

International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities

**IASSID** Academy on Education, Teaching and Research

The newly formed Academy, which resulted from a decision of IASSIDCouncil, has developed its action plan, and in October 2007 ran its first workshop and seminars in Mexico. The aim of the Academy is to work with interested parties in different countries on courses, workshops and seminars, which will be of value to the local community working with people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. Its major task is to facilitate the transfer of research findings into everyday practice, and in so doing promote the quality of life, health and wellbeing of people with disability and those who support them. Workshops range from 1-3 days. There are 1-day seminars, though other possibilities will be considered. Arrangements have been made to certificate the participants, if wished.

The Academy sees the development and delivery of training as a partnership between IASSID, particularly the SIRGs and local personnel. However it is charged to carry out these programs on a cost-neutral basis and is requesting, particularly in relation to developing countries, that members who offer their services do so on a voluntary basis with recovery of travel, room and board expenses.

The Academy is in an exploratory phase and is currently negotiating for courses and workshops in Singapore and Italy with further arrangements for Mexico. Plans are underway to organize Pre-Congress workshops in Cape Town, South Africa. Special interest for collaboration has been recently received from China.

If you have interests and suggestions for the Academy's work please let us know.

On behalf of the Academy Board. Roy Brown

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