

Questionnaire on Structures of Permaculture Education, Oct.2012

Questions in purple = qualitative questions

I R E L A N D

Institution (people and places)

- 1) Do you have a legal entity (association, institute, trust, private company) in your country which offers a pathway to the permaculture diploma?

Ireland has a new PC Association that is very much just getting going. The pathway to Permaculture Diplomas is through the UK PC Association. There is a popular two year accredited Permaculture course in Kinsale Community College.

The partners in the European Permaculture Teachers Partnership is:

Cultivate Living and Learning - martin@cultivate.ie

Another contact (Pc designer) is Hannah Mole <livingpermaculture@mail.com>

If it is not possible to achieve the Diploma in your country, what do you suggest to people interested in the diploma?

Going through the UK Association

- 2) Which kind of general PC education/training do you offer?
- 1 introductory courses to PC
 - 1-2 PDC
 - lots of Courses on specific topics
 - 1 Design workshops
 - Lots of Practicals/hands-on workshops
- 3) Which kind of ADMINISTRATION back-up does your institution provide?
- office with opening hours to the public
 - Private office/ not open to public
 - Online office tools
 - website
 - reachable by telephone
 - library (open to public or members)
 - online-library (ebooks, scans, pdfs)
 - paid staff: 1 full time, 5 part time
 - unpaid staff

4) Which kind of ORGANISATIONAL back-up does your institution provide?

magazine

X regular newsletter, how often/year: *sent electronically 12 times a year*

X meeting of members, how many/year: *monthly*

X staff meetings, how many/month: *4*

regular events for students and tutors, how many/year: _____

X regular celebrations for everybody involved, how many/year: *1*

regular accreditation events, how many/year: ____

online forum (on certain topics)

lists of designers

students

tutors

members

other: _____

If you think of patterns, which one would you choose to describe the internal organisation of your institution? (spiderweb, open net structure, branching, circle, spiral, other)

circle - we are a cooperative

5) On a scale from 0 to 5, where would you place the degree of self-organization in the events mentioned above:

X

0 1 2 3 4 5

Please describe the experiences you made with self-organizing structures, open agendas, open space events:

We are very experienced in self organised organisations through thre ecovillage where we are based. Sometimes positive and sometimes negative experience

6) How do you evaluate your institution/organisation as a whole? What kind of feed back mechanisms do you use on a regular basis?

Work In Progress meetings every week with all staff

People

7) Which kind of PERSONAL back-up does your institution or your national network provide? Please note in brackets how many.

- PC teachers
- co-teachers/apprentice teachers (xx)
- consultants (= designers who go out to clients) (xx)
- specialists, in what: _____ (xx)
- tutors for students on the Diploma pathway (xx)

Note that some people can have several “roles”. Please count them in all suitable categories.

What does the interaction between you as an institution and the teacher/tutor etc. look like?

How do you manage to create win-win-situations for both?

Places

8) What kind of real, physical places to learn about PC are-there in your country? Please note in brackets how many.

- X research centres with staff (2)
- X farms, homesteads, gardens which take on volunteers/apprentices (5)
- X enterprises, businesses which take on volunteers/apprentices (2)
- other: ecovillage (1)

In which way do you as an institution support their work? (for ex. on your website, certification/labeling, handing out lists to students etc):

Students and their pathway-to-diploma

9) What are the minimum requirements to enroll for the pathway to diploma?

10) How is the pathway to Diploma organised financially?

fixed fees monthly or yearly: _____

individual arrangements with tutors

free of charge

other: _____

11) On a scale from 0 to 5, where would you place the grade of self-organisation of your students?

0 1 2 3 4 5

explanation:

0 = least self-org. = they don't have to be very self-organized because the institution provides everything like at school: curriculum, teachers, tests...

5 = highly self organised; there is no structure or fixed tools for their pathway (apart from tutors); everything is up to the student to organise: their learning, making contacts, org. of the accreditation event etc

If you like, describe how you encourage your students to more self-organisation:

12) On a scale from 0 to 5, where would you place the input of your organisation/institution regarding the diploma pathway?

0 1 2 3 4 5

explanation:

0 = no input = t. The institution only hands out the diploma.

5 = the institution provides a lot of tools (tutorials, events, handouts, online-courses, office back-up etc) for the student.

Accreditation*

- 13) Did you develop tools to evaluate the design capacities of students? Which ones? Which experiences?

- 14) What are the minimum requirements to go for accreditation?

- proposals from 2 tutors
- 2 years of experience in PC design
- 10 designs
- documentation of the designs
- documentation of the learning pathway
- other: _____

please feel free to describe in more detail:

- 15) Follow-up after the accreditation: Did you develop tools to stay in touch with the new designers? Which ones? How do they work?

How do you integrate new designers in your system/institution?

- 16) Do you offer training to become a tutor?

YES NO

- 17) What support does your institution/network give to tutors?

* accreditation = final presentation of the student's pathway in order to obtain the Diploma of Applied Permaculture Design