

S-TEAM News No.6

Science-Teacher Education Advanced Methods

A phase change in European Science Education

October 2008



A waiting game (part 2)

Not too long to go before we hear some news... the tension is mounting...

This newsletter has two main purposes. First, in response to a (very sensible) request from Nijole Ciuciulkiene in Lithuania, we have put together a draft poster illustrating the main features of the S-TEAM project. This has been circulated along with the newsletter. If you have comments for improvement please let me (Peter) know. I have kept it fairly general, and may jazz up the colours a bit for the final version.

And the second purpose...

Science and Society consultation in UK

In the process of putting the poster together I discovered (rather later than I should have done) that the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills in the UK has published a new consultation document about Science in Society. This is available at:

<http://interactive.dius.gov.uk/scienceandsociety/site/>

The overall tone of the document is very similar to the various reports which led to the SiS call, e.g. Rocard et al. It mentions a number of areas which are of interest to us, including teacher education,

professional development, scientific literacy and science career work in schools. There are also some very cogent critiques on the website, particularly those from Professor Guy Cook of the Open University (UK) and Scientists for Global Responsibility. There is still a day to add comments, which close on October 17th.

I have also sent a short written response to the DIUS on behalf of S-TEAM, basically to 'get a foot in the door' for future cooperation.

Looking for connections

Although we are officially 'closed' at this point in time, there is no need to stay out of the shop.

So, as has been said before, it would be useful to hear about any connections your institution has to other initiatives in science education, e.g. Jari Lavonen has done some analysis of ROSE data which proved very relevant to WP6. Margareta Enghag has made some fantastic connections in Sweden to the NTA and the National Centre for Education in Physics.

Other useful connections would be to national teacher organisations (itself an interesting area of national divergence), national research conferences in science education or teacher education, and journals whether national or international.

I will continue to put out newsletters at regular intervals until someone tells me to stop, so if you have anything interesting to disseminate (or tell people about!) please let me know.

regards

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The image is *La Chambre d'ecoute* by Rene Magritte. mainly because I like it, but also Apple.