



2018

Year in Review



Dear Board Members, dear Members, dear Friends of CE!

It has been an exciting, successful and sometimes turbulent year, a special year for Conductive Education, a special year 2018 for ECA.

All of you have been working very hard to achieve where we stand. All of you have done a fantastic job. All of you have not stood still.

2018 has brought us even closer together. In a mutual effort we pushed the awareness and socio-political acceptance of CE even further on its way to a unified image. The cumulative impact can move rocks. Again we have achieved so much and with these achievements we hope to transport our energy and motivation onto others.

Of course, not always everything runs smoothly, there will be ups and downs and we will have to endure setbacks on our stony way. But when we despair we often draw our strength from meeting disabled children and parents, volunteers, carers, professionals and unsung heroes, ordinary people doing extraordinary things whose quiet dedication lifts us up again and gives us new energy to fight on.

Well, what have we achieved that makes this year 2018 for ECA so special:

Our board members have undertaken great efforts despite their busy jobs and family lives to view quality, exchange information, motivate, promote and communicate the standards and practices of CE. Some of us travelled to Austria, some to England, others to Hungary, Finland and to the USA. Even Australia and New Zealand were on our mission list and part of the visited destinations and institutions.

We had four board meetings joined by the Semmelweis-University PAF in which we reviewed our position and progress, discussed further possibilities and outlined our goals for the coming year. In the area of public relations we issued two newsletters, put together a new ECA Flyer, actively promoted our work, held speeches at various public CE events, organised, promoted and supported the WCPD 2018, increased our presence in public media and acquired new ECA members. We helped placing our newly graduated conductor students into international new jobs, which we hope will carry new seeds into the world and grow. Following our immense pressure on the authorities in Germany a new training facility finally opened at the EVHN in Nürnberg, a historic day!

We attended several CE conferences amongst them the Jubilee Congress of the Konduktorenverband in Germany, the Acena Conference in the US, the Petö Day in Hungary again to network, meet professionals, introduce and exchange. Each one of us met in different locations with interesting and important professionals for research purposes and gathering scientific information. We showed people round our national CE institutions, compared and discussed the differences of practice in the various countries. Last but not least we managed to finalise the EU Erasmus+ Project TrACE, which again took four international meetings, organized by KOMIT Vienna.

For all of these projects a lot of information has been translated and a lot of paperwork produced. All in all a special year 2018 for the ECA, for Conductive Education in Europe.

I want to thank our members of the board for all their voluntary fabulous work and great performance this year. I am very honoured to work with such a bunch of fabulous people, a great team! I also want to thank all members, supporters, followers and contributors. Your support, promotion and membership fees is essential and makes all our awareness work possible, without you we would not have come this far and I am very proud to be part of this collective effort. I do hope together we can turn another page and open another chapter in the field of CE next year. Keep up the good work!

There is one more `thank you` left to say.

Last but not least I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate yet another key person in the forth bringing of conductive education, Helga Keil. The Helga Keil Institution in Vienna celebrated its 50th anniversary this December. Helga Keil who is also the founder of ECA has inspired with her work and achievements on CE and has always been an idol to many people, amongst them myself. Thank you, dear Helga, I have the greatest respect for your work. And it is an honour for me to continue what you have started some years ago at ECA.

I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year 2019, where ever you are in the world!

Yours



Beate Höß-Zenker
President of ECA