



TACTics Journal

A Publication for and by TOC for Education Practitioners
February 2013

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14th TOC for Education International Conference

Dates: April 18-21, 2013

Location: Baltimore, Maryland USA

Venue: Embassy Suites Airport

(Venue is 30 minutes by train to downtown Washington D.C)



Airport: Baltimore-Washington International (airport code: BWI)

Venue/ Hotel Embassy Suites Baltimore Airport
1300 Concourse Drive Linthicum Heights, MD 21090 (410) 850-0747

Amenities include:

- + Complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport and to Light Rail and AMTRAK/Marc train stations
- + Complimentary cooked to order breakfast
- + Complimentary cocktails and snacks at Manager's Evening Reception
- + Two room suites that include 2 flat screen LD/HD TV's, separate living area with full-sized sleeper sofa, refrigerator, microwave and coffeemaker

- ✚ Indoor pool and fitness center
- ✚ WiFi available in suites and common areas at an additional cost.
- ✚ <http://embassysuites3.hilton.com/en/hotels/maryland/embassy-suites-baltimore-at-bwi-airport-BALIAES/index.html>

We have blocked a limited number of rooms at the special rate of:

King Suite: USA \$119 plus tax. (King size bed in sleeping room)

Double Suite: : USA \$139 plus tax (2 Double beds in sleeping room)

Hotel Reservations: Call 1-800-362-2779 and ask for group booking code **TOC** or for **TOC FOR EDUCATION** group rate.

Conference Fees: Includes daily lunches and copy of THE TOC LEARNING CONNECTION, valued at \$49.95. Registration fee does not include lodging. Hotel reservations must be made and paid for separately.

\$295 by March 1

\$395 after March 1

Conference Registration: <http://www.tocforeducation.com/what.html>

International Speakers and Workshop Facilitators include:

- Kathy Suerken, President, TOC for Education, USA 
- Motoi Tobita, Inherent Simplicity, Realization, Secretary TOCfE, Japan 
- Maciej Winiarek, Lider Edukacji, Director TOCfE, Poland 
- Manfred Smith, CEO Mind Power Consulting, Director TOCfE, USA 
- Petra Pouw-Legene, Davis Learning Strategies Facilitator, Netherlands 
- Daniel Brown, Tecnos Consultores, TOCfE Director, Mexico 
- Linda Trapnell, Consultant, Institute of Education, United Kingdom 
- Dr. Jenilyn Corpuz, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Philippines 
- Flavio Arias, Acierto Educativo, Director, TOCfE Guanajuato, Mexico 
- Dr. Danilo Sirias, Professor, Saginaw Valley State University, USA 
- Dr. Shoshi Reiter, TOC for Human Development, Israel 
- Fiet Muris, MECUMA Consulting, Netherlands 

Rosy Perez Servin, School Principal, **Mexico**



Francis Mejia, Director, TOCfE South America **Colombia**



Denise Meyer, Author, Education Consultant, **USA**



“The TOCfE Work of Fiet Muris” from Petra Pouw-Legene, Netherlands

Fiet Muris, a former elementary school director, is a licensed TOCfE trainer. In 2007 Fiet left the school and started her own educational consultancy, MECUMA, especially working with Sinti (gypsy) youth and their parents on learning and behavioral problems.

In the meantime she trained her staff (7 members) in the TOCfE thinking processes and devoted a year together with her staff on developing her own course materials, stories and books, all based on three TOC thinking tools

Fiet called her TOCfE trainings FIRE Communication. She is not only implementing TOCfE, but also the ideas of Peter Senge, of Marcos Training** and, of course, her own life experience in her work and personal life. (**Marcos Training and Schooling is a 4 year training program which leads to a professional, registered and Dutch Government approved license to treat people with different physical and emotional blockades)

She is very much in favor of supporting, in herself and in others, what she calls ‘personal mastery’. The TP’s help to ask the right questions for a person to find his/her own answers.

Fiet has now trained about 250 teachers and support staff in different schools in her region in The Netherlands. Her goal is to bring FIRE Communication into all schools in The Netherlands. Right now, more and more schools and organisations (also from the business World!) are starting to approach her for training,

In addition, she:

- is now a regular partner of the regional CJG (Centre for Youth and Family)
- gives FIRE-Training courses: Currently 10 people are being trained to become FIRE communication teachers
- holds evening sessions with groups twice a week: respectively, 12 and 8 attendants
- gives individual coachings: 20 children and adults
- is much involved in the welfare of the Sinti (Gypsy) population: about 400 people.
- certified Marcos training: FIRE Communication is going to be offered as separate modules in the Marcos training: Marcos has about 400 students at this moment.

Fiet is looking forward to meeting the TOCfE network in Baltimore in April and to share her experiences .

The Surplus Value of Applying TOC to a Comprehensive Reading Lesson *By Petra Pouw-Legene, Netherlands*

Introduction

From March until October 2012 the three Thinking Processes of TOC for Education have been offered by me during an 18 hour pilot project to 10 elementary school teachers. I first translated

Kathy Suerken's workbook: **The TOC Learning Connection: Critical Thinking Tools to Analyze, Interpret and Apply Curriculum** into Dutch.

For every chapter the 6 contact hours were divided into two Wednesday afternoons of three hours each. After each first session of a chapter the teachers applied the TP in their classrooms: first the Logic Branch, then the Cloud and finally the Ambitious Target. They sent in 'homework' and gave short presentations to each other during the first hour of the second session of each tool.

The teachers found the TOCfE Thinking tools very useful when working with texts which needed to be interpreted and analyzed. But they hesitated to apply TOCfE during the special weekly 45 minute lesson in 'comprehensive reading'.

The method the school uses for the subject 'comprehensive reading' offers a central theme (as far as I have seen) in every chapter and is designed to develop vocabulary, specific expressions or so called 'pay attention!-words.' Every chapter has extensive instructions for the teacher while the students have their own workbooks.

The team challenged me to demonstrate that TOCfE might have surplus value when applied in these lessons as well. The results and details of the analysis in addressing their reservations is conveyed in the attached power point.

And Finally – from Alan ...

My goodness, another new year already! It seems that time is flying by but, then again, we must be pleased with the longevity of our cause; we are looking forward to the 14th International conference!

Around the world TOCfE is going from strength to strength and, with each passing year, is developing to encompass the various cultures who adopt the paradigm. All this thanks to the various educators who have on-the-ground, localized knowledge and, of course, to Kathy who strives continuously to keep the learning materials up to date.

Let's hope that 2013 is a good year for us all.

Best wishes, Alan ...