

Dear Learning Regions Workshop Delegate

This letter and its attachments are to let you know more about the European Learning Regions workshop, which you will be attending on 25 and 26 October in Barcelona. Hopefully it will get past your spam and other filters, but since we need to know that everyone has received it, we would be grateful if you could send a brief reply to penr3l@stir.ac.uk confirming receipt.

Accommodation has been reserved for you for the nights of 24th and 25th October at the 4 star H10Itaca Hotel in the heart of Barcelona. Those of you flying in to Barcelona airport will need to catch the airport express train into Sants station. From there it is about 200 metres across the square to the hotel. A map of the location of the hotel is shown on its website (www.h10hotels.com). If you are flying into Barcelona-Girona airport, the Ryanair Barcelona bus goes to the Norte Station and from there you will need to catch the metro to Sants or take a taxi. You can check in at any time after 12noon on the 24th October. You pay nothing except telephone, drinks and other personal expenses for the 24th and 25th but, if you wish to stay longer in the hotel at your own expense, you can do so by contacting Marta Roig-Serra, sales manager at the hotel at comercial.hi@h10.es quoting 'penr3l congress'.

Similarly, if you are bringing a partner and need a double room, please let Marta know. There is no extra charge for the latter, but the hotel will need to know well in advance.

You are asked to book your travel to Barcelona as soon as possible in order to benefit from lower prices. As we said in the invitation letter, travel expenses up to 400 euros are reimbursable and this can be done by sending the attached claim form with a copy of your ticket to Lyanna Macinnes, University of Stirling, Airthrey Castle, Stirling FK9 4LA, United Kingdom. If you wish, you can wait until the workshop before claiming travel expenses.

European Commission projects of this type always require that we calculate the financial contributions in terms of the time that participants donate. By attending the workshop, you are making such a contribution in kind. We do not of course pay this to you but it counts towards the reciprocal contribution of the project. We will therefore be presenting you at the workshop with a timesheet that articulates the financial equivalent you are making. It is also attached to this letter. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

The draft programme is also attached. If you have difficulty downloading it please indicate this to penr3l@stir.ac.uk You will note that, as in every good workshop, formal presentations are kept to a minimum, and that everyone will have the opportunity to voice ideas, experiences, expertise and plans in the 'active solution groups.' These will be focused on achieving solutions that will assist in the development and enhancement of economic, social, cultural, environmental, human and intellectual capital in learning regions throughout Europe. With high-level people from 22 nationalities present this should be a lively series of debates. We will need to have discussion leaders for each of the 15 group sessions, so if anyone wishes to volunteer to run a session, please let us know on the form.

The workshop will take place at the Headquarters of Fomento (Fomento de Trabajo Nacional, Via Laietana, 32, 08003, Barcelona, Tel: 934841200, www.fomento.com – for map, building A, Metro: Jaume 1), the Catalanian Employers Federation. There is space here for full presentations, and break-out rooms for the discussions. You will be bussed between

hotel and workshop venue. **(Please assemble in the lobby of the H10Itaca Hotel at 8.10am to get transport from the hotel to the workshop location).**

Those of you who wish to bring a small display or brochures of learning region activities in your own locality are welcome to do so. Again, for displays, we would need to know in advance in order to plan space.

Immediately before the workshop you will be sent briefing papers and a few voluntary exercises to stimulate and harmonise debate in the group sessions.

Lastly, in order to have a good set of documents for everyone, we would be grateful if you could let us have your address and a brief CV which outlines your background and experience on the attached form. If you wish to make the contribution of a paper or any document that would enhance the discussions in advance please feel free to send it to penr3l@stir.ac.uk

We look forward to meeting, seeing and hearing you all in Barcelona and to enlisting your help in making a real difference to the knowledge and practice of learning cities and regions throughout Europe. If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact penr3l@stir.ac.uk We can do miracles – the impossible takes a little longer.

Professor Michael Osborne, co-Director of PASCAL, University of Stirling

Professor Norman Longworth, Project Advisor, University of Stirling

And all the partners in PENR3L

Attachments

1. The 4 page programme
2. An information reply form
3. Claim form
4. Time sheet