Symposium on Doctoral Education in Career Guidance and Counselling

by Laura Nota and Johannes Katsarov

On July 10, 2014, the European Doctoral Programme in Career Guidance and Counselling held a first symposium at the ICAP Conference in Paris. The symposium was invited by the European Society for Vocational Designing and Career Counseling (ESVDC), which has launched the project together with NICE, and was chaired by Laura Nota.

The symposium focused on a variety of questions and approaches related to doctoral training and research in our field. After an introduction of ECADOC and the upcoming summer school by Laura Nota (IT), Jean-Pierre Dauwalder (CH) talked about some of the strategic challenges related to a doctoral programme in our field. Next, Valérie Cohen-Scali (FR) introduced the outcomes of a study on the motivations and expectations of doctoral researchers who are doing a PhD in the field of career guidance and counselling.

These presentations were followed by two contributions relating to the development of a European Research Agenda for Career Guidance and Counselling. To begin with, Jérôme Rossier (CH) brought up some pivotal research questions, which need to be addressed in the future, so to demonstrate the direction, into which the European Research Agenda could go. Secondly, Peter Weber and Christiane Schiersmann (DE) presented the outcomes of a European-level study, offering an overview and a first systemization of the different research activities going on in our field throughout Europe.

Three members of the ECADOC advisory board offered the final three presentations. Maria Eduarda Duarte (PT) raised the question, how training programmes for PhD students could help to rethink career guidance and counselling. Annelies van Vianen (NL) introduced a Dutch format for doctoral training, as a good practice example for the European Doctoral Programme and Raoul van Esbroeck (BE) discussed how a balance between practice and research could be achieved in doctoral training in career guidance and counselling.

Slides and a video documentation of the symposium can be accessed at http://larios.psy.unipd.it/ecadoc/pages/simpos.php on the website of the ECADOC project.

Upcoming: From September 15-20, 2014, the first summer school of the European Doctoral Programme will take place at the University of Padua in Italy. Twenty-eight doctoral researchers from 18 European countries will be attending the event. We will report on this first summer school of the ECADOC project in the next NICE Newsletter.