CPNN Newsletter

September 2000

A Global Movement for a Culture of Peace

Our goal for the International Year for the Culture of Peace (IYCP) is to launch CPNN sites in all six UN languages. This edition of the CPNN update gives a bird's eye view of the CPNN network world-wide. These sites represent different groups, including students and professors in diverse educational institutions as well as municipal officials, all working together to launch a global system of information exchange to promote a culture of peace.

It is important to emphasize that CPNN is built on strong partnerships with UNESCO Offices (in Amman, Moscow, San José, Santiago de Chile), National Commissions (the National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO) and educational institutions (the International Conflict Resolution Centre at the University of Melbourne, the International School of Paris, the University of Murcia, Nan Kai University, Skopje University and the University of Thessaloniki,).

Moderator Training courses, a central feature of CPNN, were held in Asia, Europe and Latin America, resulting in some 200 Moderators trained in the 6 UN languages. By the end of the IYCP we aim to have the CPNN network on line! It will build on the global movement for a culture of peace that has already engaged millions of individuals and thousands of organizations in most countries of the world (http://www.unesco.org/iycp).

David Adams, Director, Unit for the International Year for a Culture of Peace

English

ICRC Launch Update

The International Conflict Resolution Centre (ICRC) has been developing the Central Translation Site for the CPNN system since January 2000. This site, co-ordinated by the Director of ICRC, Di Bretherton, has three teams -- the Activities, the Moderators and the Technical team – preparing the launch of this site.

The Technical Team has had a lively six months developing the Central Site. As the launch date for the site approaches, they are very busy putting the finishing touches before unveiling the site.

The Activities team, based at the University of South Australia, has links with more than 70 schools through the Unity In Diversity (UID) project, the Australian UNESCO Associated Schools Project, and various community education groups. These links aim to increase the number of moderators and reporters, to provide a vehicle for everyone to share their achievements on CPNN.

The Moderator team, based at ICRC, has held two moderator-training sessions since the beginning of the year -- at the University of Melbourne (March 2000) and at the University of South Australia (June 2000). Approximately 15-20 participants from various cultural, religious and professional backgrounds attended each workshop.

Reports generated from the training sessions have been moderated by a small group of volunteers via email. In addition reports from students of different age groups have been collected by the Activities Team and are ready to be moderated and published on the site.

Meanwhile, the site administrators, the principal moderator and general moderators have begun to familiarize themselves with the site. Despite the site still being under construction, moderators can already access it "backstage" and see how the site looks and works.

Site launch details to be announced soon!

Multilingual

ISP Children's Site

> 'The eight keys fit very nicely into the overall school curriculum and the philosophy of the school… The students who have had work published feel very proud of themselves and we hope that they will continue to explore the eight keys. The site has been developed to allow everybody to participate either by writing in their own language or through photography or art work. The fact that the site is multi-lingual means that we can share with others around the world who might not speak English'.
>
> Marianne Freire, CPNN site co-ordinator, ISP, Paris

The International School of Paris (ISP) is the first multilingual children's site in the network. The two site co-ordinators, Marianne Freire and Chris Phelps-Thiry, collaborating with some 20 volunteers, have been busy moderating students' reports, translating, typing, scanning, and developing the web design of this unique site. At the request of the Principal of the Lower School, Ms Elizabeth Hickling, a staff-training day was held in March 2000. The school also organized a Parent Training Day in March 2000 and a 'Thank You Afternoon' for its volunteers in June 2000.

Arabic

Journalist Students at the CPNN Jordan Site

In March 2000, following a Moderator Training Session at UNESCO Amman, students from the Department of Journalism and Mass Media at Yarmouk University joined the CPNN Amman Site team. These students, who form the Reporters/Moderators Team for the UNESCO Jordan website, join volunteers in the Activities Team and the Technical Team trained at the 1999 UNESCO Amman Moderator Training. The site team, led by the CPNN Co-ordinator, Isabel Escauriaza of UNESCO Amman, has been busy promoting CPNN in school activities and developing the Arabic language site.

Chinese

Moderator Training in China

A Moderator Training Workshop for trainers and moderators of the CPNN Chinese Site at Nan Kai University was held 9-11 July 2000 for some 15 participants. The Workshop was facilitated by Zeynep Varoglu (UNESCO, Paris) and Ekaterina Saliagina (UNESCO Moscow), with the assistance of Yu Xiao Ping (the National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO) and Jie Liang (University of Nan Kai Webmaster). The participants, identified by Nan Kai University and the National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO, were professors and students of philosophy from throughout China. The Permanent Delegation of the People's Republic of China to UNESCO was instrumental in the planning of this training workshop.

French

CPNN and the Association of French Municipalities for Peace

At the request of Michel Cibot, Directeur-General of the Association Française des Communes, Départments, Régions pour la Paix (AFCDRP), a French language moderator training was held in May 2000 at the Town Hall of Malakoff Municipality. Participants included representatives of AFCDRP branches throughout France. Zeynep Varoglu of UNESCO, facilitated the training, with the assistance of Virginie Velter of AFDRCP, Malakoff. The final session, lead by Virginie Velter of AFCDRP, Malakoff and Pierre Rodeville, AFCDRP, Aubagne, centered on a strategy to start a French language CPNN site in the AFCDRP network. As follow up to this training, an agreement formalizing AFCDRP's development as a CPNN French language site was established.

Russian

CPNN Moscow – A Training and Site Promotion

CPNN Moscow organized training sessions in Moscow and Kazan in April 2000. These workshops were facilitated by David Adams (UNESCO, Paris) and Ekaterina Saliagina (CPNN Moscow Co-ordinator). Participants represented partner organizations in Daghestan St. Petersburg, Volgograd, as well as Moscow and Kazan. The majority of the participants, who were between the ages of 16 and 22 years old, brought with them a great enthusiasm and commitment to using new information technology for a culture of peace and non-violence. The CPNN Moscow Team meets regularly at the UNESCO Moscow Office. Site promotion has been a strong focus for this Team in the first half of 2000. Activities include the preparation of promotional materials distributed during Culture of Peace events organized by UNESCO partners and exhibitions. The site was also presented at large events such as the Holiday of the Toy 21st Century (with an on-line press conference) and the Ceremony-concert of the Manifesto 2000 which included the participation of diplomats and members of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. In addition CPNN site info-letters were distributed to over 200 educational institutions and the site was registered in all Russian search systems.

Spanish

Exchanges between Spanish-Speaking Moderators

Interactive exchanges between Spanish-speaking moderators in Latin America and Spain have been the highlighted in a series of Moderator Training Workshops held during the year 2000. This summer Moderator Training Workshops are scheduled in Costa Rica, Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala. These training sessions are organized by the Head of UNESCO San José (Costa Rica), Juan Chong, and facilitated by CPNN trainer, Sergio Sarmiento. Moderators trained during the previous training sessions also moderate reports produced during each of proceeding training sessions — e.g. moderators in Panama practice moderating reports from Nicaragua. The Training Sessions also promote the use of the Internet to get involved in IYCP Activities for the region. In South America, Moderator Training Courses in Brazil, Argentina and Chile were held at the Federal University of Parana (Brazil), the University of Entre Rios (Argentina) and the UNESCO Santiago Office in Chile respectively during the spring of 2000. Sergio Sarmiento facilitated these training sessions. Taking advantage of the global reach of Internet, participants of these training sessions sent their reports by email to be moderated by moderators in Argentina and Spain.

Partnership Agreement

To officially recognize partner sites in the CPNN network, an agreement outlining the rights and responsibilities of CPNN sites and UNESCO is now ready. It focuses on the contributions of UNESCO: providing support and materials for the training of moderators and assisting the co-ordination of the network. It also stresses the contributions of partners in the network: establishing and maintaining Internet sites in accordance to the CPNN Guidelines and participating in the global translation pool. This agreement, open to all existing partners, is also proposed to all new partners who wish to be recognized as part of the CPNN network as it grows throughout the Year 2000.