



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair on
Lifelong Guidance and Counseling,
University of Wrocław
Institute of Pedagogy



Uniwersytet
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DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

DIPARTIMENTO DI
SCIENZE DELLA FORMAZIONE
E PSICOLOGIA

UNESCO Chair on Lifelong Guidance and Counseling Conference in Florence 2015

How can career and life designing interventions contribute to a fair and sustainable development and to the implementation of decent work over the world?

June 4 - 6, 2015

TOPIC

Early in the 20th century, when social workers and theoreticians formed the profession of vocational guidance, they debated the ultimate purpose of guidance or its “finality.” Of course they all agreed that the proximate goal was to help people find matching occupations or professions. But: what of the ultimate goal? Some professionals thought the ultimate goal was to contribute to the efficiency of an industrial economy. Nevertheless, most commentators concluded that the ultimate goal of vocational guidance was to contribute to the Progressive Movement in building societies that were both wealthier and more socially fair, not just efficient.

Vocational guidance has evolved during the 20th century in connection with the transformation of the work organizations and of the scientific approaches to human subjects. It now supports individuals who – as they work in flexible organizations and live in increasingly liquid societies – must think about designing their work paths and lives rather than just matching people to work functions or positions. But has its ultimate goal remained true to its Progressive goal? It is now critical that the profession revisits and further articulates the ultimate goal of career counselling. Do career interventions still pursue the finality of improving the common good of humanity? If so, how can career and life designing interventions contribute to the development of decent work in a sustainable and fair world economy? If the ultimate goal of life and career designing remains true to its roots, we must reaffirm its importance and advocate for its social value.

ORGANIZATION

Several workshops will be held in parallel. Participants in these workshops will have three occasions throughout the conference to work together on one of the following topics:

- o A. “Training for practitioners, implement research and build up tools for a fair and sustainable human development”;
- o B. “Training for practitioners, implement research and build up tools to develop decent work all over the world”.

A moderator leads each workshop that includes also a reporter. The latter presents a summary of the works in the final session of the conference.

During these workshops, some participants may provide some short presentations contributing to the debate of the group.



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