

SCIENCE ON STAGE POSITION AND STATEMENTS ON THE ISTP

INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT ON THE TEACHING PROFESSION, 3–4 MARCH 2016, BERLIN

MAIN THEME: Teachers' professional learning and development: Creating the conditions to achieve quality teaching for excellent learning outcomes

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY: Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Education International (EI)



SCIENCE ON STAGE: FROM TEACHERS FOR TEACHERS

REAL CHANGES START AT THE BASE

ISTP CONCLUSION: Ministers, union leaders, government officials, teaching professionals and education experts from 23 countries agreed that professional and well-trained teachers play a key role when it comes to facing large scale societal challenges of the future.

SCIENCE ON STAGE, the European Network for STEM Teachers, continues to support the in-service training, motivation and networking between teachers with good practice teaching ideas. Teachers have engaged with Science on Stage over the past 15 years via non-bureaucratic and effective exchange activities.



TEACHER PROFESSIONALISM FOCUS ON TEACHERS

ISTP CONCLUSION: Committed teachers should be supported in their personal and professional growth. The appreciation of the teaching profession itself should be strengthened in society.

SCIENCE ON STAGE supports teacher's motivation by organising international educational festivals, international cooperation between teachers as well as cross-border teacher trainings. By experiencing these kind of personal exchanges with like-minded colleagues, teachers' self esteem is strengthened and new skills are gained. As a public platform for good practice teaching ideas it is especially important to us to highlight our teachers' commitment to the public and local communities in which they reside.



AUTONOMY

INDEPENDENCE, CONFIDENCE AND APPRECIATION OF THE
TEACHING PROFESSION

ISTP CONCLUSION: Teachers should not only communicate their expert knowledge to the students but help them gain various soft skills such as problem solving and team work. Therefore teachers need to be able to structure the content of their lessons autonomously.

SCIENCE ON STAGE presents practical examples of how this can be managed despite restrictive curriculum demands via workshops all across Europe. At the workshops, teachers learn how to gain more autonomy in their lesson planning by testing alternative teaching methods and working together with colleagues on interdisciplinary topics.



PEER NETWORKS

INCREASING THE QUALITY OF TEACHING THROUGH FEEDBACK

ISTP CONCLUSION: High-quality teaching needs a lively feedback culture between colleagues, mutual constructive criticism as well as joint problem solving.

AT SCIENCE ON STAGE teachers develop from 'lone fighters' to 'team players' through our activities based on personal exchange that help build and strengthen a feedback culture among teachers. This lives on in everyday school life and even encourages colleagues to exchange their ideas and network.

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EVALUATION SCIENCE ON STAGE

We know that Science on Stage inspires teachers, but how exactly do teachers profit from taking part? How often do they apply their newly acquired teaching materials? And to what extent do the ideas exchanged at the festival spread across the participant countries? Tanja Tajmel and Ingo Salzmann from the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin have explored further into these questions. Their results give high praise for Science on Stage!



of the participants established international contacts; half of them made at least four good contacts.



of the teachers have implemented at least one teaching idea from the festival at their school.



of the participants were still in contact with 2-4 colleagues from the festival eight months after meeting.



of the teachers have conducted between 1 and 3 teacher training activities based on learning from Science on Stage within the eight months after the festival.

The participant survey took place before, during and eight months after the Science on Stage festival 2013.

THE SCIENCE ON STAGE FESTIVAL

At a Science on Stage festival the best 450 primary and secondary science teachers from 30 countries take part. Teachers are valued as experts here: They all present their teaching ideas at stands, and some go on to jointly develop materials in workshops or show their ideas on a stage. The eighth Science on Stage festival took place in

Frankfurt (Oder) – Słubice in 2013 and was organised by Science on Stage Germany and Science on Stage Poland. The next host will be Science on Stage Hungary in Debrecen in June 2017.

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