

Adult Education Centre

Weiden/Neustadt, Germany

**OSMOSYS piloting state of the art
at the Adult Education Centre Weiden in Germany
and the Bavarian Adult Education Centre Association**

Presented by

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and

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We present „the art of state“ in three terms:

- ❖ Short introduction of our persons and our institution
- ❖ The specific background of the german and bavarian education system - especially the adult education for integrating formal, non formal & informal learning
- ❖ The actual status of our Adult Education Centre in relation to the Osmosys principles

Short introduction of the persons and institution

Margit M. Kanter

- Consultant for e-learning
- Member of the project group in the bvv
(Bavarian Adult Education Centre Association)
- Project manager for implementing e-learning/blended learning concepts for special target groups in an open Adult Education Centre
- Project manager eLearning services at the Adult Education Centre Weiden-Neustadt, Germany
- trainer and teacher for language and IT skills

Short introduction of the persons and institution

Leo Dietrich

- Managing director at Adult Education Centre Weiden/Neustadt
- main points of the last years work are developing qualification programs for special target groups and needs, especially for enterprises and unemployed persons
- Implementing eLearning as a new method of learning and teaching
- Implementing formal qualifications and certificates

Short introduction of the persons and institution

The institutions:

DVV – German Adult Education Centre Association

BVV – Bavarian Adult Education Centre Association

VHS – Adult Education Centre Association

Short introduction of the persons and institution

The institutions: dvv – bvv

- the ownership is normally by the communal authorities (public) or
- it is organised as an independent public body (private, mostly in Bavaria)
- or more and more as a limited company
- more than 1000 ALC spread all over Germany
- 208 ALC in Bavaria
- one of these 20 ALC´s is situated in Weiden between Regensburg – Nürnberg 30 km from the czech border (in former times or now)

Short introduction of the persons and institution

The institution: vhs

- Staff: 30 persons all together
- 3 persons are continuous employed program managers
- 5 project managers are employed only a certain time for special projects
- rest is administration staff
- per year more than 20.000 enrollments for continuous courses and singular events
- own building, renovated in the year 2000

Background Information

The specific background of the german and bavarian education system (especially the adult education for integrating formal, non formal & informal learning):

- the federal political system in Germany is an obstacle for the integration of formal – nonformal – informal learning
- central federal institutions have only a small influence to the educational politics in the countries
- my personal thesis:
 1. every documentation of formal and informal learning should have a legitimation, estimation, value ...
 2. Without this it is worthless for the individual because it is not accepted in the labour market
 3. Only an institution with a high legitimation and competence can develop and implete an an integration of these aspects of learning

Background Information

Additional to theses arguments you have to know:

- Formal qualification is highly monopolized by the public educational system and by the chambers of commerce
- The ALC are mostly not legitimated or integrated in the formal qualification system
- They don't have recognized diplomas and qualifications
- To support the process of life long learning, to gain target groups not used to a learning attitude you have to convince public organizations and private enterprises on the labour market from the worth of informal learning
- This only possible with a high competence in both sectors: formal and informal learning

New trends & chances

Social trends and new needs open new chances

- More and more unemployed (young) people have an incomplete learning biography
- The PISA Shock in Germany undermined the confidence in the formal qualification system
- Fast change of daily skills at the work place brings the urgent need of life-long-learning and improves the conditions for formal and informal learning
- The changing of society into an aging society brings the need to let the older generation take part in social life by life long learning

In which way did the ALC take their chance?

- Developing new curricula in European networks
- Modularization of the formal skills
- Implementation of European and international standards in formal and informal qualification
- Implementation of the recognized quality levels outside the traditional public systems (e.g. EFQM)
- „competence profiles“ for the documentation of formal – non formal – informal learning

What have we done in the vhs Weiden?

- Implementation of the leading certification systems in the sector of languages (Cambridge, DELE, DELF/DALF, DaF, CELI, Chinese...)
- Implementation of the Xpert certificate system for the different skills:
 - IT skills
 - Business skills
 - Personal skills
 - Intercultural Competence

What have we done in the vhs Weiden?

- EFQM (European Foundation for Quality Management)
- Using „Competence Profiles“ for different target groups and subjects
- Implementation of e-learning
- Dissemination of elearning in Bavaria

The actual status of our ALC in relation to the Osmosys principles

The principle:

1. Focused on 'supporting learners' rather than 'teaching mission'
2. Meeting place
3. Open to the use of ICT and e-Portfolio
4. Broker (offering more than own courses)
5. Demand responsive
6. Job-related & non-job related supply
7. Integrating formal, non-formal & informal learning provision/recognition
8. Partnership/network orientation
9. Active mainly for SME's/SMO's employees
10. Policy implementer

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*Thank you
for
Your attention*