Dear FEDORA member,

with this newsletter, we would like to inform you about the latest developments in our association since the Congress in Berlin, October 05 - 07, 2009.

New EC, new Board

At the Congress, the General Assembly has elected a new Executive Committee (EC) which has elected a new Board, consisting of Willy Aastrup, DK (Board member), Eva Egger-Zeidner, A, (General Secretary), Eric Depreeuw, B, (Treasurer), Francien Bouhuijs, NL, (Vice President) and Hans-Werner Rueckert, D, (President). Francien and Eric have already been members of the old Board. Our warm thanks go to those members of the old Board, who left office: Paula Ferrer-Sama, ES, (General Secretary), Per Christian Andersen, DK, (Treasurer), Ann Conlon, UK, (Vice President) and Christian Cormier, F, (President). We would also like to thank the members of the old EC for their work over the last three years.

Also, the General Assembly elected former FEDORA President Gerhart Rott als Honorary President.

The old and the new Board will meet in Brussels on January 9, 2010. The first EC-meeting will take place in Leiden on February 6, 2010.

FEDORA - EAIE

The General Assembly has adopted the proposal to explore a possible merger with the European Association for International Education EAIE. You can find all the relevant information about this proposal and its consequences in the membership section of the FEDORA website http://www.fedora.eu.org. Thus, FEDORA will join the EAIE as a Special Interest Group with the beginning of 2010. The Working Groups will meet with their counterparts in the EAIE and a Steering Group from the EAIE and FEDORA will monitor the process. Parallel to that, we will work on an alternative plan to sustain and revive FEDORA in case the merger turns out not to be feasible. First meetings with the EAIE representatives will take place before the end of the year and the first meeting of the Steering Group is scheduled for January 21, 2010. We will keep you informed about the progress.

Membership fee

One of the basic advantages of the cooperation with the EAIE will be the professional membership administration and payment of the membership fee by credit card. We will work out the necessary procedures and tell you in a next newsletter how to pay your membership fee for 2010.

FEDORA on Linkedin.com

Francien has brought FEDORA to Linkedin.com, a business-oriented social networking site: www.linkdin.com. She has created a group (FEDORA European Forum for Student Guidance) with the Working Groups as subgroups. Some of you will be on Linkedin already

and could search for the FEDORA group and subgroups and register for them. Others have to start making a new account and then register for the groups. We think this community/tool could be a good replacement for the Forum on the FEDORA website, which is rarely used by members. In these groups you will find the profiles of every member. And it is also possible to start discussions or announce things.

Forthcoming events

FEDORA will participate in the 22. Annual EAIE-conference in Nantes, France, 15–18 September 2010.

Possibly, there will be a conference from the Career Guidance and Employment Group in June in Bordeaux – details to follow.

The Psyche Working Group had planned to have this year's conference in Oxford. Due to unforeseeable high financial risks in case less than 100 people would participate, the conference can not take place there. Our special thanks go to Elsa Bell in Oxford for her preparatory work of this conference.

Since we now need to think about another place for the Psyche conference, we would like to invite our members to host this conference and will gladly provide all necessary assistance in the preparation of such an event.

Finally, we would like to send you our season's greetings, with the best wishes for you and your families for the New Year

On behalf of the FEDORA Board Hans-Werner Rueckert