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SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE
FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
AND TRAINING

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND
TRAINING RESEARCH:

SUPPORTING TEACHERS, PRACTI-
TIONERS AND POLICY MAKERS

3rd Congress on Research
in Vocational Education and Training,
SFIVET Swiss Federal Institute for
Vocational Education and Training
Bern/Zollikofen, Switzerland

13–15 March 2013

More Information:
congress-13@sfivet-switzerland.ch
www.congress13.sfivet-switzerland.ch

ABOUT THE CONGRESS

For the third time since 2009, the Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training SFIVET invites researchers to exchange VET research findings and reflect on VET issues.

In general, VET research can be structured as follows: a) knowledge is created for teaching and learning purposes or b) knowledge is produced with regards to the overall VET sector. Examples of type a) questions include topics such as the definition of skills and competencies for a given occupation; the teaching and learning concepts that enable one to acquire these skills and competencies; and the specificities of the cooperation between different learning locations. Knowledge production for type b) questions is more oriented towards VET governance and deals with topics such as the individual choice of education and training programmes; the reasons that motivate companies to offer apprenticeships; social integration and exclusion processes within the VET sector; reasons for youth unemployment and skills shortage and so on.

To help teachers, practitioners and policy makers to enhance the quality and provision of VET, especially important is the aspect of the systematic, methodologically controlled and reflexive production and interpretation of knowledge in contrast to non-reflexive everyday knowledge or unrepresentative personal experience. However, systematic knowledge production is just one part of the story. Another question is how the findings can be successfully transferred to practice in schools, companies, public administration and policy in order to have an impact.

Devoted to the theme “VET Research: Supporting Teachers, Practitioners and Policy Makers”, the congress seeks to make a contribution to these topics and provide an overview of VET research activities in Switzerland and other countries. It is also intended to facilitate academic exchanges between leading institutions and to present the latest international research findings.

We welcome all areas of VET research and would like to encourage the participation of researchers from different academic disciplines.

The 3rd Congress on Research in Vocational Education and Training is open to participants from all over the world. All presentations will therefore need to be given in English. A best paper award will be assigned during the congress.

We are looking forward to receiving many interesting and exciting submissions.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Prof. Dr. Jeroen J. G. van Merriënboer
(Institute for Education, Maastricht University, Netherlands)

Prof. Dr. Robert B. Schwartz
(Graduate School of Education, Harvard University, USA)

Prof. Dr. Richard E. Shavelson
(School of Education, Stanford University, USA)

Prof. Dr. Heike Solga
(Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung WZB, Germany)

SUBMISSION: FULL PAPER **OR** EXTENDED SUMMARY

Please submit through the congress website (www.congress13.sfivet-switzerland.ch):

- a short abstract of 100-300 words and
- a full paper.
- If you do not have a full paper, please submit an extended summary of 1,000-1,200 words. The summary should include information on the theoretical and methodological approach used as well as the findings obtained.

Deadline for submission is **15 September 2012**.

By 13 December 2012, submitters will receive an e-mail message informing them whether their paper has been accepted.

CONGRESS VENUE

The congress will be hosted by the Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (SFIVET). Acting on behalf of the Swiss Confederation, SFIVET provides basic and continuing training to professionals working in Switzerland's upper-secondary level VET sector (VET teachers at VET schools, VET trainers at host companies, VET instructors at industry training centres, VET examiners) as well as in Switzerland's tertiary-level B PET sector (PET college teachers). SFIVET also conducts research in three main areas:

- Teaching and learning in VET/PET programmes
- Current VET/PET contexts
- Strategic planning of the VET/PET sector

SFIVET's R&D Division works closely with Swiss Leading Houses devoted to VET research as well as with other universities and research institutions in Switzerland and abroad. It facilitates the transfer of research findings into practice by training VET and PET professionals, by assessing and monitoring the quality of VET programmes as well as by offering other kinds of services or consulting to VET and PET practitioners.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. Dr. Carmen Baumeler
Head of National R&D Division, SFIVET

Prof. Dr. Franz Eberle
Director of the Leading House Learning and Instruction for Commercial Apprentices, University of Zurich

Dr. Jean-Marc Falter
Project Manager Leading House Economics of Education, Transitions, Skills and Labour, University of Geneva

Prof. Dr. Jean-Luc Gurtner
Director of the Leading House Technologies for Vocational Education, University of Fribourg

Dr. Doreen Holtsch
Project Manager Leading House Learning and Instruction for Commercial Apprentices, University of Zurich

Dr. Jörg Markowitsch
Senior Partner of 3s Unternehmensberatung GmbH, Vienna

Prof. Dr. Jürg Schweri
Head of the Research Area "Strategic Planning of VET/PET Sector", SFIVET

Prof. Dr. Margrit Stamm
Director of Leading House Quality of Vocational Education and Training, University of Fribourg

Prof. Dr. Stefan C. Wolter
Co-Director of the Leading House Economics, Firm Behaviour and Training Policies, University of Bern

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration for the congress can only be made online. Online registration will be available from 1 December 2012.

There are two registration fees: early bird registration (deadline 31 January 2013) and late registration (deadline 3 March 2013).

Students:

Early bird (before 31 January 2013)	CHF 200
Late registration (after 31 January 2013)	CHF 250

Other participants:

Early bird (before 31 January 2013)	CHF 300
Late registration (after 31 January 2013)	CHF 350

DEADLINES

Call for paper submissions:	1 June 2012
Deadline for paper submissions:	15 September 2012
Start of registration:	1 December 2012
Abstracts reviewed/confirmed:	13 December 2012
Deadline for early bird registration:	31 January 2013
Deadline for late registration:	3 March 2013

CONTACT

Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training

Ivana Lovric and Rosa Rica, Congress Administration

Kirchlindachstrasse 79, CH-3052 Zollikofen

Phone: +41 (0)31 910 37 70

E-mail: congress-13@sfivet-switzerland.ch

Web site: www.congress13.sfivet-switzerland.ch

More detailed information about the congress can be found at the Web site indicated above.