

# News and Events / Novosti i događaji

## OMEP European Conference

### Play and Playing in Early Childhood

May 8 - 11, 2013, Zagreb



Under the patronage of Dr Ivo Josipović, President of the Republic of Croatia and the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, the European Conference OMEP took place in Zagreb from May 8-11, 2013. The Faculty of Teacher Education of the University of Zagreb was the academic partner of the Conference which brought together renowned professionals from twenty-three European countries, and a representative from the United States of America and Brunei thus confirming that the importance of play for the development and education of a child is globally recognized.

The guest speakers were Dr Elly Singer, full professor, with the lecture “Play and playfulness, basic qualities in early childhood education“, Dr Ingrid Pramling-Samuelsson, full professor, with the lecture “The playing learning child in ECEC“, from Sweden Dr Ingrid Ehgdahl, full professor, with the topic “Implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child“, from Greece Dr Nectarios Stellakis, full professor with the topic “Play, communication and literacy learning in early childhood education“ and Dr Natalia Rhyzova, full professor, from Russia with the lecture “Playing as a leading child’s activity: how to support it“ .

On the first Conference day, the following Croatian invited lecturers presented their work: Dr Ivan Prskalo, and Dr Vatroslav Horvat, with the topic “Play and kinesiological activity of a child – a precondition for establishing habits of everyday exercise“, Dr Renata Miljević Riđički, with the topic “Children – what they really need and what they actually get“ and Dr Biserka Petrović Sočo, with the topic “Symbolic play in nurseries“.

The invited lectures, both foreign and domestic, offered all conference participants an insight into contemporary scientific research on play and presented views of professionals whose area of research is play.

On the second and third day, Conference participants could actively attend plenary lectures and workshops and become acquainted with the numerous research results on children’s play and its influence on the development and education of a child. In

that respect, fifty-six national and international presentations took place in four major thematic areas: playing and learning, the environment for playing, adults and children's play, and playing around the world. From the scientific aspect playing was presented by numerous researchers from Croatian universities in Zagreb, Rijeka, Split and Zadar as well as from many foreign universities. The presenters showed their research and/or practical experiences thus offering a broad insight into rethinking children's play at an international and intercultural level. In addition to the presentations, ten workshops also took place relating to children's play. The offered lectures and workshops at times created dilemmas with respect to deciding which to attend as all were very interesting. It is also worth mentioning the nine poster presentations exhibited in the Faculty lobby, available for all conference participants, students, teachers at the Faculty, and wider public to see.

All of the Conference content is published in the Conference Proceedings, while nineteen research papers, which comply with the conditions of quality and relevance of the Croatian Journal of Education, are published in this thematic issue.

As part of the Conference, the Gallery of the Faculty of Teacher Education hosted the exhibition of photographs entitled "Igra – Play" as set up by Dr Antonija Balić-Šimrak and Edita Rogulj. Fourteen authors participated in the exhibition presenting "the moment" which represented play. A special catalogue of the exhibited photographs was published.

Global societal changes brought about through the fast-paced development have greatly influenced the change of play in contemporary childhood is the general conclusion of the Conference. The Conference itself offered participants at the international and interdisciplinary level a chance to rethink the findings of scientists and professionals regarding children's play from various perspectives and particularly in the area of education.

The last Conference day, after a very rich demonstration of children's play through the eyes of practitioners and researchers was marked by organized visit to kindergartens in Zagreb. More than 100 participants visited some of the following kindergartens which pride themselves with good practice: Izvor, Malešnica, I.B. Mažuranić, Tatjana Marinić, Remetinec, Botinec and Srednjaci, leaving a very positive impression on their visitors.

It can be concluded that the European OMEP Conference on playing in early childhood organized in partnership with the Faculty of Teacher Education, University of Zagreb offered its participants the opportunity to broaden and exchange the thoughts of professionals and researchers on the importance of children's play for a quality development, learning and growth of a child in the contemporary life in the family and educational institutions.

*Edita Rogulj and Biserka Petrović-Sočo*

# Europska konferencija OMEP-a

## Igra u ranom djetinjstvu



8. - 11. svibnja 2013. godine, Zagreb

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Od 8. do 11. svibnja 2013. godine u Zagrebu je pod pokroviteljstvom predsjednika Republike Hrvatske, prof. dr. sc. Ive Josipovića i Ministarstva znanosti, obrazovanja i sporta Republike Hrvatske održana europska konferencija OMEP (Organisation Mondiale pour l'Education Préscolaire) s temom „Igra u ranom djetinjstvu“ (Play and playing in the early childhood). Učiteljski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu bio je akademski partner konferencije na kojoj su se okupili vrhunski stručnjaci iz dvadeset i tri europske zemlje, SAD-a i Bruneja, što potvrđuje da je važnost igre za razvoj i odgoj djeteta prepoznata diljem svijeta.

Inozemni pozvani predavači bili su: prof. dr. sc. Elly Singer s predavanjem „Play and playfulness, basic qualities in early childhood education“, prof. dr. sc. Ingrid Pramling-Samuelsson s predavanjem „The playing learning child in ECEC“ i prof. dr. sc. Ingrid Ehgdahl s temom „Implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child“ iz Švedske, prof. dr. sc. Nectarios Stellakis s temom „Play, communication and literacy learning in early childhood education“ iz Grčke i prof. dr. sc. Natalia Rhyzova s radom „Playing as a leading child's activity: how to support it“ iz Rusije.

Iz Hrvatske su pozvana predavanja prvoga dana konferencije održali prof. dr. sc. Ivan Prskalo i doc. dr. sc. Vatroslav Horvat s temom „Igra i kineziološka aktivnost djeteta – preduvjet stvaranja navika svakodnevnog vježbanja“, prof. dr. sc. Renata Miljević Riđički s temom „Što djeca stvarno trebaju, a što dobiju?“ i prof. dr. sc. Biserka Petrović Sočo s temom „Simbolička igra u jaslicama“.

Inozemna i domaća pozvana predavanja omogućila su sudionicima konferencije uvid u suvremena znanstvena istraživanja igre i promišljanja vrhunskih stručnjaka kojima je igra istraživačko polje rada.

Na plenarnim izlaganjima, u radu po sesijama i u radionicama drugog i trećeg dana održavanja Konferencije sudionici su iznosili rezultate mnogobrojnih istraživanja dječje igre i njezina utjecaja na odgoj i razvoj djeteta. U sklopu konferencije održano je pedeset i šest domaćih i inozemnih izlaganja podijeljenih u četiri glavna tematska područja: igra i učenje, okruženje za igru, odrasli i igre djece i igre s raznih strana svijeta. Svoj doprinos osvjetljavanju igre sa znanstvenog stajališta dali su znanstvenici

s hrvatskih sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Rijeci, Splitu, Osijeku i Zadru, kao i znanstvenici s mnogih inozemnih sveučilišta. Izlagači su prikazali svoja istraživačka i/ili praktična iskustva čime je ostvaren širok uvid u promišljanje dječje igre na internacionalnoj i interkulturalnoj razini. Uz izlaganja održano je i deset radionica o dječjoj igri, a zbog velike ponude izlaganja i radionica i njihove zanimljivosti neki sudionici morali su se kolebati u vezi s tim što poslušati. Također je vrijedno spomenuti i devet poster-prezentacija izloženih u predvorju Fakulteta koje su bile dostupne svim sudionicima konferencije, studentima i nastavnicima Fakulteta, kao i široj javnosti.

Svi sadržaji s konferencije objavljeni su u posebnoj Zborniku radova, a devetnaest znanstvenih radova koji po vrstnosti i aktualnosti odgovaraju uvjetima Hrvatskog časopisa za odgoj i obrazovanje tiskani su u ovom tematskom broju.

U povodu konferencije u likovnoj galeriji Fakulteta otvorena je i prigodna izložba fotografija pod nazivom „Igra – Play“ u postavi prof. dr. Antonije Balić-Šimrak i Edite Rogulj, prof. Na izložbi je sudjelovalo četrnaest autora koji su objektivom fotografskog aparata „uhvatili“ trenutak koji za njih predstavlja igru. Tiskan je i poseban katalog izloženih fotografija.

Globalne društvene promjene koje nastaju ubrzanom razvojem uvelike su utjecale i na mijenjanje igre u suvremenom djetinjstvu – opći je zaključak konferencije koja je sudionicima na međunarodnoj i interdisciplinarnoj razini omogućila razmjenu promišljanja znanstvenika i stručnjaka o dječjoj igri sagledanoj iz različitih perspektiva, posebno u području odgoja i obrazovanja.

Posljednjeg dana održavanja europske OMEP konferencije, nakon bogatog prikaza dječje igre očima praktičara i znanstvenika, važan je bio i organizirani posjet sudionika zagrebačkim dječjim vrtićima. Više od stotinu sudionika konferencije iz Hrvatske i inozemstva u malim je skupinama posjetilo neki od sljedećih vrtića s dobrom praksom: Dječji vrtić Izvor, Malešnica, I. B. Mažuranić, Tatjana Marinić, Remetinec, Botinec i Srednjaci, a dojmovi nakon posjeta bili su vrlo pozitivni.

Može se zaključiti da je europska konferencija OMEP-a o igri u ranom djetinjstvu, organizirana u partnerstvu s Učiteljskim fakultetom Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, pružila svim sudionicima još jednu mogućnost širenja i razmjene promišljanja stručnjaka i znanstvenika o važnosti dječje igre za kvalitetan rast, učenje i razvoj djeteta u suvremenim uvjetima življenja u obitelji i odgojno-obrazovnoj ustanovi.

*Edita Rogulj i Biserka Petrović-Sočo*