

Dear home directors,

Again an eventful year is coming to an end. What will the year 2009 bring to us, directors and managers in the care sector?

As for me, I'm feeling like the person in the short story written by Rainer Haak:

Confidence is the best venture

Over and over during my life I'm coming to closed doors. What can hide behind these doors? Is it wise to open these doors or is it better to abstain from?

I try to imagine what awaits me behind the next door. In my thoughts, I see people who welcome me and rooms where I can feel comfortable and create new things. I trust in new interesting perspectives.

I'm going to open the door.

I'm looking forward seeing what is on the other side.

(from: Wege des Menschen. Am Anfang steht ein Traum. Schwarzwald-Kalender-Verlag, 1992)

A Merry Christmas to you and your families and the best wishes for health and prosperity in the New Year.

Prof. Dr. Wilfried Schlüter

President of the E.D.E.



Meeting of the General Board in Remich (Luxembourg), 3rd and 4th of October 2008

E.D.E. VISION 13

This is the 13th edition of the electronic Newsletter of the E.D.E. : E.D.E. VISION.

This newsletter will inform you about the current developments within the European care centres and in particular about the position of directors/managers. The E.D.E. also intends to adopt a position on real issues in European politics in the context of care for the elderly.

E.D.E. VISION's primary purpose is however to inform you about projects of the E.D.E. and its member countries.



The fact that the newsletter is published electronically makes it readily accessible and enables national associations to pass the contents on to their members.



Editorial: Wim Schepers

Prof. Dr. Wilfried Schlüter confirmed as the president of the European Association for Directors of Care Homes for the Elderly

During the meeting of the General Board of the European Association for Directors of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly (E.D.E.) in Luxembourg, Prof. Dr. Wilfried Schlüter has been confirmed in office of the president of the Association, which he had held since 2000, for the next four years. From 1994 to 2002, he was the president of the German Association for Home Directors DVLAB (Deutscher Verband der Leitungskräfte von Alten- und Behinderteneinrichtungen). Since 1998 Schlüter has taught at the faculty of Healthcare Management of the University of Applied Sciences in Zwickau (Westfälische Hochschule Zwickau).

Meanwhile, 24 member organisations from 19 European countries work within the E.D.E. to stand up together for the improvement of the long-term care and of their occupational image. Many specific offers of qualification trainings for directors from the care sector have been already realised. The Association has defined a binding Code of professional conduct for home directors and made the first steps towards an academisation of the profession of home directors. For the current period of office, Prof. Schlüter and the Executive Board members from Slovenia, Czech Republic, Switzerland and Luxembourg have set themselves, amongst others, the following goals:

- intensification of the cooperation with the EU bodies
- implementation of the branch-specific project of the quality management system E-Qalin in other European countries
- participation in international projects in the range of the long-term care
- professionalising of the internal association work.

Furthermore, at the meeting in Luxembourg, the members made preparations for the 11th European E.D.E. Congress entitled "Time Out" which will take place in Luxembourg from 24th to 26th September 2009.



the new Executive Board of the E.D.E. (from left): Jean Bohler (Luxembourg), Boris Koprivnikar (Slovenia), Prof. Dr. Wilfried Schlüter (Germany), Carlos Marty (Switzerland), Martin Dürrer (Czech Republic)

Home directors with the E.D.E. certificate

For the first time, nine home directors have completed successfully the training course "Social and Health Manager" corresponding to the E.D.E. guidelines at the vocational seminar for healthcare professions of the Adult Education Centre of Oberbergischer Kreis in Gummersbach. On 23rd of October 2008, Prof. Dr. Wilfried Schlüter presented the certificates of the final examination to the home directors. The vocational seminar for healthcare professions of the Adult Education Centre of Oberbergischer Kreis in Gummersbach is one of the five training institutes in Germany which have been accredited by the E.D.E. and train home directors within a two-year-advanced training course at least in accordance to the European training standards.



The home directors with Hans-Otto Gries, assistant of the district chief executive of Oberbergischer Kreis (front left), Ursula Kriesten, head of the training course, and Prof. Dr. Wilfried Schlüter



E-Qalin transfer



After the quality management system E-Qalin had been successfully introduced in five European countries (Austria, Italy, Luxembourg, Slovenia and Germany), in more than 100 institutions for the elderly and disabled persons, the following project entitled "E-Qalin Transfer" has started in October 2008 in Baden/Austria.

The goal of this project is to implement the validated and transnational quality management system E-Qalin in France and Great Britain, including the training for process managers in social institutions.

Besides the analysis of the market potential and of the conditions of spreading and cooperation in France and Great Britain, another objective is to develop a viable franchise system (manual, rules, agreements, market evaluation). Furthermore, the project partners should create requirements for an accreditation of E-Qalin throughout Europe.

You will get more information about E-Qalin on the Internet: www.e-qalin.net.

Prof.Dr. Wilfried Schlüter



11th European E.D.E. Congress in Luxembourg, 24. - 26. September 2009

**TIME OUT! Doing our work better, faster,
cheaper it is not good enough any more -
we have to stop and find a different way**



**Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year 2009**



The closing date for the next issue
of E.D.E. Vision is
31st of January 2008

