

# **AEHT ACTIVITIES REPORT**

## **Academic year 2007/2008**

### **1. 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Jesolo Lido, Italy, October 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> 2007**

The Annual Conference is the AEHT's flagship event and is held once a year in a different country; the programme includes meetings of the Presidium, the Executive Board and the General Assembly, as well as a series of contests which enable students to compete with each other in a variety of disciplines.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference took place on October 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2007 in the seaside resort of Jesolo Lido, Italy. The event received support from the Veneto Region, from the Province of Venice as well as from the Jesolo Lido Town Council and the Venice Chamber of Commerce. The aims of the IPSSARCT in organising this conference were, among others, to promote local tourist facilities, to provide a showcase for typical regional produce, and to provide a practical application for the professional and linguistic skills of its students and staff by organising and taking part in an event with international dimensions. The conference provided an opportunity for a rich exchange of socio-cultural knowledge, of teaching materials and of professional knowledge and skills, as well as for the promotion of hotel and tourism training in Europe. Eight competitions took place during this conference, in the areas of pastry, culinary arts, food service, bar, flambé work, front office, tourism promotion and management.

The official conference venue, apart from the new premises at the Elena Cornaro Institute, was Jesolo's Tourism Palace, where the multifunctional hall could accommodate up to 800 people. The opening ceremony, compèred by the famous Italian actress Tania Zamparo, and the closing ceremony and prize giving, both took place in this hall.

In order to provide the cultural programme and hospitality infrastructure for the event the organisers called upon a number of different public bodies, professional associations and several sponsors such as Barilla, San Pellegrino, Bellini-Canella, Grana Padano, Consorzio del Vialone Nano, Caffè Vescovi, Carpenè Malvolti, and the Consorzio Vetro di Murano.

In parallel with the competitions, there was an exhibition entitled 'Menus and Banquets' as well as an exhibition of pasta sculptures. The sponsors presented their products in exhibitions and workshops which took place during the lunch break and at dinner time. The meals at the Tourism Palace were organised by the Boscarato family, managers of the famous 'Trattoria dall' Amelia' in Mestre (Venice).

The organisers had laid on a most interesting seminar aimed at directors and teachers, entitled 'Professional Placements and Mobility in Europe'. The proceedings were chaired by Michel Gaillot, an AEHT Honorary President; Simonetta Bettiol from the University of Venice, together with Enrico Bressan, coordinator of the Eurotutor project, spoke of the objectives of student placements in Europe – 'a new way to learn in Europe.' Mauricio Mancini from the Association of SMEs asserted that innovation was vital for companies and that it is essential to set up a permanent partnership with schools. John Rees Smith and Mikko Turunen, international coordinator from Tampere in Finland, gave a presentation on the VIRTEX (Virtual experiences) and BECULT (<http://www.becult.org>) projects, multimedia on-line programmes for language learning intended for future hoteliers and restaurateurs.

A workshop on the ‘*Consortio per la tutela del formaggio Grana Padano*’ (consortium for the protection of Grana Padano cheese) also took place during the conference. The programme was rounded off with numerous excursions to discover the remarkable treasure of this region of Venice (see below).

The organisation of this conference and the competitions was a great challenge for the Elena Cornaro IPSSARCT, but at the same time it was a fine opportunity to put into practice the key competencies and professional skills of all these students and the staff. The organisers are convinced that this conference has made a considerable contribution to the promotion of Jesolo Lido and indeed of the whole of Italy as a tourist destination.

### **A. Statistics:**

The event attracted 650 participants from 137 schools located in 33 European countries, as follows:

- <b>Total number of participants:</b>	<b>650</b>
• Directors	111
• Teachers	202
• Students	302
• Partners and other guests (VIPs, AEHT guests, etc)	35
- <b>IPSSARCT ELENA CORNARO ORGANISING COMMITTEE</b>	<b>188</b>
• Director	1
• Teachers	40
• Staff working in collaboration with the school	10
• Students	100
• Administrative and technical staff	16
• External partners	21

### **Comparison with previous years:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Organising Country</b>	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Participating countries</b>	<b>Participants</b>
2007	Jesolo Lido	Italy	137	33	650
2006	Killarney	Ireland	136	32	660
2005	Antalya	Turkey	130	31	646
2004	Bled	Slovenia	135	34	620
2003	Copenhagen	Denmark	140	28	564
2002	San Remo	Italy	139	29	705
2001	Linz	Austria	105	33	601
2000	Berlin	Germany	120	23	641
1999	Luxembourg	Luxembourg	127	24	940
1998	Faro/Vilamoura	Portugal	123	21	640
1997	Zandvoort	The Netherlands	115	23	596
1996	La Rochelle	France	101	19	814
1995	Göteborg	Sweden	107	20	620
1994	Portrush	Northern Ireland	75	16	393
1993	Sciaccia	Italy	75	15	500

**Participation in the events mentioned below:**

● Caorle	56
- Visit of the town's historic quarter	
- Visit of the Paladian 'Bosco del Merlo' cellars	
● Cavallino: Fishing area of the laguna	26
- Visit of the historic quarter	
- Visit of the 'Bortolo Nardini' distillery	
● Conegliano	104
- Visit of the town	
- Visit of the 'Carpené Malvolti Spumanti' cellars	
- Visit of the 'G. B. Cerletti' oenology institute	
● Treviso	277
- Visit of the town	
- Visit of the 'Villa Sandi' cellars	
● Venice and the Laguna islands	469
- Guided tour of Venice (1 ½ hours)	
- Visit of Murano and its glass factory	
- Visit of Burano	
- Visit of Torcello	
● Padua, Riviera del Brenta, 'Villa Pisani'	97
- Stop in Oriago - Villa Malcontenta	
- Stop in Mira – Villa Widman Foscari	
- Visit of the Villa Pisani	
- Visit of Padua	
- Guided tour of the town centre of Prato della Valle	
● Vicenza and Palladio's Villa Cordellina	36
- Visit of the Villa Cordellina Lombardi	
- Guided tour of Vicenza	
- <b>Participation in the competitions:</b>	
- <b>Number of competitors:</b>	<b>294</b>
● Bar	30
● Restaurant Service	45
● Culinary Arts	76
● Pastry	27
● Front Office	50
● Management	13
● Tourism Promotion	41
● Flambé Work	12

## **B. Financial Report:**

	<b>in EUROS (€)</b>
<b>Income:</b>	<b>517.284,39</b>
Registration fees	371.045,68
AEHT's contribution to interpreting costs	3.000,00
Sponsors (including contributions in kind)	143.238,71
<b>Expenditure:</b>	<b>517.284,39</b>
Preparation	45.804,60
Accommodation	115.252,75
Catering	117.898,40
Transfers	56.074,00
Competitions costs	29.741,03
Staff costs	24.142,64
General expenditure	8.452,16
Cost of cultural events and excursions	64.611,75
Cost of written and visual communication, design and print work, gadgets	26.568,35
Various contributions in kind from sponsors	30.738,71
<b>Difference:</b>	<b>0</b>

Don't miss Jo Laegny's enthusiastic report, illustrated with photographs, and published on the AEHT's website at [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu).

We extend our warm thanks to the entire team from the IPSSARCT Elena Cornaro in Jesolo Lido for their personal commitment to the event; in particular we would like to thank

Mr Ilario Ierace  
Ms Laura Toriero.

## **2. Sub-committee responsible for drawing up organisation guidelines (formerly competitions sub-committee)**

Following discussions about arrangements for the competitions which took place as part of the San Remo Annual Conference, the AEHT Presidium set up a competitions sub-committee with the remit of revising the competitions rules, which are incorporated into the AEHT's House Rules (article 17.1.4).

The membership of the sub-committee is as follows: chair: Anne Dearey (Failte Ireland, Dublin), Romana Bauer (Bad Leonfelden, Austria), Helena Cvikl (Maribor, Slovenia) and Asdis Vatnsdal (Kopavogur, Iceland); they carried out a first revision of the rules in Senigallia in December 2003, a second revision at the Bled Annual Conference in October 2004, before fine tuning it after the Killarney Annual Conference in November 2006. At its meeting in Ponta Delgada in the summer of 2007 the Presidium proceeded to further clarify certain points in the competition rules. From now on the organisers of the Annual Conference are requested to adhere to the latest version of the rules which are published at [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu) while of course exercising their prerogative of adapting the competitions to local customs and conditions.

In order to provide the best possible guidance on competition arrangements to the organisers of the Jesolo Lido (in 2007) and the Kuressaare (2008) annual conferences, the Presidium found it necessary to invite this sub-committee to attend the spring meetings of the Presidium and the Executive Board at the future conference venues. On each occasion their attendance has proved

to be most useful, allowing the organisers to avoid a certain number of recurrent problems and to obtain the answers to numerous practical questions early on in the preparatory phase. It is therefore highly desirable that in future the competitions sub-committee should take part in the visits carried out by the Executive Board to inspect the installations and facilities offered by future organisers.

In 2007 it was decided to rename the competitions sub-committee the '**Organisational Guidelines Committee**', and to request its members not only to be responsible for the on-going up-dating of the competition rules, but also to take part in drafting organisational guidelines for seminars and other events organised by AEHT member schools.

### 3. Seminars

#### **Seminar entitled 'From Sea to Plate – a course on sustainable production and preparation of fish and shellfish', Gothenburg, Sweden**

The seminar on 'From Sea to Plate – a course on sustainable production and preparation of fish and shellfish' had been planned for April 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> 2008 at the Ester Mosesson's Culinary School in Gothenburg but had to be deferred until next year through lack of registrations. Some schools had indeed expressed an interest in attending but had cancelled because of the high cost of travel. In order to find cheapest air tickets for a given destination, please consult [www.momando.com](http://www.momando.com). To find out which budget airlines fly to this destination, use the search engine offered by [www.flylc.com](http://www.flylc.com).

#### **Seminar on 'The Secrets of Madeira Wines', Funchal, Portugal**

The idea of organising this seminar on the secrets of Madeira wines (June 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> 2008) came from the Escola Profissional de Hotelaria e Turismo da Madeira, which had just celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation. A total of 19 people of eight nationalities attended the seminar, including six members of the AEHT Presidium who held their summer meeting on the island. It was a highly successful seminar: the programme included a guided tour of Funchal town (where we saw the Sé (cathedral), the '*Patricio e Gouveia*' traditional embroidery workshop, the municipal covered market, the São Tiago Fort ...), a ride along the monumental road (the island's first road), lunch in a four star environmentally friendly hotel, the Jardim Atlantico, a guided tour and lunch at the mythical Reid's Palace hotel, discovery of a sugarcane processing factory, the Soc. Dos Engenhos da Calheta in Vila da Calheta, a stroll through the experimental vineyards of the *Quintas das Vinhas* in Estreito da Calheta, etc.



*Participants in the seminar on 'The Secrets of Madeira Wines'*

The high point of the stay was an initiation into the Madeira wine-making techniques at the Madeira Wine Company S.A. A company engineer revealed to the participants some of the

secrets which explain the unique taste of this wine, produced only in Madeira (see the details in the article published under the heading ‘Seminars and Conferences’ at [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu)).



*Canteiros at the Madeira Wine Company S.A.*



*Estufa filled with Malvasia*



*A rare wine dating from 1760*

In the evening we were met by Paulo Filipe Freitas Rodrigues, President of the Instituto do Vinho da Madeira – the body which oversees the production of these wines and their certification, promotion and marketing; the President invited the participants to a delicious dinner in one of their old cellars. The meal had been specially prepared by students and teachers of the EPHTM to match the Madeira wines to be tasted. The crowning glory of the dinner was a simply marvellous 1954 Malvasia served with the dessert. Alfonso Benvenuto, an AEHT Vice-President, officially thanked the President and invited him to become a Professional Member of the AEHT, and to come to the next Annual Conference to present his delicious wines.

#### 4. Conference and other Events

##### **‘Eurocup 2007’ Young Barman Competition, Prešov, Slovakia**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Eurocup 2007 for Young Barmen was held on November 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> 2007 in Prešov (SK) and was attended by 42 schools, including 13 schools from outside Slovakia:

- |  |                |      |
|--|----------------|------|
| 1. Hotelová škola a Vyšší odborná škola, Opava                           | Czech Republic |      |
| 2. Hotelová škola, Poděbrady   | Czech Republic | AEHT |
| 3. Turističko ugostiteljska škola, Split                                 | Croatia        | AEHT |
| 4. Lycee Technique Hôtelier „Alexis Heck“, Diekirch                      | Luxembourg     | AEHT |
| 5. Giorgio Perlasca Secondary School for Commerce and Catering, Budapest | Hungary        | AEHT |
| 6. KIVI Foundation Secondary School for Commerce and Catering, Budapest  | Hungary        | AEHT |
| 7. Zespół Szkół Ponadgymnazjalnych nr. 1, Pionki                         | Poland         | AEHT |
| 8. Zespół Szkół Gospodarczych, Rzeszów                                   | Poland         | AEHT |
| 9. Zespół Szkół Hotelarsko-Gastronomicznych, Warszawa                    | Poland         | AEHT |
| 10. Frans Suell och Jörgen Kocks Gymnasium, Malmö                        | Sweden         | AEHT |
| 11. Vocational College for Tourism and Catering, Bled                    | Slovenia       | AEHT |
| 12. Kievskij tehnikum gotel'novo gospodarstva, Kiev                      | Ukraine        |      |
| 13. Vocational School of the Maritime Tourism Service, Odessa            | Ukraine        | AEHT |

What a fabulous event! Many VIPs had travelled to Prešov to be present at the opening ceremony, where a number of speeches were given, including that of our Polish Vice-President Bogusława Pienkowska (who had come to Prešov to make a presentation of the AEHT to the directors of Slovak hotel schools). The ceremony was followed by a highly energetic cultural programme and a splendid buffet accompanied by an excellent Tokay wine.

The following day the teams competed together on the platform, where ten competition stations had been set up, each with its own judge. An announcer compèred the competition and introduced the competitors. Applause from the public – most of them local citizens who had come in search of fun and drinks – reached its loudest during the ‘Flair Style’ part of the contest, when competitors juggle with bottles and throw ice cubes into the audience!



To ensure that the expert tasters gave impartial assessments, the drinks made by the contestants were numbered after each part of the competition.

The last day of the programme consisted of guided tours of the Prešov wine museum (including a wine-tasting) and a visit of the Spiš region, the ancient town of Levoča and Spiš castle. The programme was rounded off with a dinner at Fričovce manor followed by an evening’s bowling.

The winners of the R. Jelínek EURO CUP 2007 competition are:

#### Short drink

1. Terézia Mináriková (ZSŠ Tovarnicka, Topoľčany, Slovakia)
2. Lukáš Siroka (HA Prešov 1<sup>st</sup> team, Slovakia)
3. Oscar Martensson (Malmö, Sweden)

#### Soft drink

1. Maroš Petrikovič (HA Piešťany, Slovakia)
2. Viačeslav Rosolovskij (KTGG Kiev, Ukraine)
3. Katarína Škvarková (ZSŠ služieb Zvolen, Slovakia)

#### Outright winners in the ‘individual’ category:

1. Terézia Mináriková (ZSŠ Tovarnicka Topoľčany, Slovakia)
2. Katarína Škvarková (ZSŠ služieb Zvolen, Slovakia)
3. Lukáš Siroka (HA Prešov 1<sup>st</sup> team, Slovakia)

#### Outright winners in the ‘team’ category:

1. HA Prešov – 1<sup>st</sup> team, Slovakia
2. ZSŠ Tovarnicka Topoľčany, Slovakia
3. SOU SD Jednota Prešov, Slovakia

#### Flair style

1. Slawomír Wiater (ZSG Rzeszow, Poland)

2. Maroš Petrikovič (HA Piešťany, Slovakia)
3. Sławomír Szylar (ZSG Rzeszow, Poland)

Miss Eurocup 2007: Lenka Triznová (ZHaOŠ Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia)

The most pleasant competitor: A'se Dunbar (LTH Dierkich, Luxembourg)

Nestlé prize for the best decoration: Andrea Ban (TUŠ Split, Croatia)

Slovak Barman Association Prize: Mario Markovič (VCFCAT Bled, Slovenia)

Prešov County President's Prize: Miščík Ľubomír (SOU SD Jednota Prešov)  
(the best individual competitor from Prešov County, except those who have won other prizes)

Best individual competitors from outside Slovakia:

1. Jakub Ucinski (ZSP Pionki, Poland)
2. Oscar Martensson (Malmö, Sweden)
3. Brigitta Bede (Kivi Budapest, Hungary)

This prestigious competition will be held again in Prešov in November 2008 – don't forget to register!

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Antonio Nebbia International Warm Food Competition' Cingoli, Italy**

The fourth 'Antonio Nebbia International Warm Food Competition' took place in Cingoli, Italy on February 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> 2008 with the theme of 'Finger food and cocktails – innovation in tradition'. The AEHT provided the organisers with support in distributing information about the event to its membership via e-mail and via its website. Despite several reminders the organisers have not yet submitted their final report or claimed their subsidy.

#### **5<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Gastronomy: Sport and Health (on the theme of water sports) held in Faro, Portugal**

The fifth event in this series, on the theme of water sports, took place on March 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> 2008 in Faro, Portugal, with the financial support of the AEHT. 40 participants from ten schools, including nine AEHT member schools, attended this event. Of those schools represented, three were from outside Portugal (one from Spain and two from Italy).

There are three parts to the festival: 1. The kitchen and food service contests, 2. A seminar and 3. Sports activities linked to the main theme, i.e. water sports. If you would like to have an idea of the festival programme please see the shortened version of the video made during the 2007 festival, published on the CD-Rom containing the 2008 AEHT Yearbook. In addition you can order from the festival organisers a brochure containing the best recipes created during the 2008 festival.

#### **'GASTRO2008' gastronomy competition, Poreč, Croatia**

The Croatian schools' national gastronomy competition, 'GASTRO 2008' took place on April 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in Poreč, a town almost two thousand years old located on the west coast of the Istria peninsula in the Adriatic. The event was organised by the Poreč hotel and tourism school which has been an AEHT member since 2003 – its director, Mrs Vesna Baranasič, is currently a member of the AEHT Executive Board. This year, unlike previous years, the event was co-financed by the AEHT.

Around 200 students, teachers and directors from 47 Croatian and two non-Croatian schools including one AEHT member, attended the Gastro2008 competition. The organisers were very

pleased to welcome Ms Mette-Ida Gordon Padovan, a young Dane of Croatian origin from the Copenhagen Hospitality College (DK04) accompanied by her teacher Mr Christian Beck.

The competitors were arranged into teams of students from the same school. Competitions took place in the following nine areas:

1. Culinary arts (preparation of a menu)
2. Restaurant service
3. Flambé work
4. Culinary arts (preparation of a cold dish)
5. Pastry
6. Bar
7. Reception
8. Tourism
9. Presentation of a tourist destination.

For the first time these competitions were held in accordance with a modified set of rules now based on the AEHT's competition rules. The event is supported by the Croatian government and over the last ten years has enjoyed a growing success. A few years ago it was opened to schools from outside Croatia – so roll up!

### **2<sup>nd</sup> International Thrace Cup at the Anatolian Hotel and Tourism School in Tekirdag, Turkey**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Thrace Cup, which had been planned for April 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> at the Anatolian Hotel and Tourism School in Tekirdag, has had to be deferred until 2009 for the same reasons affecting the Gothenburg seminar.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Competition for Hotel Reception Employees and 2<sup>nd</sup> City Tourism Competition, Giulianova, Italy**

The 'L. DI POPPA' I.P.S.S.A.C.T. in Giulianova (in the Teramo province of the Abruzzo region) covered itself in glory yet again by organising the **fourth edition of the Competition for Hotel Reception Employees** and the **second edition of the Tourism in the City contest** from May 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> 2008. Once again the enthusiasm of the organisers brought together a large number of volunteers for the event, as well as a good number of institutional supporters and numerous faithful sponsors from private companies; they attracted the attention of professional and tourism bodies in the east of the country, thus giving the event an exceptional dynamism.



The event, which received financial support from the AEHT, brought together 159 participants from 20 Italian schools and from 13 schools outside Italy (from Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Latvia, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia and Spain).

Gregorio Riva from the San Pelegrino Terme school emerged as the winner of the Reception competition which included a written test and a role-play. The winner of the Tourism competition, which included a

written test, the setting up of a stand on the Viale Orsini as well as an oral presentation, was won by Sigita Zvirbule from the school in Riga, Latvia. Both winners were presented with a grant to finance a language course abroad.



A cup was awarded to the Catering College of the Jyväskylä Vocational Institute in Finland – for having obtained the best average scores both in the tourism and the reception contests. In addition, the public voted for a ‘best stand’ award for the schools from Pachino, Tortoli and Riolo Terme.

The creators of this event, which generates such conviviality and professionalism, have no intention of resting on their laurels, and they are already planning the next event in order to give AEHT students yet another opportunity to compete together while getting to know each other.



*Students at the prize-giving*

## **5. Christmas in Europe in Semmering, Austria, November 30<sup>th</sup>-December 5<sup>th</sup> 2007**

The 16<sup>th</sup> AEHT Christmas in Europe, one of the Association’s leading events, took place from November 30<sup>th</sup> to December 5<sup>th</sup> 2007 in Semmering, Austria, hosted by ‘Europe’s highest’ hotel and tourism school, located at the foot of the ski slopes.

15 schools (besides the organizing school) from 12 countries (AT, AL, BE, HR, FR, GR, HU, IT, LU, SI, RU, PL) were present at this version of Christmas in Europe, which enjoyed a true Christmas atmosphere thanks to the Austrian snow:

1. AL 01 - Tirana
2. A 07 - Semmering
3. B 19 - Rance
4. CR 01 - Split
5. F 23 - Bonneville
6. F 80 - Château Chinon
7. GR 01 - Rhodes
8. H 01 - Budapest
9. I 02 - Panzini
10. I 113 - Reggio Emilia
11. L 01 - Diekirch
12. PL 02 - Poznan
13. RUS 08 - Nizhny Novgorod
14. SLO 01 - Bled
15. SLO 02 - Maribor
16. S 04 - Örebro



*15 AEHT schools from 12 countries were present in Semmering*

The four components of Christmas in Europe – the exhibition of Christmas traditions, the cultural display, the inaugural parade and the European buffet – were all a resounding success. But we should say that thanks to skilful marketing, the team headed by Jürgen Kürner – the school’s boss – won the challenge of attracting hundred of visitors to the exhibition – where they were enthusiastically received by our students.

We should point out that throughout the duration of the event both the teachers and the students spared no effort to ensure that all the participants took away an unforgettable impression of this Christmas in Europe – a



festival attended with obvious pleasure by AEHT President Louis Robert, Vice-President Klaus Enengl and Christiane Keller, the founder of Christmas in Europe; all shared in the spirit of Christmas and the spirit of Europe, which have always been the unifying forces of Christmas in Europe since its inception.

Jo Laegny’s detailed report, illustrated with his photographs, may be consulted at [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu).

Comparison with previous years:

Year	Venue	Participants	Countries	Schools
2007	Semmering	69	12	15*
2006	Orebrö	81	13	16
2005	Fundaõ	74	11	15
2004	Bad Ischl	86	16	18
2003	Senigallia	135	16	22
2002	Kuresaare	70	12	14
2001	Poznan	150	19	20
2000	Rhodes	300	17	18
1999	Bonneville	72	10	12
1998	Podebrady	70	12	13
1997	Espoo	92	14	15
1996	Budapest	90	11	13
1995	Barcelona	70	10	13
1994	Copenhagen	88	13	19

\* organizing school not included

## 6. Teacher Placements in Units of the ACCOR Group 2008

The AEHT has encountered this year certain problems in the organisation of the teacher placements in ACCOR hotels. Renata DLUGASZEK, a teacher at the ‘SZKOLA POLICEALNA NR 13’ school in Warsaw, Poland, who had been handling for the AEHT the day-to-day organisation of these placements since 2007, has changed jobs and is now working in the hotel sector. We sincerely apologise to the hotels and to the applicants who were unable to take part in the programme this year, and we will do all in our power to ensure that this situation does not happen again in future.

Following the two requests sent to ACCOR hotels in the spring of 2008 by Céline Jeantet-Gorre, an administrator with the ACCOR Human Resources Directorate, 27 hotels had agreed to host this year a teacher from an AEHT member school for a ‘period of observation’ of one or two weeks.

Country and number of ACCOR hotels		
1.	Germany	5
2.	Austria	2
3.	Belgium	2
4.	Spain	1
5.	France	11
6.	Netherlands	2
7.	United Kingdom	3
8.	Switzerland	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>27</b>

Receiving Hotels		
1.	Mercure	5
2.	Novotel	10
3.	Ibis	8
4.	Sofitel	3
5.	Pullman	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>27</b>

As of September 16<sup>th</sup> the situation was as follows, and the final statistics will be presented at the next General Assembly. In view of the small number of participants, this year it will be difficult to identify any meaningful trends in this placements programme.

By this date seven teachers from six schools in five countries had registered for an ACCOR placement:

Sending country		
1.	Poland	3
2.	Austria	1
3.	Portugal	1
4.	Finland	1
5.	Slovenia	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7</b>

AEHT Code of participants' schools		
1.	PL02	2
2.	PL08	1
3.	A04	1
4.	P05	1
5.	FIN16	1
6.	SLO01	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7</b>

Host country		
1.	Germany	2
2.	Austria	1
3.	Belgium	1
4.	Spain	1
5.	France	1
6.	Netherlands	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7</b>

The participants preferred destinations in Western Europe, and almost exclusively at the centre of the North-South axis.

Sex		
1.	Males	1
2.	Females	6
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7</b>

Subjects taught		
1.	Language Teachers	3
2.	Practical subjects	4
3.	Management teachers	0
4.	Others	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7</b>

Nearly 85.7% of participants in the scheme were female; compared with last year slightly fewer females were interested in ACCOR placements. While the percentage of participating language teachers has fallen by 13% compared with last year (42.9% in 2008) the proportion of teachers of practical subjects has increased by 27.7% (57.1% in 2008).

<b>Languages spoken</b>		
1.	French	2
2.	English	4
3.	German	3
4.	Spanish	1
5.	Others	0

English was the most widely used language, followed by German then French.

<b>Departments to which teachers were allocated</b>		
1.	Reception – Rooms Division	6
2.	Housekeeping	0
3.	Food production	3
4.	Restaurant	4
5.	Commercial	0

Most of the participants completed their placement in Reception, Rooms Division and or Food Service. Most of the placements took place in several departments.

**Conditions governing teachers’ participation:**

- Lodging is provided free of charge in a single room in the hotel;
- Meals are free of charge if taken in the staff refectory; 50% reduction is granted to those who eat in the hotel’s public restaurant;
- The AEHT reimburses travel costs up to a maximum of €200;
- The teacher is present in the hotel as an observer, and is not obliged to work;
- To cover its administrative costs the AEHT charges each participant €80, except those participants from Eastern European countries which are not members of the European Union. This administrative charge is deducted directly from the AEHT’s subsidy for travelling expenses.

## 7. Meetings

- **Meetings of the Presidium**

October 16<sup>th</sup> 2007

Jesolo Lido, Italy

March 14<sup>th</sup> 2008

Kuressaare, Estonia

June 28<sup>th</sup> 2008

Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

- **Meetings of the Executive Board**

October 17<sup>th</sup> 2007

Jesolo Lido, Italy

March 15<sup>th</sup> 2008

Kuressaare, Estonia

- **General Assembly**

October 18<sup>th</sup> 2007

Jesolo Lido, Italy

Several illustrated reports covering the Executive Board and Presidium meetings held in various countries may be consulted at [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu).

- **Council of Europe (CoE): Education and Culture INGO Grouping**

On June 24<sup>th</sup> 2008 John Rees Smith represented the AEHT at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg; the Association has the status of an INGO (International Non-Government Organisation) enjoying consultative status with the Council of Europe, where we are members of the Education and Culture Grouping. The meeting was the Grouping's last gathering of the 2007/8 academic year and took place from 16.15 to 18.15 in meeting room 2 of the Palace of Europe in Strasbourg.

The meeting dealt with imminent restructuring of the Council of Europe and consequent changes to the ways in which INGOs operate in their dealings with the CoE; there was a long debate about the White Paper on Inter-cultural and Inter-religious Dialogue (2008 is the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue); Human Rights Education was discussed at length, as was the matter of Media Education and the deontology of information processed by the media. Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights received a long airing. Probably the most important item as far as the AEHT is concerned is the proposal to set up Cultural Routes across Europe – those currently under discussion include *The Iron Route*, *The Mozart Route* and the *Roma Heritage Route*. These developments will doubtless have an impact on the HORECA sector.

The Chair of the Education and Culture Grouping, Alain Mouchoux, suggested that the work of the Grouping should be guided by the Chinese proverb: *When planning for a year, plant corn; when planning for a decade, plant trees; when planning for life, train and educate people.* Perhaps a fitting motto for the AEHT ?

## 8. Representation

As far as possible the Presidium asked one of its number to attend the various events organised by its member schools (see table below) in order to represent the AEHT:

<b>SEPTEMBER 2007</b>	<b>MANIFESTATION AEHT</b>	<b>REPRESENTATION</b>
September 26 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup>	Workshop 'On the Trail of Tasty Game', Rzeszow, Poland	Bogusława PIENKOWSKA
<b>OCTOBER 2007</b>		
October 16 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup> AEHT Annual Conference, Jesolo Lido, Italy	All members of the Presidium
<b>NOVEMBER 2007</b>		
November 13 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup>	Eurocup 2007 – Young Barman Competition, Prešov, Slovakia	Bogusława PIENKOWSKA and John REES SMITH
<b>DECEMBER 2007</b>		
November 30 <sup>th</sup> -December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas in Europe, Semmering, Austria	Louis ROBERT, Alfonso BENVENUTO and Klaus ENENGL
<b>FEBRUARY 2008</b>		
February 17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> International 'Antonio Nebbia' Warm Food Competition entitled 'Finger-food and cocktail – innovation in tradition', Cingoli, Italy	
<b>MARCH 2008</b>		
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup> Cocktail Contest – Francoli Cup 2008, Ghemme, Italy	
March 13 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>	International Gastronomy Festival: Sport and Health (on the theme of water sports), Faro, Portugal	<i>Note: no representation was possible at this Festival because of the Presidium and Executive Board meetings in Kuressaare</i>
<b>APRIL 2008</b>		
April 2 <sup>nd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	'GASTRO 2008' gastronomy competition, Porec, Croatia	Klaus ENENGL
April 16 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	'Bartolomeo Scappi' International Competition 2008, Castel San Pietro Terme, Italy	
April 17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup> International Culinary Arts Competition entitled 'Il Piatto Verde' (The Green Plate) 2008, Riolo Terme, Italy	
<b>MAY</b>		
May 8 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Competition for Hotel Reception Employees and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tourism in the City competition, Giulianova, Italy	Alfonso BENVENUTO
<b>JUNE</b>		
June 25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>	Seminar on 'The Secrets of Madeira Wines', Funchal, Portugal	All members of the Presidium except Neeme RAND and John REES SMITH

On June 24<sup>th</sup> 2008 John Rees Smith attended the spring meeting of the Education and Culture INGO at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg (see above for further details).

In order to fulfil his remit as (Vice) president responsible for fixed events, Louis Robert visited Dubrovnik (Croatia) on June 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> to discuss with Antun Perusina the organisation of the 2009 Annual Conference.

In order to maintain contact with a long-standing professional partner, the General Secretary took advantage of a private visit to Senigallia (Italy) in August 2008 to visit the premises of 'Casa della Divisa'. On this occasion she conducted an interview with Marco Esposto with a view to preparing an article on his company, to be published in the next edition of the AEHT newsletter. Please note that a link on the AEHT website will take you to the Casa della Divisa site, enabling AEHT members to take advantage of heavily discounted prices, and to have simpler access to information about the range of professional uniforms on sale.

## **9. AEHT Presidium's Study Visit to Colombia**

In mid-February 2008 the Presidium undertook a ten-day mission to Colombia, at the invitation of the SENA (Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje – National Training Service), Colombia's largest public training body and an agency of the Colombian Ministry of Social Protection; each year the SENA provides initial training – free of charge – to more than 400,000 people, and provides in-service training to a further three and a half million workers.

The SENA was set up in 1957 and quickly became a vital driving force for economic and social development throughout the country. Today the SENA has 115 training centres distributed across all 33 regions of Colombia. The AEHT Presidium visited a total of six such centres, all very different from each other. The SENA has the highly important socioeconomic remit of offering to every Colombian citizen, including the most deprived, free training (financed through professional training levies) in all technical domains; in 98% of cases this training leads to paid employment, thanks in particular to the SENA's own public employment services.

At present the SENA is eager to establish new partnerships with European hotel and tourism schools in order to improve its training provision, to modernise its premises and equipment and to organise student and teacher exchanges with Europe. Thanks to the AEHT's support, between November 16<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 2008 five member schools will be hosting two or three Colombian students for a familiarisation placement. In addition the SENA has requested the AEHT's opinion about its gastronomy portal, which has the purpose of reviving Colombia's rich gastronomic traditions by providing a repertory of the innumerable local recipes which are still passed on orally.

Why should the AEHT be involved in a fact-finding mission to Colombia?

The AEHT had a number of reasons:

- Opening the AEHT to Latin America, an area currently undergoing a very promising process of development;
- Establishing access to a national network of the SENA's 115 training centres and to a network of hotel and tourism businesses which work in partnership with the SENA;
- Exchanging knowledge and skills between the AEHT and the SENA's training centres;
- Establishing contacts with potential new professional members;
- Organising placements for students and teachers in hotel businesses;
- Cooperating in tourism-related activities in Colombia and in SENA's planned upgrade of the hotel and tourism sectors;

- Discovering a new culinary culture which uses raw materials which are very little known in Europe;
- Assessing the country's potential in terms of gastronomy and tourism;
- Gaining a more objective knowledge of the situation in Colombia.

In 2009 we plan to arrange for observation periods or training periods for students and teachers in the SENA's training centres or in Colombian hotels.

For a detailed report of our mission please visit [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu).

## 10. Publications

- **Newsletters**

In 2007 adopted a new form of communication – the internal newsletter. Three numbers appeared in 2007/2008: one in December 2007, one in March and one in May 2008. The newsletters to a large extent replace the information letters which members used to receive, and we recommend that you at least glance through so as not to miss important announcements and other information about the activities organised in collaboration with the AEHT.

- **Website: [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu)**

The new website [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu) which can now accept, among other things, advertising from our professional partners has been up and running since 2006. It was set up by our webmaster, Ahti Paju, who is in charge of IT at the Kuressaare Ametikool in Kuressaare, and is periodically updated by the General Secretary and by the webmaster who both add information about the AEHT's activities. The software enabling the General Secretary and the Treasurer to update (periodically) on line members' data is now up and running.

In 2004 we began updating information on national education systems in general and on training for the hotel, restaurant and tourism professions in particular, using data provided by our national representatives. The Presidium requests that they periodically review the published information and inform the Head Office of any changes needed.

Articles written by the AEHT's official journalist, Jo Laengy, on a variety of subjects, particularly the Annual Conferences and Christmas in Europe, may be consulted on the website. We should also like to express our thanks to Christiane Keller, Louis Robert, Nadine Schintgen and John Rees Smith, who have helped make the website more attractive by writing or translating articles.

We invite all members to visit the website regularly to keep themselves informed about the AEHT's activities and about announcements of any changes. The rubric entitled 'News from our Members' enables each member to announce and describe activities which may be of interest the entire membership. Comments and suggestions about the form and content of the website are welcome and should be sent to the AEHT Head Office.

- **AEHT 2008 Yearbook on CD-ROM**

In June 2008 all AEHT members received by post the new version of the yearbook on CD-Rom including material for the promotion of the Association. This CD-Rom includes three sections:

- An animated presentation of the Association;
- Reports and newsletters from 2007-2008, a photo gallery and video clips showing recent AEHT activities;
- An updated AEHT membership directory and a list of the Executive Board members for 2006-2009.

Any members who have not received by post the envelope containing the CD-Rom are requested to inform the AEHT Head Office ([secretariat@aeht.lu](mailto:secretariat@aeht.lu)). Please also inform the Head Office as soon as possible of any changes to be made to the contact details contained in the CD-Rom.

- **Mail sent out to AEHT members in English and French**

Following the financial cuts imposed by the Presidium at the end of 2005, distribution by mail has been replaced by electronic communication (see next paragraph).

In June 2008, only the Yearbook on CD-Rom was sent out by post to the AEHT membership.

## 11. Electronic Communication

The use of electronic communication has become indispensable because of budget cuts and because of the urgency of some announcements. It is therefore vitally important that the AEHT is in possession of a working e-mail address for each and every member of the AEHT. Anyone who has not received one or more of the communications listed below is requested to ensure that the AEHT has an up-to-date e-mail address for them, and to check that their server does not treat grouped e-mails from the AEHT as SPAM. If this is the case, please ensure that your system recognises [secretariat@aeht.lu](mailto:secretariat@aeht.lu) as a reliable source.

During the 2007-2008 academic year the following electronic communications have been sent to AEHT members:

Date	Sent to	Content
<b>2007</b>		
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	All AEHT members	Invitation to the General Assembly and agenda
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	All AEHT Executive Board members	Invitation to the Jesolo Lido Executive Board and agenda
August 8 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	AEHT Activities Report 2006/2007
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Additional information about the AEHT Annual Conference held in October in Jesolo Lido, Italy
September 20 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT Executive Board members	Reminder of invitation and agenda of Executive Board held on October 17th in Jesolo Lido, Italy
September 24 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Invitation and registration form, programme and rules for the EURO CUP 2007 competition held on November 13th – 17th 2007 in Prešov, Slovakia
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Appeal to AEHT members to support Bulgarian teachers' strike
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Copy of letter of support for striking Bulgarian teachers sent by AEHT Head Office to the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and to the Bulgarian Parliament
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Forwarding a partnership request from a school relating to a Leonardo da Vinci project
December 14 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Newsletter number 4
December 20 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT Executive Board members	Invitation to the Executive Board meeting in Kuressaare and agenda
December 20 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Christmas card
December 20 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Forwarding Christmas card from the Casa della Divisa

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sent to</b>	<b>Content</b>
<b>2008</b>		
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT Executive Board members	Travel information about the Executive Board in Kuressaare (flight cancellation)
January 29 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Announcement on publication on the website of Jo Laengy's article on Christmas in Europe 2007
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT Executive Board members	Confirmation of registration of representatives attending the Executive Board in Kuressaare
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Newsletter number 5
April 7 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members and contacts in Colombia	Invitation, programme, competition rules, basket of ingredients and application forms for the contests held during the 'Comparison of International Cultures of Oeno-gastronomy and Tourism' event held on May 9 <sup>th</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup> 2008 in Sciacca, Sicily
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT Executive Board members	Copy of an article published in 'Catering Magazine' on the study visit to Colombia by the Presidium in February 2008
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Reminder and documents about the competition held in Sciacca, Sicily
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	All AEHT members	Information about the Annual Conference in Kuressaare and about the publication of an article describing the stay in Kuressaare of the Presidium and Executive Board Minutes of the Executive Board meeting held in Kuressaare
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Appeal from the President to help the Bosa Milicevic school in Subotica, Serbia – an AEHT member school experiencing financial problems – by paying their membership subscription for a year
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Forwarding to AEHT members an especially advantageous offer from the Casa della Divisa
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	List of placement offers in units of the ACCOR group and other useful information for participants
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Information about the Conference on Cultures and Flavours held on July 10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Request for schools to participate in the Diyarbakir Watermelon Festival held by the Diyarbakir Anadolu Otelcilik ve Turizm Meslek Lisesi
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	May offer from the privileged partner, La Casa della Divisa
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Information about the 'CETT Barcelona Tourism Summer Course'
May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	All AEHT members	Request to all members to try out the software created by the RESTOLINGUA company, enabling users to perform on-line translations to produce menus in different languages
May 30 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Newsletter number 6
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Forwarding a communication about company profile, partner search, seminars and exchange projects for a Greek member (GR03)
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Invitation and programme for the seminar on 'White Truffles: between tradition and contemporary cuisine' held on October 1 <sup>st</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> in Porec, Croatia

July 8 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Forwarding request for food production and pastry teachers for a new school in Managua, Nicaragua sent out by the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs
July 10 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Article on the seminar entitled 'Secrets of the Wines of Madeira' held on June 25 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> in Funchal, Madeira (Portugal) together with information about holiday closure of the AEHT Head Office during the summer vacation
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Forwarding a privileged offer from ATTA (Adventure Travel Trade Association) offering reduced registration fees to hotel, catering and tourism students at the 'Adventure Travel World Summit' held on September October 21 <sup>st</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> in Bergen, Norway
September 12 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT members	Invitation to the General Assembly and agenda
September 12 <sup>th</sup>	All AEHT Executive Board members	Invitations to the AEHT General Assembly and Executive Board, together with agendas

## 12. Leonardo da Vinci Projects

- **'VIRTEX4ALL' project**

The AEHT was already a partner in the VIRTEX pilot project submitted in 2004 by Horizon College, Alkmaar (NL), and has now extended its collaboration as a partner in an innovation transfer project, VIRTEX4ALL – using foreign languages during placements in the hotel and restaurant industry', submitted by a Dutch school, ROC van Amsterdam. This latest project aims to make available to teachers in hotel and tourism schools a method for teaching English and German including a series of examples of good practice used in the partner countries. The method will include, *inter alia*, guidelines for the use of Virtex – materials which were awarded the first prize by the association of all language teachers in the Netherlands (Levende Talen) in 2007, when Virtex competed with a host of other innovative practical language projects. The Virtex material will be arranged according to the levels of language competence laid down by the CEFR – the Common European Framework of Reference. Furthermore certain components of the Picture project (intercultural communication) and of Dilaport will be incorporated. The method will also include tests corresponding to each language level of the CEFR.

The project also includes a programme of exchanges between students from the partner schools; while undertaking the exchange the students will have the opportunity to look for a professional placement.

The project will start officially on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2008. The AEHT will be represented by John Rees Smith, and a first partners' meeting is scheduled for January 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> in Amsterdam. For further information please visit the VIRTEX project website which you can access via [www.aeht.eu](http://www.aeht.eu) .

- **‘E-LINGUA : Hotel & Tourism’ project**

On March 30<sup>th</sup> 2007 the AEHT Head Office had submitted, as promoter, the **‘E-LINGUA: Hotel & Tourism’** project of which the objective was the Europe-wide transfer of ‘Weblingua’, a multimedia resources programme for on-line oral communication training in five European languages (EN, DE, ES, IT and FR) for nine different professions in the hotel and tourism sector (45 modules representing 140 hours of training) and containing exclusively authentic situation-based materials specific to each job. The product was developed between 2004 and 2006 with Leonardo da Vinci II funding, and in 2006 its quality was recognised by the award of the European Languages Label of Quality.

The product was initially created for salaried staff in Western European countries, and its outstanding quality led the AEHT to see its potential for linguistic preparation for job mobility in its member schools for students following initial training. Unfortunately because of the high number of European projects being submitted, the proposal was not selected by the European Commission.

### **13. Promotional material**

In 2008 the stock of small AEHT flags and labels was replenished (stocks had run out). May we remind you that very fashionable ties, scarves and other articles bearing the AEHT logo may be purchased via our website: you can download an order form and send it to the AEHT secretariat ([secretariat@aeht.lu](mailto:secretariat@aeht.lu)). Certain articles will also be on sale during the 2008 Annual Conference in Kuressaare.

**Diekirch, September 16<sup>th</sup> 2008**



**Louis ROBERT**  
AEHT President



**Nadine SCHINTGEN**  
AEHT General Secretary

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