

PARTICIPANT’S FEEDBACK ON THE CONFERENCE
“Youth Worker Found in Cyber Jungle”
November 18-19, 2008

150 persons participated in the conference.

The following summary has been prepared on the basis of 46 returned feedback forms. When reading the feedback it has to be taken into account that everyone’s assessment is based on his or her needs, values, expectations, previous experience, knowledge and interests. Thank you for sharing your experience of what you have learned, and your thoughts about the organising of the conference.

The performers have a possibility to get individual feedback regarding their performance by writing to Anne Õuema (Anne.Ouema@raad.tartu.ee).

Have a good time reading!

Anne Õuema
on behalf of the conference team

1. How did you like presentations?

Evaluation scale: 😞 incomprehensible 😐 satisfying 😊 good 😄 excellent

We ask to paint the face according to your opinion (one face per presentation)!

<i>Speaker/Presentation</i>	<i>Face for presentation</i>
Hannes Astok The cyber-aged and the cyber-youth: A generation conflict or a challenge?	Average score 3.3 😞 😐 😊 😄
Pille Pruulmann-Vengerfeldt Children and Youth in the Internet – Opportunities, Risks and Influencing factors	Average score 3.3 😞 😐 😊 😄
Linnar Viik Internet – not just bits and bytes	Average score 2.2 😞 😐 😊 😄
Jani Merikivi Virtual Youth Work – How to answer the call?	Average score 2.0 😞 😐 😊 😄
Youth panel Peak into the world of Internet generation	Average score 3.9 😞 😐 😊 😄
Panel discussion: The dangers, security and ethics of Internet	Average score 3.4 😞 😐 😊 😄
Anniki Tikerpuu The dangers, security and ethics of Internet	Average score 3.1 😞 😐 😊 😄
Aare Kirna The dangers, security and ethics of Internet	Average score 3.3 😞 😐 😊 😄
Tim Davies MySpace, Facebook and all that – Social network sites and youth work: findings from research in England	Average score 3.6 😞 😐 😊 😄
Panel discussion: Challenges of IT for youth work	Average score 3.0 😞 😐 😊 😄

Elen Brandmeister Challenges of IT for youth work	Average score 3.0
Olga Bogdanova Challenges of IT for youth work	Average score 3.1
Kaido Kikkas Challenges of IT for youth work	Average score 3.3
Daniel Vaarik Hactivism and new ways to change the world	Average score 3.9
Kristel Altosaar ja Reimo Rehkli E-lab restarts youth work in Tartu	Average score 3.3
Hanne Rantala Nuorten Tampere – Gateway to youth services	Average score 3.2
Liene Timbra Sites for young people in Latvia and Riga	Average score 2.8
Krisztina Ferenczy The Virtual Youth of Veszprém	Average score 3.3
Mari Mielonen, Ann-Mari Hammarberg, Jaana Ranta-aho, Anssi Ikonen How to reach digital youth in Turku?	Average score 3.5
Workshop A: ABC for a youth worker at an online youth centre: practical guidelines for the youth work on the Internet	Average score 3.7
Workshop B: Practical exercise on the Internet: How to increase the participation of the youth through youth work on the Internet including the young people who are less involved and with fewer opportunities?	Average score 3.4
Workshop C: Creative game (for the youth): If and what kind of Internet space or online youth centre do the young people need?	Average score 3.6
Videos by Tiit Joala „Down the rabbit hole”	Average score 3.5
Jungle market	Average score 3.4
Elina Kivinukk Facilitator	Average score 3.8
Peeter Marvet Facilitator	Average score 3.8
Henrik Roonemaa Facilitator	Average score 3.7

2. How did the conference meet your expectations?

Assessment to different aspects of the conference has been presented pursuant to their ranking.

Assessment has been given on a five-point scale:

1 = did not meet expectations 5 = met expectations completely.

	Average assessment (arithmetic mean)
1. Location	4.9
2.-3. General Organisation	4.6
2.-3. Conference Materials	4.6
4. Structure of the Programme	4.4
5.-6. Choice of Performers	4.3
5.-6. Catering	4.3
7. Interactivity	4.2
8.-9. Content of presentations	4.1
8.-9. Cultural Programme	4.1
10. Advance Advertising	4.0

Now, the comments of the participants

Location

- I had to catch a really early bus as I was coming from Tallinn, but it's a good thing that the bus station was nearby
- Perfect to the ones who came by bus
- The best
- Great!
- Easy access, could be easily found
- Right next to the bus station
- Very good and in the centre of town
- Great access but the Dorpat Convention Centre has bad service

General Organisation

- Well done!
- Generally very good, but you should have been more prepared technically
- The organisers should be on the E-lab's Hall of Fame
- Very cool
- Very well organised
- Can't complain
- Smooth and friendly
- Technical appliances failed – therefore, 4.5
- Unfortunately, there was no stage for the performers so they were very hard to see
- Smooth and the time schedule was followed
- Very good interpreters

Conference Materials

- Virtual presentations could have also been on paper
- Everything was thought through, Tartu is always original!
- It was just right, wasn't overdone
- There was a waste of paper ☺
- Good materials which come in handy later
- I would like to have the presentations, workshop reports, YouTube suggestions, etc
- I would like to have copies of the presentations, the theses don't contain much information
- Sufficient
- Very good!
- Very practical
- Presentations should be given on CDs.

Structure of the Programme

- Cool
- An important and very relevant subject
- Good structure
- Quite good
- Well organised
- Everything was in the right order
- A little too intense
- The hours were quite long and before the evening programme there was only two hours of spare time
- Too intense for one day, something could have been left out
- 4,5 as well – approach to some subjects was too superficial, otherwise everything was logical
- There could have been more of practical examples or assignments
- It's great that you stuck to the schedule

Choice of Performers

- So and so. Some were very cool
- Good choice
- Some performers need some more experience
- It would have been a great idea to invite more young performers
- There was only one or two great performers every day
- A diverse and interesting choice
- Some were good, some were bad. Before saying yes to performing, people should think if they have anything new to say.
- The portals were all the same. Too little new information.
- Some performers should have thought more about performing
- 50%-50% success
- A diverse choice

Catering

- Great

- There could have been more to choose from on coffee breaks, not just meat pie
- Since some people were from outside Tartu there could have been sandwiches in the morning
- Instead of biscuits, there could have been fruit
- Everything was the same, too little choice
- The food was good, too much sweets
- The cakes were excellent
- Great biscuits
- Good frequency, lunches were a bit boring
- It was strange that at Lille Maja we had to buy food for ourselves
- Coffee breaks were great, lunches were not so great
- Too little food, all the vegetarian food was not that good
- Very good
- There was enough to eat!

The Level of Interactivity

- Very interactive
- Jungle – a great idea!
- Okay
- At some points it was boring as the technical appliances failed and fragmentary speech is not very interesting to listen. There were interactive means used.
- Good enough
- Quite a lot of conversation
- Could have been more interactive

Content of the Presentations

- Some were hard to follow
- Some were very interesting, others weren't interesting at all
- More subjects on solutions and advice
- Concise
- More attention to youth on the Internet
- Technical appliances failed but to see L. Viik like this... :P
- The portals were all the same, too little new information
- There wasn't enough time for everything
- There were also weaker performers but that derived from involving twin towns which in the context of this project was inevitable
- A glance to the future would have been good
- Many different topics

Cultural Programme

- Nice, the event at Lille Maja was nice
- I have no comments
- I don't know what to say
- Too many social activities
- Too many games, no time to see the town
- Okay, but too little spare time, that is also needed

NB! The programme was too intense for foreign guests

Advance Advertising

- The usual, it came as a letter in the mailing list
- I got the information thanks to being in a mailing list
- Who wants to find information, has to search for himself
- It came from different organisations
- Clearer structure and the length of presentations
- I expected more advertising
- I hope that advertising reached those out of Tartu
- Could be found to those who knew where to look. More into media (broader)
- Good enough
- Confusing
- Okay

3. What did you learn at the conference?

Many new things about online youth work and the possibilities of the Internet

- I got a lot of new and useful information, especially on the first day.
- I got a lot of new information.
- I learned a lot about new possibilities of the Internet.
- How to do youth work on the Internet and a lot of new ideas.
- New information and new approaches, to sum it up – very interesting.
- That I'm a so called "mammoth" and kids only put up with me because of my good personality. A lot of new thoughts and ideas on how to conduct classes, raise kids, what more to learn.
- I got sort of an overview of the situation between youth work and the Internet, some good examples, pointers and ideas
- Many new things and a vast amount of new ideas.
- Some things on online youth work.
- Very professional organising! I learned of and found out about many new possibilities. I'm going to join Skype!
- I learned a lot about the Internet; that youth work on the Internet is also very important and how to do it knowingly.
- I have several ideas how to develop virtual youth work, this was very interesting for me.
- I learned many new and interesting things on youth work and using the Internet. I got many new ideas, contacts, drive to find new information.
- I saw many good specialists, I learned that there is no need to be afraid, one has to learn about the Internet on his own.
- I learned a lot about the Internet at the conference (though I myself am still young and I thought I knew quite a lot about the Internet). I also got ideas on what to pay more attention to when working with youth.

Use the possibilities of the Internet for the benefit of youth!

- That the Internet should be tried to be used for the benefit of youth.

- That there are many possibilities on the Internet and that youth should be influenced through the Internet taking advantage of the fact that they are always there.
- I found out quite a lot of new things. One of them was that the Internet should be used even more upon doing youth work.
- The most important answer I got was that we shouldn't create new networks but find our way to the youth through the ones that already exist.

Exchange channels not messages!

- I had heard about the Second Life environment, but now I have seen it. Quote of Daniel Vaarik: "Exchange channels not messages."
- Which channels and cyber environments are going to be useful in the future when communicating with youth, some good ideas to think about.
- How to make the Internet work for you. How to get information through to youth better.

Cyber jungle doesn't care!

- That the cyber jungle really is elusive
- I realized that I don't know anything about the Internet and its possibilities yet. On the first night I surfed the web for an hour. I'll try again today.
- That I have to deal a lot more with this whole web thing.

Dangers of the Internet

- Arvutikaitse.ee ☺ The Internet is a very bad place ☺

Creation of a cooperation network and its importance

- A lot. I got new acquaintances, got to know people and compared our online projects with the same kind of projects of other countries.
- I got information on many web pages that I want to check out later. I got to know new people. I remembered many good examples.
- To solve Internet-based problems, we need cooperation

Youth work on and outside of the Internet complete each other

- Online and real life youth work is cooperation, one can't replace the other. It's necessary to take advantage of the strengths of both of them. If the real world was balanced, then the artificial worlds would not be such a big problem.
- Online youth work completes real life youth work but doesn't replace it. The Internet gives many possibilities for youth work, they should be taken advantage of.

I learned from the experience of other countries

- Second Life. And that Finland has come a long way with youth work on the Internet.
- A lot about virtuality and situations in various countries.
- Practical information is important, for example Habbo Youth Centre in Finland.
- Differences between countries

I revised and got assurance

- I was reminded of what I had learned before and I refreshed my memory, etc.
- I didn't get new information but I now have some good ideas that I can use in my work.
- I got a lot of ideas. I got assurance. I understand youth better now. I think I will start doing online youth work.
- That we are going in the right direction and the work that we do is great and necessary.

Other

- I heard about the possibility of Second Life
- Helena very cleverly asks for feedback through games

4. What do you suggest the organisers keep in mind next time?

Widen the target group of the conference!

- Invite more young people
- Keep up the good work! You could concentrate to all people dealing with youth. There could be more teachers but it's a little too expensive for schools. Thank you!
- The organisers are great! You should continue with subjects that interest everyone dealing with youth, not just professional youth workers. But in this case, the conference has to start with general introduction of youth work.

So that the technical appliances wouldn't fail...

- I don't know if you could have done anything about it, but I was not very happy about the problems with the Skype connection.
- To check first if the technical needs meet the possibilities. The money should be used on eliminating technical problems not on pens or fancy materials.
- To make sure that the presentation of an interactive performer was in the materials (half of the text got lost because of the bad Skype connection).
- It is very unfortunate that for technical reasons some presentations did not get through to us, maybe this could be avoided in the future.
- There should always be plan B, in case the appliances ought to fail. For example, we could have had at least a summary of what Linnar Viik said, because a lot of that presentation didn't get through.
- All the appliances should be checked first.
- Make sure that your appliances are working smoothly. Thank you for an interesting conference!

Recommendations on the programme and the materials

- Instead of a set of materials or in addition to it there could be a CD with all the presentations of the conference. There could be more practical examples and advice (for example, theory on the first day and practical work on the second; why not a visit to a youth centre).
- The text could be in English.

- It would be great, if you videotaped all the workshops and uploaded them on the Internet.
- A previously set punctual schedule for the performers would be necessary. Presentations ought to be supported by slide shows.
- There could have been an (energy) game which would have enlivened the people a little more and made them more active.
- More detailed solutions from the performers.

Make the programme shorter!

- Good work! Maybe the days could be a little shorter. If you also want to participate in the evening programme, then you are busy all the time.
- The first day was very intense, there could be more days like the second one.
- There could be one day without a programme – too intense (foreign representative)
- Less social activities. The days were quite tiring.
- The programme was too intense, too little spare time, too long hours and intense programme, especially on the first day. There could be evening meetings in pubs? It's a pity we had no time to see the town.

A topic for the next conference

- Maybe street youth work for next year.
- I'm interested in street youth work but actually I have no idea which other subjects could be continued next year.

More about the organising...

- Next time definitely choose better interpreters.
- Please avoid smiles when giving feedback. As a psychologist I was very sad to see what was done to the Likert scale, and people aged 20-50 hardly ever carry crayons to a conference.
- More advertising – there were too many vacancies in the hall!
- There could have been previous information in regard to parking.

Keep up the good work and organise more conferences!

- Keep up the good work! Always be innovative!
- Be brave!
- Keep up the good work! The current situation of the respective subject in Estonia (scientific researches, etc) could be brought out.
- Keep up the good work! There could be a police officer specialised in cyber-crime committed by youth from an EU country.
- We could do this again sometime.
- All I want to say is thank you. It is great to see good cooperation between the organising team. Thank you for all the warmth you shared! ☺
- Do it again! Invite teachers! Super! Thanks!
- Keep it up! Very useful information for sharing contacts and new ideas. Thank you!
- Keep all the good thoughts up!
- Keep up the good work!
- Good luck!

- You are very good organisers of conferences, keep it up and organise many more! 😊