CROCUS – Cross Cultural Workshop for Heads and Managers in Educational Institutions
31st October – 6th November 2010, Crickhowell, UK

Seminar description
The European Office of Technische Universität München is organizing October 31st - November 5th 2010 an international one-week continuing education seminar in Crickhowell, Wales, UK. The CROCUS - Cross Cultural Workshop for Heads and Managers in Educational Institutions is organized in cooperation with CMD Consultants - German Language Services.

Main themes
The structure of an educational institution
- Profile and curriculum of an educational institution
- Infrastructure (campus facilities, canteen, leisure/sports activities, library etc.) of an educational institution
- Funding of an educational institution

Teaching and student instruction
- how the students are prepared for higher education qualifications
- integration of international students

Quality assurance and continuing education
- further training of teachers and school management
- quality management and measurement

Target audience
The course is aimed at teaching, management and administrative personnel of educational institutions.

Seminar objectives
The purpose of the project is to offer participants from different European countries an opportunity to learn English in authentic surroundings. During the one-week workshop course the participants will use English in different situations and learn it with the help of professional trainers and up-to-date material. By gathering together experts from around Europe the seminar offers a great opportunity for networking.

Registration and funding
Applications should be sent to the European Office (european.office@zv.tum.de) by April 18th 2010. The participants are able to apply for a Comenius funding from the European Commission (Lifelong Learning Programme) to cover the course and travel expenses. The deadline for the Comenius applications is April 30th 2010.

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Course outline

Preparation

The participants will be informed of possible programme changes and course arrangements before the actual workshop via circular emails and direct meetings. As much course material as possible will be supplied beforehand, giving the participants a chance for independent preparation and orientation. The course organisers will arrange a schedule for the week’s activity: lectures, classroom observation, group activity and discussions. There will also be time for independent study, summarising and reflection.

Objectives

The course training will focus on following themes:
- how the students in educational institutions are prepared for higher education qualifications
- profile, corporate identity and curriculum of educational institutions
- infrastructure (campus facilities, canteen, leisure/sports activities, library, etc.) of educational institutions
- parents’ involvement in the study programme and school activities
- integration of educational institutions into community life
- educational institutions’ funding
- heads’ and managers’ training
- integration of international students

Methodology

Materials relevant to education in UK will be placed at the participants’ disposal in plenary and small group sessions, and there will also be material available for independent research. Interviews with experts from the field of education in the UK and visits to institutions for direct observation will be arranged. The course is structured so that the participants will have an opportunity to work independently as well as in small groups and plenum, for gathering and recording their impressions and experiences of the course. The participants can pass the received information on to their colleagues in Europe, and in that way take part in the dissemination of the learning outcome.

Follow-up

The participants will benefit from concrete examples of positive cultural differences and are able to put them into practice, when they return to their own countries. Contact between the international partners should be maintained after the workshop has ended through chat programmes and internet contact. Newly formed contacts and ideas can function as a basis for new and valuable EU projects.