

COMENIUS PROJECT MEETING IN VANTAA
07- 10 MAY 2009

Vantaa Vocational School organized the last project meeting in May 2009.

The coordinator Juha-Ville Makinen had sent the following program to the partners:

Thu 7.5.

During afternoon:

Italian group arrival 15.00

Swedish group arrival 15.25

German group arrival 15.50

(Accommodation in Hotel Tikkurila)

17.00 Dinner for participants in Varia

Fri 8.5.

8.30 Presentation for a project's work package 6
Auditorium

11.00 Lunch in Varia

During afternoon:

German group visit in Mercuria Business College

Swedish group visit in company A.A.Palmberg

Italian group join to lessons in Varia until 14.00

16.00 Return to hotel

Free time in evening

Sat 9.5.

9.00 Evaluation of work package 6 and planning for reports
Meeting room in hotel Tikkurila

From 11.00 Visit in city of Porvoo

15.00 Dinner on the way back to Vantaa
Manor house Haikko, Porvoo

Free time in evening

Sun 10.5.

Leaving back to home
German group departure 11.30
Swedish group departure 16.00
Italian group departure 16.05

The meeting was well organized by the coordinator who welcomed the Italian team composed of the Principal ing. Giuseppe Sammartino, the Italian Comenius referent Mrs Cupini and 5 students from 5Cr and 5Am at the airport.

In Varia institute the Italian team met their European colleagues - Principals included . The atmosphere was friendly as everyone had been working with each other for almost 3 years with new ideas about going on with the mutual collaboration in the following years even if the period of economic stagnation could affect the proposals. Dinner was cooked by the students of the catering department and was greatly appreciated,

The following morning the P.Ps were introduced by the different teams: the different educational systems and statistics about the skills required by the different companies were carefully analysed. The result was that a good behaviour, the use of working time, the use of English and the learning of some basic safety rules were considered very important elements by the companies interviewed, so the necessity to adequate the curriculum to these needs and the creation of a strict link among schools too in order to establish the essential key skills.

In the afternoon the Italian team joined Arja Voss' classes and the Italian and Finnish students worked together on a European questionnaire .

As it was explained previously students from the catering department and other ones usually attend 3 English courses; at the end of each course they have an exam and the final grade will be the average of the 3 courses, one course is 1 credit and takes about 30 hours (the assessment is 1-2 satisfactory , 3-4 good, 5 excellent)

Then the Italian team had the opportunity to visit the National Art Gallery with the Kalevala exhibition assisted by Arja, who explained that Kalevala is the Finnish mythology. " It is a scene of human mind" where mythical stories are played . The pictures touch people from children to grown-ups, regardless of their cultural background. Finnish students have to study the plot and the characters and read parts of the whole book, after that they have an exam

about this subject. We really enjoyed the exhibition that allowed us to learn more about Finnish traditions and roots; then in the evening we tasted an excellent dinner offered by the coordinator.

On Saturday while there was the evaluation of the work previously done, the Italian students went to see the Modern Art Gallery with their Finnish friends. After the gift exchange everyone agreed with the importance of going on the mutual cooperation may be organising study visits or starting new projects. The visit to the small town of Porvoo with its Borgh parish dating back to 13th century and the dinner at Haikko Manor House represented the perfect conclusion of the final meeting!

Everyone had good memories and the hope to work together again in order to strengthen the connection among the different schools for the creation of a common European educational program! Thanks to Comenius every partner was able to meet Italian, Finnish, German and Swedish citizens and learn more about each other! Now it is time to think about the next challenge.....



