

## **COMPLETION CONFERENCE IN ALICANTE**

### **PRESENTATION OF THE RESULTS FROM THE LEONARDO DA VINCI PROJECT**

#### **”STORIES ENHANCING SKILLS”**

From October 20th to 21st both partners, participants in the KWS and others representing the 5 attending countries were gathered for the completion Conference at the University of Alicante.

Monday morning started in the main conference hall at the University with greetings from the different partners in the project.

Jens Ivar Nergård, who could not attend at the conference himself, opened with a recorded video of his lecture, The story and storytelling – the spine of practical knowledge.

The next lecture was presented by the project manager, Inger Helen Erstad. Her lecture was about her intentions in trying the KWS as a method and to see how experienced, skilled workers could work with the KWS as a method.

Finn Thorbjørn Hansens lecture had a philosophical perspective in his issues about the KWS as an essay producing model, an educational model, a philosophical and practical model.

Before lunch some of the participants from the different KWS groups were talking about their experiences with the KWS as a model and also about the writing process. The presentation was performed as a panel discussion with comments from the Spanish author Xaviaer Moreno Lara.

Both of the days in the conference there were the opportunity to enjoy both the food and the beautiful surroundings at the university area.

After lunch at the first day there were performed three parallel sessions for the different languages in the KWS, Nordic, English and Spanish. During these sessions some participants in the different KWS groups spoke about their process in the essay writing and also read from some of the essays. The sessions also made an opening for asking questions from the plenum.

A reception for the conference was arranged at Monday evening at the beautiful Castillo de Santa Barbara at the top of Mount Benacantil in Alicante City.

Tuesday started with the lectures from the invited guests from Thomas Coram Research Inst. in London UK, Marjorie Smith and June Statham. Their main issue was Cross-cultural understandings of parenting and family support where they have been doing research on this issue in different European countries.

A panel discussion was ending the sessions before lunch. Participants from the KWS groups was discussing the differences and similarities in the different participating countries' working methods and conditions regarding the child care and social work. Facilitator for the discussion was Merete Saus.

Merete Saus also had the first lecture after lunch on Tuesday. She was speaking about the Perils of Expertise and how to seek the Contextual Perspective in the meeting with families and people in crisis.

The Spanish coordinator in the SES-project, Angelica Majos and the Spanish author Jose Garcia Ruiz had in their lecture a view at the literature seeing the Norwegian KWS model in a Spanish context.

At the end of the lecture sessions the evaluator of the project, Sigrid Nordstoga, from the Agder University had her closure of the project; Evaluation of KWS – How did ‘Stories Enhancing Skills’?

The conference was completed with the distribution of personal Diplomas for the KWS participants.