

International research project aims to enhance teachers' resilience

Website launched as a networking platform

How can a teacher successfully deal with growing heterogeneity in the classroom? How can he or she prevent burnout? How can the conflicting expectations of teachers, students and the school management be met? The EU-funded “ENTREE – ENhancing Teacher Resilience in Europe” project, coordinated by Professor Marold Wosnitza from the Institute for Educational Sciences of RWTH Aachen University, strives to help teachers in Europe cope with the growing demands of their profession, in other words, to help them increase their resilience. The project website www.entree-project.eu, which aims to facilitate networking between experts and people interested in the project in the future, is now online. In the medium term, training programs and information materials developed within the framework of the project will also be made available there. People interested in receiving the project newsletter can already subscribe to it now.

In the past years, research on teacher health has focused on exploring the characteristics and behaviour patterns that enable teachers to remain healthy, effective and committed to their job in spite of the increasingly challenging situations they face. “What makes a teacher resilient?” is the central question. ENTREE is based on findings from international resilience research and the results of the recently concluded Australian project “Keeping cool”: a project which aimed at integrating resilience into teacher training, in which the Australian and German ENTREE project partners took part. The centrepiece of the project work will be an online platform, where the self-assessment tools developed in the project, the training programmes and information material can be accessed. Teachers participating in the project in Germany and Europe will be able to network, jointly develop contents and share their experiences there.

The European Union is funding ENTREE within the framework of its lifelong learning programme. Alongside Australian scientists, researchers from the EU countries Germany, Ireland, Malta, Portugal and the Czech Republic will be involved in the project.

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