conference were represented by the European Training Foundation, UNESCO/ UNEVOC and UNIP. The conference participants numbered over 145 people from 23 countries from all over the globe and regions of RF. From the Russian side the participants were welcomed by the RF Minister of Education and Science, as well as by senior officials from the RF Parliament, and employer organizations. The welcoming address from IVETA was delivered by its President Mr. Tom McArdle.

In the opinion of the participants, the Conference has been successful in enhancing international discourse on such issues as life-long learning; ways to remove barriers to learning and promote CVT and adult education and training; cooperation between VET and the labor market players; quality assurance; qualification frameworks; and development of VET teachers and trainers.

Key-note speeches on the opening day set the tone to the ensuing discussions that revealed a genuine interest of all participants in the themes under discussion. Working groups would often miss lunches and coffee-breaks, unable to cut short the process of exchange and sharing.

The themes discussed embraced various aspects of life-long learning for the knowledge economy, including country perspectives from Finland and Russia; cooperation between business and education; the role of VET as a foundation for a new social security model; factors impacting on learning, including the aging of the population across the world; needs of teachers and training and new curricula that may enhance the motivation and prestige of VET teachers and trainers; ways to enhance quality of VET, including the role of occupational standards and national qualifications illustrated by country cases; and challenges and solutions for TVET development in the European countries in transition.

The discussions revealed that despite the variety and differences of the geographic and economic contexts of the participants they shared the same concerns and were strong believers in the added value of international cooperation in addressing the common challenges and problems.

Like at all IVETA Conferences the high energy level was due to the variety and multitude of perspectives the participants so eagerly shared.

Summing up the conference discussions and outcomes, in his concluding speech “Lessons learnt” President Tom McArdle underlined a few points that capture the spirit and the soul of the Conference.

He pointed out that after a period of marginalization from around 1980 to 1996 (when globalization and technology became important drivers of education reform), the importance and profile of VET has become more apparent in the world,



## LESSONS FROM THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE

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VET having even made way to the agenda of the recent G8 meeting. Across countries and continents VET institutions and systems have undergone tremendous reform in the past ten years that are transforming the field. The major reforms include:

- How VET is financed and governed - diversifying sources of finance and including stakeholders in decision making;
- Diversification of VET providers, with a growing share of private providers;
- Improved relevance and linkages to employers and other stakeholders;
- Adopting (and adapting) standards-driven, competency-based approaches;
- An improved focus on effectiveness and efficiency in training provision; and
- An overall recognition of the importance of “quality” in the provisions.

These reforms, along with new and innovative approaches, are now sometimes ahead of both formal education systems and many of the more traditional employers and concern such issues, as:

The lifelong learning concept; National and regional qualifications frameworks; Occupational standards; new quality assurance mechanisms, and A focus on outcomes and demand, rather than inputs and supply.

The reforms, however, have not dealt with all of the serious challenges, leaving unresolved such issues, as:

- Prestige of VET that in most countries involved in IVETA, is inferior to tertiary and university education, especially among parents, and, perhaps, even among educators.
- Most countries continue to struggle with both high unemployment (especially for youth and women) and shortages of highly skilled workers.
- There is a great need for our VET systems to upgrade the existing workers and involve them more in Lifelong learning activities.
- There is a continued over-reliance on institution or centre-based training, and difficulties in stimulating enterprise based training (the training that is the most relevant and efficient) that includes recognition and qualifications for the learners/workers.
- The need to provide compensatory educational instruction for school leavers who do not acquire sufficient basic educational competencies (key or core competencies).

Particular areas of concern or weakness often include:

- Inadequate career guidance and counseling provisions; Inadequate labor market information; Loss of national skills to migration; Weak articulation of VET and tertiary education, despite the idea that VET reforms addressing relevance, for example occupational standards, have great potential in the tertiary sector.

The Way Forward may envisage:

- Consolidation and extension of the reforms already undertaken, and better integration of the education system

### LESSONS FROM THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE

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and the training system;

- Enabling learners to reach higher skill levels after basic training, and this involves challenges of both promotion and financing;
- More outreach and promotion of articulation and transferability;
- A stronger emphasis on the “soft” skills: communication, working in diversity, teamwork, project oriented learning, and the like;
- Continued strengthening of assessment processes and the Quality Assurance of those processes;
- The need to demonstrate with empirical data, how VET provides a good return on investment, and how National Qualification Frameworks and National Qualification systems bring marginalized groups into the economy and improve standards of living;
- Improving entrepreneurship training and services to SMEs, since more people will need to work on their own account but within the formal economy, and career guidance services;
- Becoming even more stakeholder driven and partnership focused-increasing cooperation and voluntary participation based on perceived benefits and value;
- Improving the performance (and not just the rhetoric) of recognition of prior learning (RPL) “multiple pathways” and the use of technology and distance education;
- Exploring further the role of VET in the social security provisions of nations, and
- Influencing both secondary education and tertiary education reforms to improve relevance of these segments of the education provisions.

In summary, concluded President McArdle, great things are possible for VET if there is an inspiring vision, a challenging, socially and economically relevant mission, and the leadership and management skills to actualize the common vision of enhancing skills to facilitate investment and job creation that ultimately generates the wealth and meets the aspirations of the people. This improves the social cohesion that must serve as the basis for improved international relations and peace.

The Russian Chair of the Conference in his closing remarks, mapped further steps for VET modernization in Russia prompted by the Conference discussions, with a special emphasis on developing a national strategy of life-long learning, accelerating the development of the national qualifications framework, enhancing cooperation with employers to build outcome-based VET.

For conference resolution and way forward please see Volume 22 Number 4

## ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



**Report by, Prof. (Dr.) Shyamal Majumdar,  
Regional Vice President**

Policy initiatives and strategy developments are diverse and manifold for transforming and repositioning the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) systems of the Asia & the Pacific countries. Policy reforms have been focused on strengthening TVET legal and institutional frameworks in such critical concerns as policy-making, policy coordination, planning and structural improvement. Capability-building has been a strategic thrust in TVET including teacher education and staff development, physical facilities upgrading and curriculum development.

Standards development, accreditation, national skills certification and framework for national vocational qualifications have been initiated. These aim at ensuring quality and relevance of programmes as well as improving the external efficiency of the TVET systems. Outsourcing and cost recovery measures have been tried out to broaden the financial base for TVET. Sustainability of TVET could be a big concern insofar as ensuring the continuing role of government as the main provider and investor in training initiatives. Corollary to this, there have been significant policy initiatives to enhance the private sector participation in TVET provision. With the emerging ICT revolution, the challenge in TVET in the Asia & the Pacific region are diverse. IVETA needs to play an important role to overcome the challenges and put forward the suggestions in the international arena.

Asia & the Pacific region has good potential for IVETA activities. Last year more effort was put on publicizing IVETA in the region particularly where there were no members. As the region is very vast and diverse it takes time to initiate meaningful dialogues. There were several workshops organized by Colombo Plan Staff College and Asian Development Bank Institute in the region involving various countries. These gave a greater visibility of IVETA in the region with two institutional members being enrolled last year. As a part of the membership drive, several country representatives have been identified for various countries of the region. With this effort there is hope that IVETA members will be increased in the coming years.

A number of delegates from this region attended the 2006 IVETA-Moscow conference and interacted with other members. There will always be support for IVETA in the region for the promotion of TVET system. There is an aspiration to organize a regional conference in collaboration with several organizations in the year 2007 in Sri Lanka.



Kenneth Morrison

## LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

The region of Latin America and the Caribbean continues to recognize the critical role for Technical Vocational Education and Training in its development, in a world economy characterized by globalization and the resulting challenges of this new world order. The countries of the region continues to take initiatives and make strides in Vocational Education and Training, as more countries have implemented strategies to strengthen and expand Vocational Education and Training in their economies.

October 2006 saw the staging of the 37<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee meeting of CINTERFOR/ILO in the Dominican Republic. The partnership between the International Labor Organization and the countries of the region also resulted in the ILO providing support for Information Communication Technology in Teacher/Instructor training.

The Ministry of Education in Trinidad & Tobago has taken the decision to implement the Vocational Qualifications in secondary schools in that country by September 2007. Work with the Ministry of Education to provide occupational standards, and the training of assessors to guide and facilitate the general process is also in progress.

Jamaica has already introduced Level 1 NVQ's in schools and has been providing technical assistance to a number of countries to facilitate this process in the various countries. These countries include St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada.

The TVET Council of Barbados is scheduled to introduce Vocational Qualifications in that country shortly, while the Caribbean Examination Council is involved in preparatory work which should culminate in the issuing of competency-based occupational certification.

The Caribbean Association of National Training Agencies (CANTA) is providing some amount of leadership in the process of workforce certification in the region and has produced a document entitled, '**The CARICOM-Approved Process for Workforce Training, Assessment and Certification**'. This document represents the final outcome of a collaborative effort by the CARICOM Secretariat, the National Training Agencies of Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, the TVET Council of Barbados, the OECS TVET focal point and the NCTVET of Jamaica.

The document outlines the workforce training and certification process from the stakeholder representation to the end-point of training and certifying a competent individual, based on the competency-based outcomes standards-driven philosophy. The document will now be promulgated and used as the guide for training, assessment and certification throughout the CARICOM/CANTA region. It is recognized that CANTA has an integral role in promoting workforce certification in the region and also the need for the further expansion of this role through partnerships with agencies/institutions, including the following: (i) Employer groups (ii) The regional examining body and (iii) Ministries of Education/Labor and Enterprises

There are also plans to develop a database with information from the NTA's, and TVET focal points in the region, in preparation for an ILO-sponsored Caribbean Employment Forum.

The goals of the CANTA include:

- The development of a CANTA website to be hosted by Trinidad. The ILO will provide assistance for this project.
- The tabling of occupational standards by the NTA's in order to update the CARICOM-approved List of Occupational Standards for use in the region.
- Greater emphasis to be placed on the Prior Learning Method of Assessment to facilitate the certification of the expanding regional workforce and
- The development of stronger links with the Spanish-speaking countries in the region

## Membership

The drive to increase membership in the region continues to encounter numerous challenges, however, we are intensifying our efforts to expand the number of countries with member in IVETA by:

- Encouraging existing members to renew their membership as well as
- Encouraging new applicants to register as members of IVETA

The executive decision by IVETA to appoint country liaison representatives to assist with the work of the Association in areas such as communication and membership development, is a strategy with tremendous potential for success. Already, contact has been made with representatives from three (3) countries in the region – one response has been received and the individual has accepted the invitation to serve in this capacity.

We anticipate that as the rules and principles (terms of reference) to guide the operation of the country liaison representatives are clarified and finalized, additional persons will volunteer their services in this area. We also expect that this strategy will facilitate greater involvement of the non-English speaking countries in Latin America and the Caribbean in the activities of the International Vocational Education and Training Association (IVETA).

## CENTRAL ASIA & EASTERN EUROPE



### Report by Dr Riza Gurbuz, Ankara University, Turkey

Turkey is changing its Vocational and Technical Education System according EU TVET system. Turkey also has good contacts with some universities and two-year colleges in USA. Opportunities exists for IVETA to develop some projects in Turkey. One approach of developing such projects is through collaboration in Turkey with universities and two-year college partners. Minnesota University and College System (MnSCU), Bemidji State University and Ankara University have been developing an on-line bachelor of science degree program since 2004. The Community Colleges for International Development (CCID) is implementing short term staff and student exchange programs with some two-year colleges.

The 2006 IVETA–Moscow Conference was advertised to IVETA members and colleagues in Turkey. Dr. Riza Gurbuz from Ankara University and Dr. Nermin Fenmen from Bilkent University attended the conference and presented two papers.

IVETA membership forms were sent to some colleagues at universities, private companies and non-governmental organizations to increase the IVETA membership in Turkey. Turkey has good potential for IVETA activities but these could not be achieved because of low numbers of IVETA members in Central Asia and Eastern Europe Region. On the brighter side, IVETA membership is expected to increase in 2007 following the appointment of a new Regional Vice President

To increase the IVETA members in Turkey, contact should be established with TIKA (Turkish International Cooperation Agency) and FESTO Automation Company and The Development of Technological Education and Training Foundation (TEGEV).

## EUROPEAN REPORT

European Union will expand next time at the beginning of year 2007 with Bulgaria and Romania consisting after that of 27 countries. Membership applications have been made by Croatia, Macedonia and Turkey. But the negotiations are not so simple. But anyway in some European Union funding programmes applicant countries can be participants because the idea to integrate their economy and practices to Europe.

Some of IVETA European members were participating IVETA Moscow international conference in August 2006. It was noticed European Training Foundation (ETF) as a significant partner in Moscow conference arrangements. IVETA is marked as a partner in EFVET's (European Forum of Vocational Education and Training) policy papers. Moscow conference was reported in EFVET Newsletter published in October 2006.

### **'Lifelong learning': a new education and training programme to build the Knowledge Society**

For the first time, a single programme will cover learning opportunities from childhood to old age. The Lifelong Learning Programme will cover the period 2007-2013, and is the successor to the current Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci and eLearning programmes. It has a budget of €7 bn to support projects and activities that foster interchange, cooperation and mobility between education and training systems within the EU, so that they become a world quality reference.

The Lifelong Learning Programme is actually an over-arching structure that is built on **four pillars**, or sub-programmes. Grants and subsidies will be awarded to projects under each of these that enhance the trans-national mobility of individuals, promote bilateral and multilateral partnerships, or improve quality in education and training systems through multi-lateral projects encouraging innovation, for example. The four pillars are:

The **Comenius** programme (€1,047 million) addresses the teaching and learning needs of all those in **pre-school and school education** up to the level of the end of upper secondary education, and the institutions and organisations providing such education; The **Erasmus** programme (€3,114 million) addresses the teaching and learning needs of all those in formal **higher education**, including trans-national student placements in enterprise, and the institutions and organisations providing or facilitating such education and training;

The **Leonardo da Vinci** programme (€1,725 million) addresses the teaching and learning needs of all those in **vocational education and training**, including placement in enterprise of persons other than students, as well as the institutions and organisations providing or facilitating such education and training;

The **Grundtvig** programme (€358 million) addresses the teaching and learning needs of those in all forms of **adult education**, as well as the institutions and organisations providing or facilitating such education. These four pillars are joined by what will be known as a **'transversal programme'** (€369 million). And by the new **Jean Monnet** programme (€170 million) will support European educational institutions in actions on other fields of European integration.

### **The European Qualifications Framework: a new way to understand qualifications across Europe**

The Commission adopted a proposal for a Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning (EQF). The EQF will provide a common language to describe qualifications which will help Member States, employers and individuals compare qualifications across the EU's diverse education and training systems.

The core element of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) is a set of **eight reference levels** describing what a learner knows, understands and is able to do — their **'learning outcomes'** — regardless of the system where a particular qualification was acquired. The EQF reference levels therefore shift the focus away from the traditional approach, which emphasises learning inputs (length of a learning experience, type of institution). The eight levels **cover the entire span of qualifications** from those achieved at the end of compulsory education to those awarded at the highest level of academic and professional or vocational education and training.



Shifting the focus to learning outcomes:

**supports** a better match between the needs of the labour market (for knowledge, skills and competences) and education and training provisions;  
**facilitates the validation** of non-formal and informal learning;

**facilitates the transfer** and use of qualifications across different countries and education and training systems.

As an instrument for the promotion of lifelong learning, the EQF encompasses general and adult education, vocational education and training, as well as higher education.

The draft recommendation foresees that Member States relate their national qualifications systems to the EQF by 2009.

## Europass

Europass consists of five documents, which aim to help learners and workers demonstrate their competence in other parts of Europe. The documents are used in the same format in all EU/EEA countries. People can use Europass when looking for work or applying for education and training programmes.

The basic Europass document is the Europass CV, which learners or workers can supplement with other Europass documents as required. These include the Europass Language Passport, the Europass Mobility document and international supplements to qualification certificates (Europass Certificate Supplement and Europass Diploma Supplement).

## Cooperation with third countries

Many countries around the world are seeking multilateral cooperation with universities and training centres in the European Union. The Commission supports these links with third countries through a range of programmes :

Agreements with the [USA](#) and [Canada](#),

The [Tempus](#) programme, which covers the countries of the former Soviet Union, the western Balkans and Mongolia, and which was extended in June 2002 to the EU's **Mediterranean partners**.

The [ALFA](#) and [Alban](#) programmes for **Latin America**

[AsiaLink](#), which involves many countries in **Asia**

Pilot projects with [Australia](#) and [Japan](#)

The [EDULINK](#) programme in higher education for the **African, Caribbean and Pacific** (ACP) region.

Transnational education is becoming increasingly common in Europe. Many EU Member States have already developed bilateral relations with other countries in the area of higher education, and there are a number of [transnational higher education initiatives](#) within the European Union. However, the Commission believes more should be done if European universities and learning centres are to derive the full benefits of internationalisation in education.

## IVETA EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT REPORT



**Barbara Ann  
Herrmann**

IVETA finished 2005 with 186 members. Our individual membership continues to decrease. This includes 48 people covered within 16 institutional members (three more than 2005). If we can keep these and add the two new 2007 institutional members we will be approaching 20. Currently there are 16 journal orders mainly through EBSCO, Swets Blackwell and DA Information Services PTY, LTD. This is an increase.

Dues for 2007 have begun to come in. As of November 30<sup>th</sup> when all renewals were processed to date we had three cancellations due to job changes or retirement. We have processed 40 renewals for 2007. This leaves 126 who have yet to renew. All those with emails have received renewals. We still need to process the renewals for those without emails or emails that no longer work. This is about 10 people. Every person who renews receives an email that serves as a receipt of payment along with a copy of his or her information for the membership directory along with information on how to access the IVETA Intranet.

The amount we received for copyright from the EU has decreased substantially to around \$750. On the bright side we did our first every registration on line for the conference. This worked very well. We received few complaints. Thanks to Davison Mupinga we also have our first Listserv so that we can contact all members at once. The challenge is going to be to keep it current.

The directory and the newsletter are online rather than being mailed. No one has requested a printed copy. Challenges that face the Executive Secretariat and IVETA include the following:

- Invoices are being emailed out to individuals. However there is no way to include the application form which each person is to fill out each year. One way of overcoming this is the responses we get back to the directory listing.
- Intranet: We have used the same password for the last four years. We have not changed it. Currently some of the information on the Intranet site is out of date.
- Quickbooks continues to be a challenge as we have not had time to investigate all the possibilities.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Continue to print some copies of the journal for the writers and those who pay for copies.
2. Investigate changing the IVETA web site so that people can fill out the application form online and email it to the Executive Secretariat. In addition to receiving payments by credit card add payments through QuickBooks Pro. This could cut the cost of wire transfers on both ends. On this end they are up to \$25 each.

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## EVALUATION OF IVETA PRODUCTS & SERVICES

The executive committee would like IVETA members to participate in a survey evaluating IVETA's products and services. The objective of the survey is to see how existing services meet the needs of our current members to improve, and potentially expand the existing services to meet the changing needs of Technical Vocational Education and Training.

**REMINDER:** Please respond to the survey at: <http://webforms.indstate.edu/iveta>. When you reach the site, please click on 'Add Responses'. As you complete the survey, keep in mind the above goals. Remember to click send response button at the bottom of the survey when you are finished. Please note that information on individual members will not be divulged or made available to anyone outside IVETA Executive Committee.



## IN PICTURES....

### Registration



### Presentations



### Informal Sessions



### Luncheon





# IVETA Journal, Newsletter and Membership

186 Wedgewood Drive  
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USA



## The International Journal of Vocational Education & Training

The International Journal of Vocational Education and Training is the official publication of IVETA and is published biannually. The journal reflects regional contributions and is international in scope. It provides a forum for the discussion of vocational education and training issues and practices; assists in the dissemination of information, research and practice; and strengthens the lines of communication among individual researchers and practitioners, institutions and organizations. In addition, it provides a platform for individual views on relevant issues. Articles published in the journal are selected by an editorial board. Membership in IVETA is required to publish in the journal.

To submit articles for consideration, please contact the editor Ernest W. Brewer by email at: [ewbrewer@utk.edu](mailto:ewbrewer@utk.edu). For more information on ordering back issues and submission of articles, please visit: <http://www.iveta.org/journals.htm>

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### IVETA Newsletter

Do you have any news on vocational education and training that you want to share? Then, consider the IVETA Newsletter. The newsletter is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. To submit items for the newsletter, please send these to the Newsletter Editor by the following dates:

- Dec 15, for January issue (vol. 1)
- March 15, for April issue (vol. 2)
- June 15, for July issue (vol. 3)
- Sept 15, for Oct. issue (vol. 4)

Submit items by email to:  
[dmupinga@isugw.indstate.edu](mailto:dmupinga@isugw.indstate.edu)

## INTERESTED in JOINING IVETA ?

IVETA is an organization and network of vocational educators, vocational skills training organizations, business and industrial firms, and other individuals and groups interested or involved in vocational education and training worldwide. IVETA is dedicated to the advancement and improvement of high-quality vocational education and training wherever it exists and wherever it is needed

Therefore, consider becoming involved with an expanding, innovative organization that can help you reach out across international borders to assist in and be assisted by vocational education and training developments in many countries.



#### For further information

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Web Address: <http://www.iveta.org>

### Online Member Directory

An electronic version of the IVETA membership directory is available for download from the IVETA website through a link under the 'Members Only' section of the website.

### Consulting in Human Resources Development:

- Education & Training
- Marketing for Education & Training
- Fundraising
- EU- Projects
- Congress Management



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