

## STEAMINQUEST NEWS No. 2

January 13th, 2009



### Another day, another proposal IN!

Hilde, Per Inge and Andreas at NTNU have once again hit the SUBMIT button and INQUEST has reached its destination. Thanks to everyone for reacting so quickly and for your continuing participation.

Due to the tight timescale some of you may not have seen recent versions (three in the last few days - version 14 is final), so I will circulate this separately. The train image is intended as a metaphor for the project, with 30 interconnected carriages, all travelling in the same direction but containing and bringing together a vast range of talented people in comfortable surroundings. Or something like that, but no doubt trains have their problems...

#### **S-TEAM: Next stop Brussels**

We can now address more urgent questions related to S-TEAM. The current timescale is that we have a preliminary meeting with the officers responsible for the project in early February. The negotiations should be complete by 30th April, which should mean that we get started before autumn 2009. This raises the question of when the start-up meeting will be, and we will try to set a firm date after the first meeting with the EC.

Before this meeting we will prepare a new version of the proposal, known as Annex 1

or

STAN (S-Team Annex 1) which uses a different template from the original. This means more detail on certain crucial items like person-month distribution and “training packages”, a convenient term but one which needs to be unpacked a little more.

The negotiations may also mean a different allocation of person-months for some of you, which, like share prices, may go up or down...

#### **Shameless repackaging**

The majority of your ideas and good intentions are still in S-TEAM but have suffered some severe editing in order to fit them into the big picture. We now have to re-edit the detail back in, including:

1. What is the central idea of your sub-package/s? (remember PoDs?)
2. Who will do the work and when will they do it? Will they have time to do it?
3. How long will it take to produce?
4. What will you do to bring it to the attention of teachers/ teacher educators/ others?
5. How does it fit within your main work package?
6. Can what you propose be done within the available budget?

### **No work required...yet!**

The above points are things to think about soon, but in order to make it easier to reconcile the ideas that you had in the summer with the proposal that we have now, I will circulate individual profile documents which will act as aide memoires for what needs to be done. These will comprise:

1. Summary of your person-months and costs.
2. Extracts from the proposal describing your contribution
3. Relevant text from original documents submitted as WP contributions (if available).
4. A template for the required details.

In some cases you may need to discuss this via internal meetings. You may also find that you have signed up for more or less than you thought - now is the time to sort out any outstanding problems. We have a huge list of deliverables (112) including:

- 37 Training packages
- 30 Workshops
- 1 International Conference
- 2 edited Books
- 5 DVDs
- 19 Reports
- 8 Teaching support materials
- 5 Web resources
- 5 Instrument & indicator sets

This is a long list, but we have a strong team, as you can see from the list at the end of the newsletter. **At this stage I would like you to check the names listed for your institution** and email me to confirm that they are still currently

involved and that the lead person is still the same. It would also be useful to have everyone's preferred email address so that I can update the mailing list, as there are some names for which I don't have e-mail addresses. There will probably be a need for several lists (WP leaders, institutional leaders, national contact points etc) in order to avoid unnecessary postings, and it would be good to create these now.

### **INQUEST: Slightly less urgent question about teacher release from classes - we still need these.**

Given that INQUEST has some very specific work packages concerning teacher engagement and school partnerships, we will undoubtedly come across the problem of teachers' working time and payment (Thanks for reminding me, Sibel!). For example, in the UK it is common for teachers to be 'seconded' to an external project and for that project to pay the teachers' employer (usually a local authority) to cover the cost of a replacement class teacher.

There has been some discussion about whether this counts as 'subcontracting' for budgetary purposes. **This has now been resolved and we are confident that this will be an allowable cost**, but it would still be useful to know what the situation would be in other countries, and what approximate amounts (in € per day, or if not, average monthly salary for an experienced teacher) would be involved.

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List over page:

## **S-TEAM members as at 14/01/09**

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