



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™

EUFORIA

Edition 60 Spring 2023

Dear friends, I have been editor of Euforia for a while. Now it is time to pass it on to someone else. Thank you all for all the good contributions and cooperation through the years. I specially thank our webmaster Eygló Björnsdóttir, Iceland and Evelyn Goodsell, Great Britain for proofreading. In this Issue of Euforia you can read about committee works and various activities of the participating countries. Enjoy reading!



*Helga Thorlacius,
Gamma Chapter, Iceland*

Europe

Letter from your Regional Director

Dear European members



It is a long time since you heard from me. That doesn't mean that we didn't do anything.

We are very busy organizing the International Conference in Tampere. It is good to see that already over 110 members are registered and that 12-family guests are coming as well and want to experience Tampere. There is a big group coming from Amerika and Canada.

Wednesday afternoon we will welcome our New Bees. We will guide them and give them everything we can to give them the time of their lives. If you are attending our conference and you have been to one before, maybe you will have a spare conference bag to give away to one of the new bees. It would be fun if you put a

card with your name (and email address if you want to) and some nice welcome words to make a meaningful connection. We will collect these bags on Wednesday afternoon, between 12 and 15.30 pm, by the registration desk.

We have a wonderful program, with five outstanding keynote speakers and over 50 workshops or breakout sessions. A lot to learn and experience. We have the Society Expo on Thursday, and most of the International committees are present to talk with you about their work. Maybe you will consider applying for one of those committees in autumn.

We have organized a special coffee moment to meet colleague educators in the same field of education on Friday morning. A great opportunity to learn from each other.

These are just a few things to experience, Eija Liisa Sokka-Meaney will write an article about the conference. Tampere is welcoming you!

Please register as soon as possible, go directly to the conference website: <https://dkg tampere2021.weebly.com/> and follow the instructions.

A lot is going on in the world and is on our concern. We must think about all the women in the world who do not have access to education, especially now in Afghanistan with the Taliban not keeping their promises, or women in Iran who are arrested and killed because not wearing their headscarf the right way, or young children are poisoned or all the women who are being killed just because they are a woman. The Dutch member Memanaat is original from Iran and fight for the right of all the women. We will recognize these women in Tampere.

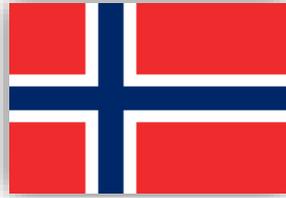


The war in Ukraine is not finished, so there are still a lot of refugees who needs our help, in the school but also in our communities. Don't close your eyes and help them where ever you can. I want to wish you a great start to you holidays and hope that a part of that holidays will be in Tampere.

Looking forward to meeting you there!

Marie-Antoinette Hubers de Wolf
Europe Regional Director

Norway



State Conference, Norway 2023.

Greetings from Hilde, SOP Norway.



In my small contribution in spring's Euphoria I will offer some thoughts in connection with our National meeting/State conference.

In order to achieve success in organizing conferences, I have experienced that there are several factors that must be present.

1. Good plans drawn up by the national board well in advance of the conference:

Point, Theme, Place, Lecturer, Economy, Invitations
The content of the conference.

2. Good dialogue between the national board and the chapter that will organize the conference:

The program for the conference.
Distribution of tasks between the state board and the chapter board.
The chapter board distributes all tasks to various committees.

3. We start preparing for the conference in the spring the year before and throughout the autumn, winter and spring just before the conference is due to take place.



From the grand dinner

Our national meeting 2023 was very successful. Everyone performed their duties in an excellent manner.

The theme was inclusion. A big thank to our lecturer, Anne Torbjørg Raastad Hoel.

We were fortunate enough that the International President, Debbie LeBlanc, accepted our invitation. We really felt so honoured. Many thanks to Debbie.

I have now finished my two years as State President, Norway, it is therefore natural for me to thank my colleagues for two educational, exciting, interesting and demanding years.

We have been a close and good team, cooperated well, showed each other care, cheered each other on and made each other good.

I am left with enormous joy and gratitude.



I would also like to thank my European and international partners, especially Margarita and Marie Antoinette, for their support, inspiration and motivation.



Celebration of life with Anne Marie and Gunnvor

The best of luck with the next two-year period! With Muriel as the new National President of Norway, we can only look forward to the continuation.

*Warm greetings from
Hilde Munkelien, SOP Norway*



Germany



Germany State Convention 2023



From April 21-23, DKG members met in Leipzig, Saxonia for our state convention. Included in the business meeting our member Dr. Sabine Krause who lives in the city had arranged an exciting program. It started with a special city tour “Writing Women”. During our walk we stopped at places where female authors had lived and worked. Our guide reminded us that in former times these women could only publish their literacy works under a male pseudonym or the protection of their husbands.

On Saturday morning we had a lively discussion with our keynote speaker, Dr. Rubaba Bakakshi. She is the representative from Saxony at the only organization for female migrants, “DaMigra”.

DKG business filled the afternoon. The members of the board were all reelected unanimously for the next two years.





Leipzig's historic and famous restaurants are worth visiting So we spent an easy and cheerful evening in 'Auerbachs Keller' (Goethes Faust).

Our convention ended with a visit to a very spectacular art exhibition 'Gustav Klimt – Gold Experience'. Full of new impressions everybody drove home.

Gitta Franke-Zöllmer

-state president-



The Europe Forum Committee

During Covid no meetings in person were possible, and we learnt to use Zoom, and actually we met more often than we ever had done in the past. The agendas and minutes of the meetings are on the website and sent to the state presidents to share with the membership.

The Europe Forum Committee members are happy that our feature „Educational Topics“ continues, each member state provides a session during the biennium. „Artist of the Month“ has been online since last fall. We hope that our members look out for our artists, their work is amazing, and we hope that you, our members, visit the website frequently.



The forum meeting in Tampere will be held in two parts: a business meeting with important decisions to make: the guidelines and the finances. The material will be sent to the state presidents in due time so that the proposals can be discussed with the members before.

At the last meeting of the committee the situation of teachers today was discussed. We seem to face the same problems in our countries: teachers are overwhelmed by problems caused by students who are not able to follow lessons because of lack of language skills, there is lack of respect for teachers, there is unwillingness to fulfill tasks and duties etc. A lot of teachers quit their job, and there are not enough new ones to fill the positions. The question arose how to address the problem, and it was decided to have round-table conversations at the second part of the forum meeting in Tampere:

How can we ensure the well-being of students and educators in the future?

We are looking forward to the conference in Tampere, to experience again the fellowship, renew old and start new friendships, and thoroughly enjoy our internationality.



From left to right – standing:

Astrid Skaaland, Norway, Pia Nyman, Finland, Marika Heimbach, Germany, Helga Skeidsvoll, Sweden, Reeli Tänavsuu, Estonia, Carola van Zanen van Rijn, The Netherlands,

sitting: Marie-Antoinette Hubers de Wolf, The Netherlands, Evelyn Goodsell, Great Britain

missing: Anita Jonsdottir, Iceland

Marika Heimbach, Europe Forum Committee chair

The Netherlands



Contribution the Netherlands **NLDOET 2023**



Every year, in March, the Oranje Fonds organizes the large volunteer campaign “NLDoet”.

They do this together with thousands of social organizations in the Netherlands.

In this way, NLDoet wants to put volunteer work in the spotlight and invite people to help out for a day and this makes a difference for others.

Even our King Willem Alexander and our Queen Maxima choose every year a different activity and do all kinds of things like gardening, painting whatever is needed.

This year, the Alpha/Delta Chapter helped organize a “spoil afternoon” for the residents of Zorgcentrum Amsta, de Werf in Amsterdam.

You could do all kinds of things like singing, reading, talking and eating.



Sjoelen: a famous dutch game



Handmassage, Marie Antoinette

The afternoon ended with a karaoke in the recreation hall. Together with the residents, the volunteers and employees have musically concluded a fantastic afternoon.



Singing with karaoke; Jeannine, Marie Antoinette and Loes Very famous songs about Amsterdam and the canals

A nice end to a very successful afternoon. It is so nice to experience and meet people in another phase of their lives and learn about it.

“NL Doet” will certainly remain on our annual schedule.



From left: Marie Antoinette, Loes, Thea, Ria, Wendy en Mildred.
(photograph Jeannine) Alpha-Delta Chapter DKG Nederland

Jeannine de Jong,
The Netherlands State Officer



Sweden



CHI-chapter, Sweden 20th anniversary



New members, and international guests.

How could this celebration of Chi-chapter 20 years be better than with the installation of two new members? Two very well educated and competent educators, who earlier this year gave their ego speeches. One of them Marge Sundström gave a resume of her master's dissertation that is about how to teach at a distance during a pandemic and Jeanette Kobilsek, who told about "Stallyckan" (Happiness in the Stable) – the small farm, which doesn't want to grow bigger. "Stallyckan has a pedagogical activity, which offers animals and nature for everyone, no matter of functional ability. The activities are being held in cooperation with schools and youth creation centers.

Chi-chapter is a musical chapter and thanks to Eva Lindblad the newly installed members were greeted by the song "Welcome to our Company".

Later, that evening more song were sung like Swedish spring songs and the DKG song composed by two Norwegian members; "Sing Delta. Sing Delta Kappa Gamma a song". The choral singing was strengthened by three voices from Norway, members who had come all the way to attend the celebration. This underlines the good fellowship and friendship that we have in our Society.

The celebration ended up with a good meal but also with wonderful gifts and many greetings from other chapters in Sweden.

Ingela Högberg gave an update from the Siwa project in Egypt and Marianne Skardéus gave glimpses from the history of the birthday child: How it all started and how the chapter dwelled and developed. Specially should be mentioned the ability of the chapter to invite members to interesting programs throughout the years.

Marianne Scardeus

Great Britain



Evelyn Goodsell

State Organisation President 2021-2023

Sadly, it has been another year of uncertainty. Although restrictions with the Pandemic have eased, we have been unable to return to 'normal' Chapter meetings. Members have been rather hesitant to meet 'face to face' so virtual meetings have continued.

However, our wonderful Planning committee, Anne, Penny, Joan, Carole and Dorcas have not let us down. They have, once again, organized interesting and diverse meetings. A virtual walk around the East End of London in the footsteps of the Suffragettes: a trip to the Globe Theatre to hear about the life of an actor and comedian: more seriously, the Kindertransport and Women's safety. We were able to share all these talks with our Sisters in Europe and the USA.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Conference once again. Penny and Joan had worked very hard to find a convenient venue in London in which to hold it. Sadly, due to lack of support, it had to be cancelled and an AGM, which we have to hold, is going to be on Zoom on April 23rd. at 10.30 am. Please do try to support this as it is your chance to voice your views on hopes, and wishes, for the future of the Society.

On April 20th at 5.30pm we are very fortunate to have a talk by an eminent scientist, Christina Astin. She is passionate about getting girls interested in Science. She has appeared on 'Tomorrow's World', Radio Kent, and is a secondary school advisor on Science. You can look her up on the Web.

Now is the time to apply to be on Committees-here and on the International.

I really do recommend you do so as it is a great opportunity to travel, learn more about the Society and our Sisters in other countries

I do hope that, as we return to normality, we all make a great effort to increase our Membership. It is so disappointing to see how low our numbers are. If we all make an effort to bring one new member to our next meeting, it will make such a difference.

If any of you have decided to attend the International Conference in New Orleans do contact me as I shall be going and perhaps we could arrange to travel together.

Here's hoping for good weather during the Summer as our planning committee are arranging various visits to places of interest for us.

Evelyn Goodsell
GB State President



Forum Committee meeting

Where to hold the European Forum Committee meeting to discuss the meeting in Tampere amongst other tasks?

That was the question put to the members after the last meeting before Easter. Then Marika, who lives in Germany but spends a lot of time at her home north of Alicante, Spain, suggested we travelled there. After suffering the coldest, wettest winter in the Northern part of Europe, we jumped at the chance. Oh, to feel warm!!



Marika assured us she could provide beds and food and all we had to do

was arrange our flights and we would be met at the airport in Alicante.

We travelled on the Friday, naturally arriving at different times and were met either by Marika's husband, Hans, or Carl, a very kind American friend, who had offered to help with the transporting an hour up north. By Friday afternoon we had all arrived safely at Marika's lovely home and settled in.

That evening we enjoyed a delicious meal, paella valenciana, cooked by Marika and after a good deal of chatter and laughter, we decided it was time for bed. Some of us had been up since 3am so needed sleep before work the following morning!

Up reasonably early on Saturday, we gathered for breakfast (which had been laid out ready for us-do they have secret night-workers???).

An agenda had been drawn up with suggestions and proposals for the various items to be discussed, and for the 'workings' of the meeting in Tampere, to ensure all went smoothly. Apart from the occasional stop for refreshment, we worked solidly all day and felt satisfied with what we had achieved.

That evening we were treated to another delicious meal and enjoyed a rather relaxed time.

Thank you, Marika and Hans for a most enjoyable weekend-you were wonderful !

Evelyn Goodsell, GB.

Iceland



Let's Walk Together – walkathon; the collective power of women (Göngum saman)



The Let's Walk Together walkathon in Iceland was established on September 13, 2007 by Gunnhildur Oskarsdottir, professor at the University of Iceland who became member of the Kappa Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in Iceland on May 18, 2017. She came to our meeting in Kappa Chapter in the spring of 2017 to tell us about her project of fundraising for breast cancer research and was consequently recruited into the Kappa chapter of DKG. (photo/K. Ingvarsson)



The main purpose of the organization is to raise funds for research that will increase our understanding of the origin and nature of breast cancer. The idea of the walkathon came from Gunnhildur and her friends who decided to participate in the Avon walkathon in New York in October 2007. In order to participate in the Avon walkathon each participant had to collect 1.800 USD to support cancer research and the treatment of breast cancer. The Icelandic participants then decided to establish an organization with the purpose of supporting research on breast cancer in Iceland.

The organization *Let's Walk Together* emphasizes movement as a means of improving health, both as prevention and for rehabilitation. Walking groups have been established in at least fifteen places around Iceland in relation to the organization where women get together for a nice outdoor walk on a weekly basis. The walks have taken place in Reykjavik, in smaller towns and even in the popular hiking paths in the uninhabited parts of Iceland.

The walks have also been used for fundraising purposes. The first fundraising walkathon was in the autumn of 2017 in one community in the vicinity of the capital, Reykjavik. At first the walkathons took place in September, but since 2012 the walks have been organized on Mother's Day in May. The *Let's*

Walk Together organization has up to this day collected over 120 million IKR or the equivalence of 800.000 EUR for cancer research.

Gunnhildur had been an elementary school teacher, wrote learning materials for elementary schools and a number of articles and chapters in educational books and other publications before and after she became university teacher and later a professor at the University of Iceland.

Gunnhildur was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1998 at the age of 38. She managed to live a meaningful and purposeful life with cancer; as a mother and grandmother, a university teacher, a researcher, she wrote articles etc. She was awarded *the Order of the Falcon* by the president of Iceland on New Years Day in 2017 for her work to support research on breastcancer in Iceland and for her encouragement of healthy lifestyle as a way of prevention.



Gunnhildur passed away peacefully in the arms of her family in her home in Reykjavik on March 17 and was buried on March 24. In her memory her friends and other supporters of *Let's Walk Together* organized a walkathon on last Mothers' Day or on May 14. To warm up for the walk, the participants gathered in front of the main building of the University of Iceland, the daughter of one of her friends and a fellow-founder of the organization sang inspiring songs, and the walk was led by one of the school bands in Reykjavik. The participants wore bright pink in the memory of this wonderful and inspiring pioneer. Some bakeries in Iceland baked special „breast-rolls“ and donated the profit to the organization.



At the end of our DKG State convention on May 14, some friends and former colleagues of Gunnhildur Oskarsdottir decided to organize a memorial walk in the town of Hveragerdi where the convention took place. The town is known for its thermal water springs and the number of writers and artists who used to live there. A group of DKG members put on their hoods and raincoats and went on a walk on Mothers' Day afternoon around the town in the memory of this inspiring member under the guidance of Gunnhildur's friends among our organization. We walked around town, looked at the greenhouses, the hot springs and the houses where some of our renowned writers and artists had lived. It was a wonderful addition to our successful and inspiring convention.



Gudrun E. Bentsdottir,

SOP Iceland.



Introduction of a master's research in Speech-Language Pathology.

Language skills of younger children in primary school - preparation for a new language assessment for 6 - 10 year old children.



In 2021 I received the Icelandic scholarship from DKG in Iceland for my master's degree in speech-language pathology and for that I would like to express my gratitude to the DKG in Iceland for giving me the honor to accept my application.

My former occupation is teaching children in kindergarten, and I worked for 17 years in kindergartens, both in Iceland and Norway. I have always been very interested in children's language development and have attended numerous courses regarding the topic. In the fall of 2020, I returned to the University of Iceland and began my master study in Speech-Language Pathology at the Faculty of Medicine department. The master study, which takes two years, is very exciting but demanding and includes a very theoretical academic study as well as a clinical experience where I got to know the practical side of the profession at various institutions such as service centers in Reykjavík, private speech pathology clinics in Reykjavík, Akureyri and Selfoss, that serve both children and adult clients. I also got to know the work of a speech pathologist at the Landspítali's premature infant unit at the National University Hospital of Iceland, at BUGL Landspítali's Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and at the Landspítali's Speech Pathology Department in Grensás as well as Reykjalundur, both of which serve clients with aphasia after a brain injury or stroke. So the profession is very broad and involves services to clients of all ages. Today, I work as a speech-language pathologist at Árborg's School Service (Skólaþjónusta Árborgar) in the South region of Iceland. My job includes assessing children's language skills and providing speech therapy at the preschools and elementary schools in the Árborg community, as well as providing speech-language pathology counseling to parents and teachers.

In June 2022 I defended my master thesis in Speech Pathology at the University of Iceland where I presented my master research which includes the first step in developing a new standardised language assessment tool in Iceland for children aged 6;0 to 9;11 years. I presented my findings to my sisters in Epsilon chapter of DKG in Iceland in September 2022 and we had a great discussion about the Icelandic language and the developmental language disorder (DLD) as well as the shortage of speech-language pathologists in Iceland.

For speech-language pathologists (SLP's) to provide services in small language communities is necessary but challenging, perhaps particularly when it comes to children with DLD. Therefore, it is essential to develop a reliable, standardized assessments tools based on the characteristics of the Icelandic language and existing Icelandic language development researches. The instruments that now assess the language development of Icelandic children aged 6;0 to 9;11 were translated and standardized almost three decades ago and have not been updated, or either assess few specific language features. The development of a new assessment that outlines the linguistic characteristics of DLD in the Icelandic language is therefore long overdue.

The research method in the master study included selecting language assessments tools from other language communities for a scoping study, where they were reviewed based on language components and their subtests examined. A comparative study reviewed the characteristics of language development in Icelandic-speaking children and compared them to the previous study results. A draft of a new comprehensive language assessment tool was developed with the working title Language skills of younger children in primary school (Málfærni yngri barna í grunnskóla). The assessment tool is intended for younger children in primary school at the age of 6;0 to 9;11 years. It compiles children's overall performance through their language comprehension and expression. Content validity was assessed in a study where 32 speech-language pathologists gave their opinion on a sample of the draft, its subtests, and test items.

The results of the study provided information on language characteristics and subtests in language assessment tools developed for other languages. The scoping study showed that syntax, morphology, and semantics were the outstanding language components for these non-Icelandic tools, while phonology and morphology were either supplemental assessments or absent. Reviews of the Icelandic language studies give clear indications of the characteristics in the language development of Icelandic children, including the similarities and differences compared to other languages. The draft of the new Icelandic language assessment covers all five components of the language. Its subtests are not equally suited to assess the children's language development at the age of 6;0 to 9;11 years. The content validity study concluded that speech-pathologists considered subtests that assess semantic comprehension and expression of words to be suitable for the age group. In their opinion, repetition of nonsense-words and phonology awareness were least suitable subtests.

Conclusions of the research show that the language components that characterise language development assessments tools are syntax, morphology, and semantics. Phonology and pragmatics are less used to assess children's language development, though they provide additional information. Icelandic language studies provide important information on Icelandic children's language skills which were used, together with the scope study results, as a basis for the first version of a new Icelandic

language assessment tool. Syntax, morphology, and semantics are a prominent part of the new assessment though it also assesses phonology and morphology. This master study was the first step in developing a new standardised language assessment in Iceland for children aged 6; 0 to 9; 11 and will lead to its further development. The final product will provide speech-language pathologist a reliable assessment tool for children's Icelandic language development.

Margrét Guðmundsdóttir,
Speech-Language Pathologist M.Sc.
Vice president, Epsilon Chapter
DKG Iceland



Finland



Greetings from Finland – we are getting ready for the International Conference!



We had our annual meeting and seminar on *Saturday the 15th of April* in Tampere titled *Diversity enriching our society and our world!* We had a nice place for the meeting and it was sponsored by TTGaskets, the MD *Aleksi Arpiainen* welcomed us told about the history and present day work in the enterprise. We had two international visitors ***Nita Scott*** from the DKG Headquarters and ***Marie-Antoinette Hubers de Wolf*** the European director. Nita talked about diversity and increasing diversity in the Society and how to recognize it. This was also a good opportunity to arrange conference matters and visit Tampere Hall and the conference hotel for arrangements.

We have been busy organizing and preparing the **DKG International Conference in Tampere** for 26.-29. July 2023 and are very excited and looking forward to seeing DKG members there. <https://dkg tampere2021.weebly.com>

The opening event is on Wednesday July 26 at 5 p.m. and after that buses will take us **Vapriikki** to the **Tampere City Reception** where we shall have toasts and small snacks on a small plate.

Vapriikki is a modern museum centre and, in connection with the reception, we have an opportunity to visit an exhibition called ***Once Upon a Time, a Story of the Origin of Fairy Tales***. You can dress up as a fairy tale character and take a photo. <https://www.vapriikki.fi/en/nayttelyt/olipa-kerran-tarina-satujen-synnysta/>

Or you have opportunity to buy nice educational souvenirs in the museum shop, which is open specially for you.

Zeta chapter members in Tampere have been involved in planning the Vapriikki event, like many other conference arrangements, and here they are when visiting *Once Upon a Time* exhibition. They have the local knowledge of Tampere and have been orienting towards the conference and they think it has been interesting and nice to do things together. In the picture you can see them in the exhibition having fun and planning conference activities. When you come, you can dress up as a princess or a queen or a knight!

Zeta members look forward to seeing you in Tampere! Warmly welcome!



After this Tampere City reception event you can go back to your hotel by bus or stay in the city centre to have a nice dinner in one of the many restaurants. Or you can go and have a drink somewhere there too, if you have had your meal earlier. Or just walk around and enjoy the light nights.

On Thursday and Friday we have general sessions, where we have had a pleasure to have outstanding speakers. On Wednesday Ms **Sirpa Holmström** from the Finnish National Agency for Education and Dr **Carita Procki** from Tampere University will talk about Erasmus+ and international matters and students' possibilities. Ms **Kaisa Laaksonen**, the director of the Finnish Institute for Children's Literature, will draw our attention to the importance of reading and reading skills.

On Friday our first speaker is Prof. **Minna Huotilainen** from the Helsinki University, Faculty of Education, and she will talk about learning and our brain. Dr **Ulla Häbbblom** will deal with one of our key words – sustainability, which is her specialist area.

You will find more information of our speakers at <https://dkg tampere2021.weebly.com/conference.html>

The programme at a glance is there too under Conference.

On Saturday's general session we shall have the DKG International President Debbie LeBlanc's talk and then a panel on sustainability with some participatory activities – it will be interesting to join in.

Altogether there will be over 30 workshops from art to literature and from education and professional development to society matters.

The venue, **Tampere Hall** is a modern and bright building where it is easy to get around and it is accessible. The hotel, **Marriott Courtyard Tampere** is under the same roof.

And of course before or after the conference it would be nice for you travel in the surrounding or even further in Finland, if you have time for it.

You are warmly welcome to Tampere – we hope you will enjoy it!

Eija Liisa Sokka-Meaney

DKG Finland State President

Conference Chair

DKG Finland State

<http://deltakappagamma.org/finland/about.html>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/DKGFinland>

Tampere Conference website

<https://dkg tampere2021.weebly.com>



Experiences of Alpha Chapter in 2022-2023

These past two years have been eye-opening for us Alpha members in Finland. With our two new teacher members, Jenni Korte and Henna Perätalo, we have been able to get acquainted with a different kind of school world.

Jenni and Henna teach at Etu-Töölö Upper Secondary School, Tyly. The school focuses on entrepreneurship and phenomenon-based learning. It offers students courses in entrepreneurship along with different events, camps and fairs together with competitions organised in Finland and abroad. Jenni and Henna have welcomed us Alpha members to attend and participate in actual schoolwork. We have had the opportunity to talk to the students and exchange ideas with them. We were able to mingle with the students, hear their ideas and get acquainted with their products.

Tyly Entrepreneurship Society / Tylyes / was formed to combine all the students and teachers interested in entrepreneurship. Together the teachers and the students want to make their school into a society that will respond to the needs of the students.

Jenni and Henna are both extremely devoted to their work. Their main focus is always on the students' well-being. In 2021 Jenni, as the leading teacher of EE (Entrepreneurial Education) in Finland, was the nominee of Finland and among the Top 10 in Europe for the Teacher of the Year Awards.

If you are lucky you will meet both Jenni and Henna at the DKG International Congress next summer in Tampere and attend their workshop! Welcome!

Here in the photo, we have the three winners of three categories in 2023.



Photo: Nuori yrittäjyys ry.

1. THE BEST PRODUCT / Puuqetti NY

Puuqetti NY produces optional firewood. The products are ecological, recycled, and handmade.

Jury: the product is innovative, ready for use and ecological. The jury was especially impressed by the idea of recycling and ecological sustainability. Market research has been carefully made and a true market niche has been found.

2. THE BEST SERVICE / Onni-Nalle Child Care Service NY

Onni-Nalle Child Care Service offers child care services.

Jury: The service of the company is a very well built entity focusing on building a confidential customer relationship. The team was happy and lively and eager to start working.

3. THE BEST SELLING TEAM / Genuine Fashion NY

The company recycles, mends and sells used pieces of clothing.

Jury: The jury appreciates the company's transparency. They want to change the image of recycled clothing and show the usefulness of recycling. The members of the team were dressed according to their brand and they seemed to work together for a common goal.

In the last picture of the four you can see Jenni and Henna after the jury had informed the results of the competition. Three first prizes in three categories!

Ritva Norhoma

***DKG Finland
First Vice-President***



Greetings from Epsilon Chapter in Joensuu!



We have close cooperation with the Women's Bank so we joined two events last autumn – a walk and a book reading event. Like a year before in October we went lingonberry picking to Heinävesi woods and had sauna and a swim in the lake afterwards and felt very refreshed.

In November we had a chance to visit the University Teacher Training School to see the new science classes and hear about science teaching and learning. Jaana R. had arranged an interesting workshop using soft wild animals in a very creative and warm way.

All chapters in Finland like all over Europe have made contributions to the **Ukrainians**. We had a cooking evening with two mothers and their daughters. The mothers taught us to make borscht soup, pelmenis and applecharlotte cake – all recipes from Ukraine. We supported the two young students so that they can continue their art studies in the local art school.



Like so many others we joined the Lucia celebration in December.

In the spring term we have had very educational programmes. Ms **Jaana Tanskanen**, the recipient of the doctoral studies scholarship in 2022, told us about her interesting dissertation of young people's art. You have a possibility to join her art workshop, make some art and hear of her research, at the Tampere Conference.

The **Joensuu city library** offers a lot of possibilities for meeting and doing interesting things. After our annual meeting Päivi Järvinen, Epsilon Chapter President, showed and told us about digital possibilities for copying paper photos. You can go to the library music department and sing karaoke, or create your own music. If you need an electric bike for transporting goods, you can go and hire one for free, like

also in case you need a drill or a grill for your party, a sewing machine and many other tools – just go to the library – it is free.



In March we continued in the library listening to a new young writer Camilla Nissinen telling about her first book “Meitä vastaan rikkoneet”. Camilla comes from our area and therefore it was specially nice for us to hear about her writing and the book. At the same time we made bracelets for the conference, which has kept us busy in many ways during the spring.

We are still planning to have three more meetings this spring – walking in the woods, a beauty evening where we will get some good advice about protecting our skin from the sun and in June our traditional exchange of saplings.

We look forward to seeing you at the Tampere Conference in late July!

Päivi Järvinen

DKG Epsilon Chapter President

Photos Eija Liisa Sokka-Meaney



Turku, Finland May 11th



DKG Gamma-chapter in Turku, Finland visited the Holy Ghost Chapel in the so called Casagrande House on Linnakatu 3 on May 11th. Our guide was none other than **Benito Casagrande** the owner of the building and the heart of the project of excavating the long-lost church and bringing it to life. Mr. Casagrande is an architect and has been involved in many projects in Turku to save old buildings. This particular building is located at the very center of Turku just a few hundred meters away from Turku Cathedral on the other side of the river Aura (behind the trees across the bridge on the left in the picture). Mr. Casagrande's Italian grandfather had his first shop at the old building and he and his wife met in front of the building in the 1960s! It's no wonder he wanted to save the building from demolition!

When starting the work at the building site they came across some archeological findings and after a lot of research found out that there had been a church and of course a cemetery at the site in the 16th century. Many of the human remains had been buried at the northern end of the church which meant they had been either very poor or unworthy of being buried in the consecrated land. This fact made Mr. Casagrande very sad and he and his family with the help of archeologists have now gathered, documented and arranged an ecumenical funeral service for all the deceased persons. They are now resting behind the walls of the chapel. It is a very solemn and scarcely decorated space underground in the cellar of the building. It is a spiritual place to listen to yourself and contemplate life and eternity. A strong, emotional experience!



Taina Hokkanen

DKG Finland Secretary

Gamma-chapter



Gamma Chapter, Turku

Gamma Chapter, Turku, has been able to function more actively after the global pandemic subsided and the restrictions imposed by it were lifted. We have met with local educators and heard about current trends in teaching and learning. In addition, the Program Committee has provided us with opportunities to see interesting theater and music performances. As a new opening, we gathered for a wine tasting event and learnt about the history and present challenges of French wineries. The activities of this spring concluded with a visit to the Holy Ghost Chapel, redesigned by Benito Casagrande, an architect who has contributed to the preservation and revitalization of the oldest quarters of Turku in many ways.

Yet another date to remember was the 90th birthday of **Liisa Peltomaa** on 1st November. She is our founding member and a recipient of the DKG European Award. We appreciate her long experience of working for DKG International, DKG Finland and Gamma Chapter.



Photo Taina Hokkanen

And, finally, we look forward to participating in the DKG International Conference in Tampere. See you there!

Marianna Sunnari
DKG Gamma Chapter
Secretary