EIPEN 2019: Looking back to a successful conference

Prof. Van Royen and his team of the University of Antwerp were the host for our 7th European conference in 2019. With around 100 attendees, a nice location, a smooth organization, fine lunches and dinners, and of course interesting presentations and workshops, the conference matches the success of previous ones.

Most of the participants came from the Netherlands and Belgium, but more than 10 different countries were represented, including overseas colleagues from Japan and Canada. The biennial EIPEN conference is aimed at presenting research and innovation in interprofessional practice and education, at training of new skills and methods, and at discussing hot topics in this area. It is also a meeting place for networking. In the future we want to give more space for regional networks in Europe for this purpose.

Go to the EIPEN website www.eipen.eu to download the presentations of the opening session or to download the picture above. The call for hosting the next conference is launched. Is your institution interested? Then contact us before the end of March to explore opportunities.

A new broadened Board for EIPEN

Up till now EIPEN was steered by an executive office of 3 persons, as there were not enough candidates for a broadened board in the past years, despite repeated calls. The first Executive Office (EO) members remained candidate for a renewal of their term, except for University of Ljubljana being replaced by University of Antwerp. This renewal of the board was approved by the members.

We are happy to inform that now enough new members have come forward to form a broadened steering board of 5 to 8 persons. Jos Verweij (Rotterdam), Anne Mairesse (Lausanne), and Matic Kavcic (Ljubljana) submitted their candidature to join the board in 2020. The board of 6 will then also cover more different European regions. The additional members’ term will be 2020-2023. For up to 8 board members we do not need to organize elections, but the approval of members is needed in the General Assembly of May. The new candidate members will be involved in preparatory activities of the EO already from the start of 2020.

Transparency in governance and decision-making is very important for EIPEN. Our statutes are publicly available on the website. The Executive Office has online meetings a few times per year to take decisions in consensus. Would your institution also like to be involved actively as member of the steering board? Let us know before end of March.
Pre-Conference Capacity Building Seminar

In the 2019 pre-conference capacity building seminar, experts presented and discussed with attendees on aspects of teaching, learning and assessing interprofessional competences. 8 IPE-experts were involved in this training: Bianka Vandaele, Giannoula Tsakitzidis, Matic Kavcic, Minna Maaninen, Nadja Brocatus, Paul Van Royen, Tiina Tervaskanto-Maentausta, and Andre Vyt. Participants came from 4 different countries.

The target group consists of persons who are intending to set up or innovate a module or course unit with interprofessional competences as learning outcomes. During this seminar, the framework of key competences, with behavioural indicators and examples of learning and assessment, is used as a basis.

Are you interested in setting up or co-hosting a workshop or training seminar, in collaboration with EIPEN, in your institution or in your region? Then please contact us to discuss opportunities.

The development of the EIPEN key competences framework

According to the EIPEN charter educational institutions need to ensure that graduates of study programs for health and social care professions effectively acquire the key competences in interprofessional collaboration as defined by EIPEN. The framework of key competences was developed in 2006, first published in 2009, and additionally validated in 2017. Our interprofessional framework was indeed among the first ones worldwide. In June 2019 an expert group revised the competences and formulated behavioural indicators for each of them. In August the draft was sent out to institutional members and additional experts for comments. This resulted in a version 1.2 which was again sent out to institutional members in October. Additional feedback has been received. The EIPEN Executive Office now considers all comments received, to derive a final version by Spring 2020. As announced in our previous newsletter, it will be further validated with stakeholders (professional bodies), and disseminated among educational and clinical institutions.

If you have missed the latest version of the key competences framework, please let us know at info@eipen.eu. You can send in additional feedback until March 8th. We plan to have the version 1.3 ready in the course of March.

Upcoming interesting conferences in Europe

ENPHE conference 11-12 September, Leuven/Louvain, Belgium http://www.enphe.org
King’s CAIPE conference 18-20 June, London, UK https://www.kcl.ac.uk/events/kings-caipe-conference-2020
COHEHRE conference 25-27 March, Rotterdam, Netherlands http://www.cohehre.com