

PASCAL International Exchanges (PIE)

PIE Briefing Paper 1: Early Project Implementation

Peter Kearns & Bruce Wilson – 13 Jan 2011

PASCAL International Exchanges (PIE) is promotes exchanges and sharing of experience between participating cities relevant to the subject areas identified for exchanges.

The initial subjects identified for PIE are:

- a) strategies to build inclusive learning cities; and
- b) cultural institutions as arenas for lifelong learning.

Purpose of Paper

This paper provides participants in PIE with an introduction to:

- What PIE is intended to achieve
- The methods to be followed in this first phase of the project.

The paper clarifies the roles of cities and their participating representatives, on the one hand, and of PASCAL on the other and sets out the anticipated outcomes and deliverables. Other Briefing Papers will be released subsequently to introduce the successive phases of the project.

Initial Exchange Opportunities

In this phase, it is proposed that exchanges amongst participating cities will be conducted through the PASCAL website. Participating cities have provided short stimulus papers of about two or three pages in length. These stimulus papers will focus on major themes and issues relevant to the designated PIE subjects so as to encourage international dialogue.

A dedicated PASCAL web space for PIE will host the stimulus papers and facilitate comment, discussion and related submissions by participants. Details on how to access the site will be provided through separate communication.

Participants in this Phase

Each participating city is asked to nominate three or four participants to join the PIE dialogue. Each city's designated participants will become subscribers to the PASCAL website and will be able to access the PIE materials. If requested, the number of PIE subscribers in each city can be increased. Cities should provide the name and email address of PIE participants to submissions@pascalobservatory.org as soon as possible.

The Process of Dialogue

Stimulus papers prepared by each participating city are intended to encourage an active dialogue on the themes and issues arising from the two nominated subjects. PIE participants are encouraged to post responses to the themes and issues identified in these papers. Their comments may range from short blog type contributions to more developed statements. Much is to be gained by participating cities posting information on relevant reports, research, programs, and conferences to the website, perhaps themselves becoming the subject of particular threads in dialogue.

It is likely that stimulus papers will point to common interests that a number of participating cities will share. A feature of the PIE process is that bilateral and multilateral exchanges should be encouraged between cities with common interests, including exchanging relevant documents. For this purpose, all participating should nominate a contact person and postal address for delivery of documents.

Possible Follow-Up Activities

While PIE has been designed as an online program for exchanges of information and ideas without the cost of travel to meetings, opportunities for direct contacts and discussions that occur could be taken up at the discretion of participating cities. Such opportunities might involve a group of PIE participants attending a meeting such as a PASCAL conference.

It is anticipated that the initial round of PIE dialogues will lead to the identification of common interests that might be taken up in a further round of PIE development. PASCAL welcomes suggestions for common interests that could be taken up in a subsequent PIE dialogue.

While PASCAL is facilitating discussions between participating cities, PIE basically exists to serve the interests of the cities participating. For this reason, it is hoped that the project will encourage enterprising initiatives and ideas to deepen our

understanding of the role and value of lifelong learning and cultural development in cities.

Contact

Questions relating to this project may be taken up with the PIE co-ordinators Peter Kearns and Bruce Wilson; contact details are:

Peter Kearns - p.kearns@netspeed.com.au Tel +61 7 33780601

Professor Bruce Wilson - bruce.wilson@rmit.edu.au Tel +61 3 99258214