

IFHE ANNUAL MEETING 2008

Heidelberg, Germany

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
FOR HOME ECONOMICS

Report from Council Committee Young Professionals Network

Submitted by: **Chrissy COLLINS**, Chair

The IFHE Young Professionals Network (YPN) Council Committee was formally established at the 2005 Annual Meeting in Bonn. The fundamental aims of the YPN are to provide a network for young and developing IFHE members to get involved in Home Economics at an international level.

The primary establishment of YPN has occurred in Europe while Emma COLLINS and Stefan WAHLEN worked in the IFHE Office. 2005 saw many new ideas developed and initiated, forming a best practice model for discussion and dissemination at the 2006 Annual Meeting. What we have set out to achieve so far:

2005 – Year of Initiation

- The set up of the YPN area on the IFHE website –
 - § About YPN
 - § Information
 - § Networks
- Information for members of IFHE about the YPN through the newsletter and presentations at Annual Meetings
- Create and establish network links within IFHE
- Increase membership numbers within YPN and thus increasing IFHE membership numbers
- Organise and facilitate regional YPN meetings and network opportunities.
- Strong presence in Europe with presentations at Universities and conferences.

2006 – Year of Action

- 175% increase in Annual Meeting YPN participants
- Increase of student membership numbers from 50 to 56.
- Continue building membership numbers
- Europe best practice model established
- YPN work happening in Pacific Region including a presentation at a University.

2007 – Year of Consolidation

- Continued increase in Annual Meeting YPN participants
- Continued increase of student membership numbers
- Continue building membership numbers
- Europe best practice model distributed to other Regions
- Active Young Professional Meeting and forums in many regions, particularly strong in Europe.

2008 – Goals

- Establish IFHE YPN mentor program
- YPN newsletter section, tear off and hand out.
- Establish a YPN contact for all other regions.
- YPN opportunities at Congress
- Organise to hold a YPN electronic meeting.

Regional activity has been very strong in Europe since the first meeting in 2005, with the support of the Vice-President and IFHE Office. Whilst we had Emma COLLINS and Stefan WAHLEN working in the office, we saw this as the time to build and strengthen our YPN resources. They have created a PowerPoint detailing the work of IFHE and benefits of becoming a Young Professional IFHE member. Leaflets and posters were also designed and presented to potential student members. These resources are now being used throughout the world and are available for Regions to use to promote YPN and IFHE. Work by Emma, Stefan and Helge HUELLEN also included visits to Universities and conferences advocating the work of the IFHE YPN.

YPN has motivated representatives working behind the scenes to meet the goals we have set to achieve in the Europe and Pacific Regions. We are actively seeking a representative to continue our work in the other regions. Can you help us? We are looking forward to the opportunity of now spreading our work throughout the international community, having established in Europe so effectively.

YPN – offering a sustainable transition for young people into the IFHE, creating the future.