PROPOSALS FOR ESTABLISHING
A CESE TRAINING PROGRAM
IN COMPARATIVE EDUCATION

FRANCESC PEDRÓ  UNED, Madrid
MARC VANSTEENKISTE  UIA, Antwerp (Belgium)

I. Aims

This Training Program (TP) is intended to be an open scheme allowing young researchers and university junior professors to improve their skills and update their knowledges as educational comparativists. Of course, it is also open to other individuals — wishing to benefit themselves from the whole program or parts of it; in this case, they should be CESE members or have a special permission from the TP direction.

This TP will be developed under the supervision and aegis of the CESE.

Its main objectives are:
(a) to encourage international relationship and exchanges between young researchers in Comparative Education;
(b) to improve their skills as educational comparativists through practical training and theoretical preparation concerning educational planning and policy making, economical and sociological aspects of education;
(c) to promote field and case studies in different European educational systems, specially the most influentials;
(d) and to stimulate research concerning educational developments in Third World countries and especially the cooperation between young European and Third World researchers.

II. Activities

Initially, main activities will include:
(a) Annually, a one-week visit to a European country in order to study its education system followed by a week-end of theoretical study;
(b) Annually, one publication including all participants’ works concerning the results of their visit to that country;
(c) Twice a year, the elaboration of the Journal of the TP;
(d) Annually, in coincidence with the CESE Congress and the CESE Assembly every two years, several lectures on Comparative Education
methods, trends and problems prepared by distinguished CESE members;

(e) and organising opportunities for participants of the TP to work as
an assistant to other CESE members, who are working within international
agencies, with special emphasis on the Third World situation.

III. Organisation guidelines

In this TP there could exist two kinds of participation: (a) individuals
enrolled for a two-year period, subjected to the rights and duties related to
the TP; and (b) individuals just wishing to profit themselves from special
activities, not subjected to those duties and rights.

Participants enrolled for a two-year period will elect the Executive
Council (EC) — three members plus an Executive Secretary. This EC will
propose one CESE member as Director of the TP, who should be finally
appointed by the CESE Executive Committee. This EC has a validity of
two years.

The EC is obliged to meet twice a year, to report to the CESE, and to
all participants as many times as necessary.

The EC and the director will select a European country to be studied
during the following year, according to participants proposals and
possibilities. Then they will appoint a Joint Director — a CESE member
and a Joint Executive Secretary, both charged to prepare the visit to
their country, according to the guidelines given by the EC, and consequent-
ly both living in that selected country.

After visiting the country, each participant must send an article con-
cerning a comparative study between his own country’s education system
and the visited one to the EC which will be charged to help participants to
improve their works before publication or, at least, assess them after it
with the contribution of the Director, the Joint Director and other relevant
scholars in Comparative Education.

Twice a year each participant must also send an article on recent
educational reforms, trends or problems in his own country. These articles
will constitute the Journal of the TP and, as above, participants will be
helped to improve their rapports. Other individuals or institutions would
receive this Journal through a subscription rate.

IV. Financing aspects

(a) Every member of the TP would have to pay a membership rate
of maximum US $ 10 a year to cover correspondence and printing costs of
the Journal;

(b) To oppose the costs of the annual one-week visits a minimum
of 25 participants is required;

(c) The National Society would be the host for the TP participants;
so this Society would have to use all their local contacts to make the visit as
cheap as possible;
(d) CESE itself, being an international organisation, would have to use its international contacts and influence within international agencies;

(e) The TP participants have to be prepared to give a lecture or to take part in an activity organised by the local host in a way to cover the expenses for the visit for all participants;

(f) all financial transaction concerning the TP should be handled by one bank account to allow the use of the profits of one year to cover the losses of another year.