

NEWS FROM TERENA (137)



TERENA creates new Task Force on Public Relations and Information Dissemination

7 October 2003

In their meeting in Amsterdam on 18 September 2003, the TERENA Executive Committee established a new Task Force to promote collaboration between research and education networking organisations in Europe in the areas of public relations and information dissemination, through activities at the level of PR Manager / Information Officer. TF-PR (Task Force on Public Relations and Information Dissemination) will promote the quality and quantity of public relations and information dissemination about research and education networking in Europe. The Task Force officially started its work on 1 October 2003 with a mandate of two years.

The Terms of Reference of the new Task Force were discussed and finalised at a kick-off meeting of PR Managers and Communications Officers in Amsterdam on 5 September 2003. It was preceded by a seminar session on the previous day in which the results of the recent GÉANT User Survey were presented and discussed. The meeting was attended by 18 persons representing 17 research and education networking organisations from 14 countries. The Task Force's mailing list currently has 87 subscribers from 43 countries. The Task Force is TERENA's first non-technical Task Force and will initially concentrate on six priority work items, with another five to be taken up later. The initial work items include a "news agency" website for and about European research and education networking organisations, best practice in user surveys, best practice in NREN websites, Frequently Asked Questions about research networking, and regular Task Force meetings and seminars. Considerable progress has already been made on the news agency and on the deliverable on best practice in user surveys.

The Task Force will have its next meeting in February. Results and achievements of the first six months of the Task Force will be presented at the TERENA Networking Conference 2004 on Rhodes, Greece in June. A meeting of the Task Force will be held before on the conference on Sunday 6 June, 2004.

More information about TF-PR is available from the TERENA website at

<http://www.terena.nl/news/pr/>

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