

**ACTIVITY REPORT
2016-2018
Proposed by the Board to the General Assembly
to be held in Aarhus, Denmark on 8th May 2018**

This report covers the period: 27th April 2016 – 8th May 2018

INTRODUCTION

On the 27th April 2016, the General Assembly of FESET, held in Strasbourg, France elected, in conformity with the statutes, a new Board, which will leave its office on 8th May 2018.

The new elected Board consisted of 11 members from 8 different countries:

OPHELIA ACHTON, DK	EEVA TIMONEN-KALLIO, FI
JOLANTA PIVORIENE, LT	AOIFE PRENDERGAST, IE
ARNOUD SIMONIS, NL	MAURIZIO FRATIANNI, CH
GILLES LUGRIN, CH	MARIE-JOSÉE (JOKE) MAES, BE
FRANCOIS GILLET, BE	MARIE-PIERRE NAZON, FR
BEATICE MULLER, FR	
JEAN-MARIE HEYDT, FR	

The new Board elected on 27th of April 2016 the new Executive, composed of:

- Arnoud Simonis, President
- Eeva Timonen-Kallio, Vice-President
- Maurizio Fratianni, Treasurer
- Marie-Josée Maes, General Secretary

Regarding the administrative work, FESET secretariat has been done from Haute Ecole de travail social EESP, Lausanne (Switzerland), since June 2015 by Cristina Machado (feset-adm@eesp.ch).

The new elected Board met 4 times between April 2016 and May 2018:

- Strasbourg (France), 29th April 2016 (held after the Seminar and General Assembly)
- Leuven (Belgium), 7-8th October 2016
- Vilnius (Lithuania), 31st March-1st April 2017
- Aarhus (Denmark), 26-27th October 2017

The last Board meeting will be held in advance of the FESET Seminar in Aarhus on 7th May 2018. In order to maintain the costs of the board as low as possible, most of the work has been completed in the commissions or working groups through e-mail and skype. The active committees are: Seminar programme committee, Seminar steering committee, Editorial Board, Website/Communication committee.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES BETWEEN 2016 AND 2018

1. MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL SITUATION

Since 2016, we welcomed 3 new members:

- Portugal, Porto, FEP/Universidade Catolica Portuguesa
- Spain, Valencia, Universidad Catolica de Valencia
- Dr. Ana M. Sobočan, PhD - University of Ljubljana, Faculty for Social Work - Ljubljana - Slovenia

This brings the total number of FESET members to exactly 92:

88 Schools or Universities from 17 European countries,

3 associated members out of Europe (ILEX-USA, University of Maine-USA and Kuwait University),

1 individual member

In recent years, in Europe there is a current merging process of schools and integrations between schools. Schools are expanding, but the total number of schools is decreasing. It is the expectation that the merging of schools will continue.

There are and become less (bigger) schools and hence less FESET members. This has implications for FESET, especially regarding the income of FESET. Member schools pay an annual membership fee to FESET.

The financial health of FESET depends on 2 main factors:

1 - Annual payment of the membership fee.

2 - Reduced expenses of the members of the Board. This is possible on the basis of their voluntary work and thanks to the support for travelling expenses granted by their schools and universities (only 2 nights hotel costs is being paid by FESET during regular Board meetings).

The second factor has very well contributed to the financial situation.

The first factor is a matter of concern in two ways. First, as there are less members, we have to consider a raise of the annual membership fee in order to keep the balance sheet healthy.

Secondly, we face that annual payment of membership fees is becoming increasingly difficult.

Three recalls has allowed FESET to obtain in 2015 only 72 fees over the 92.

In 2016 it was a seminar year and members are more eager to pay. In 2017 we had some members leaving unexpectedly and the fees where paid by 56 members only.

FESET Bank account registers all the transactions and financial operations, which are revised by an external reviewer. The financial situation of FESET at 30-03-2017 is €74'590.91

The 2018 situation will be presented and outlined with the revision of accounts during the General Assembly.

2. COUNCIL OF EUROPE (COE): FESET AS AN INTERNATIONAL NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION WITH PARTICIPATIVE STATUS (INGO)

Since 2003, participant status has been conferred on the INGOs which, like FESET, enjoyed previously a consultative status. This gives a major weighting to the voice of civil society in the decisions taken by the political and decision-making organs of the Council of Europe. This requires also a greater engagement of the INGOs and offers to FESET and its members a concrete opportunity to be involved in the projects of the Council.

Jean-Marie Heydt (Strasbourg, France) represents FESET at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, taking an active role in the meetings held four times a year. In the period 2016-2018 efforts and agreements were made to strengthen the relationship between the COE and FESET. Two FESET

Board members (Eeva Timonen-Kallio and Maurizio Fratianni) were allocated as contact persons for the COE. Jean-Marie Heydt also gave a presentation at the FESET Seminar in Strasbourg. Despite these efforts, the obtained results are disappointing, as we do not experience a win/win situation role for the FESET activities.

As J.M. Heydt will cease his activities in January 2018, FESET will have to reflect on the issue of having a representative at the COE and, in case, find somebody to replace him.

3. EDITORIAL BOARD

The general mission for the editorial board is to conceive and to execute a publishing policy and produce the FESET periodical review; European Journal of Social Education/Journal Européen d'Éducation Sociale, peer reviewed and editorially accepted articles in English and French.

Members of the Editorial Board (2016-2018):

- Marie-Pierre Nazon, France (co-editor FR)
- Eeva Timonen-Kallio, Finland (co-editor EN)
- Ophelia Achton, Denmark (co-editor)
- François Gillet, Belgium (co-editor)
- Aiofe Prendergast, Ireland (co-editor EN)

In 2016-2018 there was a working group, instead of a chief editor, who did this work. The editor in chief has been a position for turnovers and passed to different people last year. Call for abstracts and editing procedure has been hard effort and time consuming for the editorial board in this period of time. The EJSE issue 28-29-2017 was published by the workgroup.

European Journal of Social Education / Journal Européen d'Éducation Sociale

European Journal of Social Education/Journal Européen d'Éducation Sociale is a refereed critical and informative journal concerned with theory, practice and methods in social educational care work and social pedagogy. Aiofe Prendergast, Ireland has now taken over the position of Chief Editor of this Journal.

Authors are invited and encouraged to reflect the diversity of social pedagogical approaches and theoretical thinking to promote innovative socio-educational learning and care work practices.

The European Journal of Social Education aim is to promote discussion on ideas, research results, training methods and practices between teachers, researchers, professionals and other contributors or responsible actors in the socio-educational field. Special issues devoted to a particular theme alternate ordinary issues, which are organized in 4 sections:

Focus on training

Developments in theoretical approaches and structured training methods.

Target groups

Socio-educational practices, field experiences and methods concerning community education, activating to work or other educational actions with different groups (from early childhood to elderly; disabled; marginalised users).

Social politics

An informative and critical review on national or local politics for social education and social work, as well as discussion about social politics of the Council of Europe and EU.

Book review

This section will present readers contributions on books of interest for teaching and/or relevant for practices. Special issues devoted to a particular theme alternate ordinary issues

The Journal has a blind reviewing procedure since 2010. In the year 2018 there are 32 peer reviewers, all with PhDs, covering 11 European countries. Editorial procedure is improved by updated 'call for articles' and 'guidelines for authors'.

The license agreement between EBSCO and FESET allows our journal to be accessible also in many universities in addition to on-line journal in <http://www.feset.org/publications/published-numbers-pdf>, and this has the potential to bring our Journal to a much wider audience.

Volume 28/29 – 2017 has been published online on the FESET website as an open source (<http://www.feset.org/archives/1683>). To publish the journal only in an electronic version reduces the costs.

Only a small number of hard copies are available for authors and others who wish a subscription for a paper version.

The next journal will go hand in hand with the 2018 Seminar in Aarhus and will be published after the seminar.

4. WEBSITE/COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

The original members of the website committee were Joke Maes and Ophelia Achton. In 2016, Aoife Prendergast, joined the committee, focusing the use of social media.

In 2013 FESET launched an entirely new website (www.feset.org). The committee and Cristina Machado as webmaster have worked on refining and the improvement of the website to make it more attractive, informative and interactive. The website can be used by members for announcements etc. For feeding it with information from members, please submit your content or PDF-file to feset-adm@eesp.ch.

The new logo of FESET has been launched in October 2017. Ofelia Achton coordinated this initiative and took action to have a brand new logo created by a Danish design school.

In October 2017, vice-president Eeva Timonen-Kallio presented the FESET Communication Plan for 2017-2022. The overall aim for the plan is to define the key message of FESET. Another aim is to find different tools for different target groups to deliver our message. In the board meeting in October 2017 the key messages for FESET were defined to be proposed in GA 2018:

1. To debate, critically explore and challenge values and ethical dilemmas underpinning contemporary social educational care work.
2. To promote and inform social pedagogical approaches in future HEI training for social professions.
3. To disseminate innovative pedagogical, teaching and learning methods connected to the service users and individuals that we serve.
4. To build, maintain and enhance partnerships and exchange with other European and International partner associations.

On a more general and principal level, it contains the update and actualization of the leadership, management and working of FESET as a dynamic and fresh organization. As a consequence, an update of the FESET Statutes will also be presented.

5. EUROPEAN SOCIAL ETHICS PROJECT (ESEP)

During this period ESEP has worked on the question of interprofessional ethics.

An article was published about this theme in the European Journal of Social Education (No 26/27 – 2015) written by Ed de Jonge and François Gillet.

ESEP is now looking for new members interested in deepening this question, and another subject that still needs to be explored: institutional ethics.

ESEP will meet in the frame of the 2018 seminar in Aarhus and present a forum and several communications about ethics.

See: <http://www.feset.org/activities/thematic-groups> .

6. FESET SEMINAR

Organising seminars, where professionals in the field of social educational care work and social pedagogy can meet, is one of the main objectives of FESET. These seminars are the European stage for exchanging knowledge, debating (new) developments and networking. FESET organises every second year a seminar, every time at a (member) school in a different country.

The 10TH FESET seminar was held 27–29th April 2016 at ESTES – École Supérieure en Travail Educatif et Social, Strasbourg, France. The seminar theme was: Invisible Persons: Making Humans, Communities and Social Professionals More Visible.

The Seminar was well organised under the supervision of Mrs. Béatrice Müller and the programme and organisational committees. We thank again ESTES for hosting the seminar. We also would like to express our special thanks to Mrs. Fabienne Trentin-Campbell for the practical coordination.

129 participants attended the seminar. There were interesting presentations in the parallel workshops, where many questions were debated on the seminar theme. The atmosphere during the seminar was animated and there were many good discussions and exchanges among the participants.

The participants' evaluation was in general positive. Based on the answers on a small evaluation form (13,2% respons of the participants), an evaluation report was made up.

Evaluators were quite consistent in what they **liked about the Seminar**:

- ✓ The theme of the Seminar and the (quality of the) workshops; also the good discussions in the workshops.
- ✓ The opportunities for networking: meeting colleagues from across Europe and exchanging ideas and perspectives.
- ✓ The good organization: bravo to Estes!

As for the **keynotes**, participants seemed to be satisfied about their content, but it was mentioned sometimes that there were too many keynotes and/or that there was not enough time for discussion or interactivity during or after the key notes.

What could have **improved**, was:

- ✓ As for the organization: the signposting (at the first day?).
- ✓ As for the program: the number of workshops on Friday (the last day of the Seminar) because there were not enough participants.
- ✓ The presence of the invisible clients, social workers and the involvement of students.

Different **suggestions for themes** for the next Seminar were given, although there was no one that really stood out.

We learned from this feedback in the organization for the next Seminar(s).

A short summary of the Seminar and debate before conclusions, was published on the FESET website.

We thank all our FESET participants in the Seminar for their contributions, reflections, insights, making this a really interesting and fruitful Seminar.

For the hosting of the FESET Seminars, the Board decided in April 2016 to organize a bid amongst all member schools for the Seminar of 2020. If this procedure is evaluated positively, it will be adopted as a standard procedure for the future.

7. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

Since 2003, FESET contributed to establish formal and informal relations with other European Associations in the field of social work.

ENSACT

In 2007, FESET was an active partner in establishing ENSACT (European Network for Social ACTion) and since then an active member of this umbrella organisation.

ENSACT consists nowadays of 7 European organisations in the field of social work:

- European Association of Schools of Social Work (**EASSW**): www.eassw.org
- European association of training centres of socio-educational care work / Association Européenne de centres de formation du travail socio-éducatif (**FESET**): www.feset.org
- International Federation of Educative Communities (**FICE Europe**): www.fice.inter.net
- International Council of Social Welfare (**ICSW Europe**): www.icsw.org
- International Federation of Social Workers (**IFSW Europe**): www.ifsw.org
- **PowerUs**, service users in social work learning partnership: www.powerus.info
- Social Work and Health Inequalities Network (**SWHIN**): <http://blogs.coventry.ac.uk/swhin/>

Together these organisations represent professional associations, faculties of social professional education and national councils of social welfare, aiming at putting forward and promote the social dimension in the process of European unification and engage itself in the improvement of the European Social Model.

Eeva Timonen-Kallio and Jolanta Pivoriene are the representatives of FESET in ENSACT.

Since 2015 ENSACT, www.ensact.com has collected the European part of the Global Observatory on good practices on Social Work and Social Development (www.globalsocialagenda.org). The 2016-2018 Observatory theme was Promoting Sustainable Communities and Sustainable Development. ENSACT hosts the European Observatory which aims at monitoring, reporting and disseminating the contributions of social work and social development in building a 'society for all' in which every individual has an active role to play within a fair and just world. This round 2016-2018 FESET, Eeva Timonen-Kallio was an active player in contributing the call. As a network without an organization it is agreed that presidency of the ENSACT will be circulated in the partnership. Vice president Eeva Timonen-Kallio has participated the ENSACT meeting in 6 November 2016 in Utrecht, Netherlands and was absent on 14.10.2018 and participated by skype 16.02.2018 when meeting was held in Lund, Sverige.

Since January 2018 the European report has been available in FESET web page.

8. FESET AWARD (formerly Paolo Marcon Award)

This Award is presented every two years to a student of the school or university organising the FESET seminar and General Assembly of FESET. We awarded up to now 6 students from the Schools having organized the FESET seminars in Sligo, Amsterdam, Osnabrück, Marseille, Turku and Strasbourg.

There are no longer donations for the award, but FESET continues the award under the name of "FESET Award". The Award is intended to reward a student, or a group of students, from a FESET member school or university for a final paper or thesis at Bachelor or Masters' degree (or equivalent) dealing with a social education issue to promote research and development in social education; as well as contribute to develop social education as a profession. The Award shall have a value of € 500. It will be awarded at the end of the General Assembly. The name(s) of the recipient(s) and a summary of the a final paper or thesis will be announced on the website of FESET (www.feset.org)

9. FINALLY

We hope that our work between 2016 and 2018 has met your expectations and we will thank you in advance for any new openings and suggestions that you will bring to the General Assembly. We are willing to discuss with our member universities how to promote social education and social pedagogy training in changing Europe. Our intention in the board is to stimulate debate on activities related to social educational work, including research, teaching, practice and policy. You are warmly invited and encouraged to reflect the diversity of social pedagogical approaches and theoretical thinking to promote innovative socio-educational learning and curriculum reforms.

In the name of the 2016-2018 FESET Board,

Eeva Timonen-Kallio,
Vice-President

Joke Maes,
Secretary-General

Turku and Diepenbeek, March 2018