



SCOUTS[®]
Creating a Better World

World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout
Всемирная Организация Скаутского Движения
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scout
المنظمة العالمية للحركة الكشفية

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To: International Commissioners

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Research and Scouting

Following the Resolutions of the 38th World Conference, the Educational Methods Committee has appointed a small group to work on "Research and Scouting".

The suggestion is to work initially, during this year, on two main themes: the first is "Volunteering" and the second is "Skills for Life". This research will be conducted jointly by academics and representatives of the Scout Movement, following the success of the World Scout Scientific Congress in 2007 "Education and the World Scout Movement: Experiences and Challenges".

To carry out this project, we need the cooperation of all the NSOs who are interested in supporting research. All your suggestions in this area are welcome, but we would like to receive, in the first instance, your answers to the following questions:

1. Could you identify recent research carried out by your NSO or universities in your country, around the two themes mentioned above, within the field of non-formal education?
2. Could you identify, in your country, some university research centers or others working in the field of non-formal education on Volunteerism and/or Skills for Life? This could be, for example, a center for pedagogical research in a public or private university or even an NGO which has such a "department" or research unit.
3. You could also let us know of possibly two or three names of researchers interested in these topics and, more generally, in non-formal education.

The collection of this information will enable us in the first instance to develop the "state of research" in the topics that we have selected and to consider possible further cooperation between World Scouting and academia. We also plan to create at a later stage an international network of researchers on non-formal education, building on a number of universities or centres of research.

I would be very grateful if you could help us by answering the three questions proposed in this letter and send your answers, before 30 April, 2010 to Patrick Gallaud (pgallaud@scout.org), Scientific Advisor to the World Scout Bureau (kindly detached and placed at our disposal by the French Ministry of Youth and Sports), who works in the Education, Research and Development Department in conjunction with the Educational Methods Committee.

The issue is very important: it will enable us to enrich our educational proposals based on current scientific knowledge and thus offer a Scouting experience more relevant to the realities of the twenty-first century.

Yours sincerely,

Luc Panissod
Secretary General