



Newsletter

Volume 2, nr. 1, April 2014

Introduction

The Global Applied Disability Research and Information Network (GLADNET) brings together research centers, universities, enterprises, government departments, trade unions, and organizations of and for persons with disabilities. Our common goal is to advance competitive employment and training opportunities for persons with disabilities.

GLADNET began as an initiative of the Disability and Work Program of the International Labour Organization (ILO), a specialized agency of the United Nations.

The GLADNET Association was established in 1997. GLADNET continues to work in close collaboration with the ILO Skills and Employability Department. GLADNET is registered in Switzerland as an international not-for-profit organization and its administrative offices are in Ithaca, New York, USA.

Board of GLADNET

Since the election of the board in December 2013 the members are:

Michael Kamp, Chair, Netherlands

Fabrizio Fea, Vice-Chair, Italy

Thomas P Golden, Secretary-Treasurer, United States of America

Mary Barros-Bailey, Board member, United States of America

Susanne M Bruyère, Extraordinary Board member, United States of America

Nicholas Buys, Extra ordinary Board member, Australia

Wendy Coduti, Board member, United States of America

Edwin de Vos, Extra ordinary Board member, Netherlands

Lynda R Matthews, Board member, Australia

Donal Mcananey, Past Chair, Ireland

Sophie Mitra, Board member, United States of America

Gregory Murphy, Board member Australia

Barbara Murray, Ex officio Board member, Switzerland

Aldred H Neufeld, Extra ordinary Board member, Canada

Trevor R Parmenter, Board member, Australia

John Selander, Board member, Sweden

Borja Jordán de Urries Vega, Board member, Spain

Jun Yaeda, Board member, Japan

Ilene Zeitner, Extra ordinary Board member, Brasil

Objective of GLADNET

The objective of the Association is to promote disability policy and program reform with emphasis on integrated training and employment options for working age persons with disabilities. These objectives are achieved through collaborative applied research projects and by the global exchange of information via the Internet.

Un Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

GLADNET has been funded by the International Labour Organization to support the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with the design over 300 publications related to the implementation of 13 articles associated with the employment and training for people with disabilities. Related publications include reports, policies and research, as well as practical guides, checklists, tools, information sheets, brochures, fact sheets that relate to work and employment, international cooperation and habilitation and rehabilitation. The link to the existing UNCRPD Resources page is available at the website of GLADNET: www.gladnet.org.

Cooperation with International Organizations

In 2012 GLADNET has signed agreements of cooperation with different International Organizations. In March 2014 an agreement is signed with the World Association for Supported Employment (WASE)



Signing of the Cooperative Agreement by Ronald Haccou, vice-president WASE, Michael Kamp, chair GLADNET, Fabrizio Fea, vice-chair GLADNET

Objectives in this agreement include e.g.:

1. exchange of relevant information and models of good practice with regard to the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with a Disability;
2. the development of a Global Research Network on Supported Employment.

A Global Research Agenda

GLADNET brings together research centers, universities, enterprises, government departments, trade unions, and organizations of and for persons with disabilities. The common goal is to advance competitive employment and training opportunities for persons with disabilities.

A priority for 2014 is to develop a Global Research Agenda in combination with Global Research Networks in specific fields (e.g. Disability Management, Supported Employment). The Research Network on Disability Management is already an active network for several years.

The Global Research Network on Supported Employment is currently in preparation and shall start this year.

This network can operate on the basis of a joint research agenda, which can include exchange of information, identifying research items, collecting relevant questions from international organizations. The Global Research Network on Supported Employment shall start from a minimum of 20 persons. It is expected that the network shall be operational round June this year.

Persons and organizations who are interested in joining GLADNET can apply through the website of GLADNET at: www.gladnet.org

Importance of research and international cooperation

Members of GLADNET are participating in different international networks, are involved in national and international research. GLADNET has strong links with international organizations.

The advantage of both is that international organizations can benefit from the research findings, which can be used for input for policy decisions.

International organizations can also identify questions for research and are in general willing to facilitate research.

Cooperation with universities and research centers creates win-win situations. Students/ young researchers can get involved in international research. Papers/ documents can be placed in the GLADNET database.

The board of GLADNET has decided to offer a student membership of GLADNET to give them the opportunity to get involved at international level. Cooperation with university faculties who are involved in research related to disability and work are invited to join GLADNET.

A next step GLADNET is working on is to create a database of involved researchers with their competences and experiences. The intention of this database is to match research demands with researchers who can carry out research activities.

Improving interaction among members

GLADNET has started with LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter to increase interaction with and among members. Get involved and like e.g. the facebook page of GLADNET via the GLADNET website: www.gladnet.org.

Upcoming events with presence of GLADNET

Presentation of the first draft of the new EASPD Employment Declaration on June 20, 2014, Brussels, Belgium.

International Forum on Disability Management November 17 - 19, 2014, Melbourne, Australia.

Information on upcoming webinars in the next Newsletter, through separate mailings and the website: www.gladnet.org

Information

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