

topics addressed and a lively desire to participate by all delegates. A central insight that emerged through the debates was that in times of high uncertainty, such as those we are experiencing, even the theoretical models and the professional practices of those involved in choice and life designing must radically change and deal with the promotion of well-being and quality of life of those more exposed to the deleterious effects that the crisis is causing in different parts of the world.

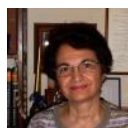
At the end of the conference Jean-Pierre Dauwalder, president of the European Society for Vocational Designing and Career Counseling (ESVDC) awarded two young researchers who have distinguished themselves with their research projects, Aysenur Buyukgoze-Kavas from Turkey, and Maria Chiara Pizzorno from Italy.



Professor Dauwalder also awarded Salvatore Soresi for his scientific and human contribution in this area of investigation and activity on behalf of the ESVDC.

Through the Larios Website (<http://larios.psy.uniipd.it/ze-index.php>) you can take a look at photos and videos of the conference and the cross-cultural research which the International Hope Research Team has triggered in several countries. Those of you who are interested in this research are welcome to join!

## News from Greece



by Despina Sidiropoulou-Dimakakou



& Nikos Drosos

More than 400 career counseling and guidance practitioners attended the training

seminars that were co-organized by the *National Organization for the Certification of Qualifications & Vocational Guidance (EOPPEP)* and the *Career Counseling Research & Assessment Center of the University of Athens (KEAES)*. The training seminars took place on November of 2013 in Athens and Thessaloniki and aimed at helping practitioners face new challenges, such as the socioeconomic changes and the major financial crisis, the sharp increase of unemployment, the large number of immigrants, the development of technology, etc. Professor Despina Sidiropoulou-Dimakakou, director of KEAES, was the scientific responsible of the training seminars.

Trainees had the opportunity to attend several workshops and get updated regarding new trends in career counseling.

The workshops focused on (a) current career counseling approaches, such as narrative counseling, planned happenstance, solution focused brief career counseling etc., (b) methods and techniques for the development of new characteristics and skills (e.g. openness to uncertainty, flexibility, entrepreneurship skills, decision making and problem solving skills), (c) multicultural career counseling, (d) implementation of a new Career Adaptability Program for adolescents and university students that was developed by KEAES, (e) new career patterns, e.g. protean careers, kaleidoscope careers, portfolio careers, etc., (f) work-life balance, and (h) career counseling for recently unemployed. The high professional and academic level of both trainers and trainees guaranteed the great success of the seminars.



## European Doctoral Programme in Career Guidance and Counselling



by Laura Nota

As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 the European Commission is funding a project to set up a European doctoral school specializing on Career Guidance & Counselling with 400.000 Euros.

The project is a joint venture of the European Society for Vocational Designing and Career Counseling (ESVDC) and the Network for Innovation in Career Guidance and Counselling in Europe (NICE), which is funded by the Erasmus programme from 2009-2015. It is lead by Laura Nota from the University of Padua and Johannes Katsarov, Coordinator of NICE, together with 5 colleagues: Valérie Cohen-Scali from CNAM-INETOP in Paris, Rachel Mulvey from the University of East London, Jérôme Rossier from the University of Lausanne, Rie Thomsen from the Aarhus University in Copenhagen, and Peter Weber from the Heidelberg University. Altogether, more than 25 colleagues from the NICE network are involved in the project, which brings together higher education institutions from 15 European countries.

Until September 2016, the project consortium will conduct three summer schools to provide international doctoral training and networking opportunities to about 25 doctoral researchers from all around Europe. The first summer school will be hosted by the University of Padua in September 2014. Aspiring researchers will be able to discuss their research approaches and findings with peers and professors from different disciplinary backgrounds. Workshops will be offered to introduce the participants to state-of-the-art research methods and innovative theories, giving them the chance to expand their perspectives and their capacity for interdisciplinary research. Further training will support the doctoral researchers in developing their teaching and leadership skills.