

World Student Christian Federation of Europe
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WSCF Staff and Officers' Meeting

23-26 February 2012

Bremen, Germany



14 leaders of Student Christian Movements (SCMs) from across Europe met in Bremen, Germany in February 2012 for the annual WSCF-E staff and officers' meeting. The schedule was full of workshops but there was plenty of time for participants to get to know one another and share their experiences working in SCMs over the past year.

They shared their reports of their work, successes and struggles, as well as hopes for the future. Bremen's charm was inviting, as was the local [Bremen Evangelischen Studierenden Gemeinde](#) and our national hosts [ESG](#). The group was invited on a tour, though it was rainy, it was great to see the Bremen singers and Christian symbols found throughout the city.

An opportunity to learn

A role-play during the fundraising workshop put participants in both the role of the funder and the applicant. The short amount of time given to frame their proposal forced them to be creative and spontaneous and after sharing their proposal with numerous "funders" their proposals became more concrete. To continue with the theme of communicating SCM work, a workshop on Social Media, outlined how to develop a communication strategy. In order to have a "voice" in social media one needs to know who they are speaking to, so participants drew pictures of their audience, gave them names and hobbies and gained a better understanding of what students are looking for Online. Presentations from these workshops can be found under [Advice](#) on WSCF Europe's website.



Connecting the federation

[Shannon Phillip](#), Campaigns Coordinator from the European Regional Committee, joined the group to talk about his experience at the Advocacy and Solidarity Committee meeting. He proposed a European response to the WSCF global campaign on Eco-Justice—suggesting how European SCMs can partner with SCMs throughout the entire federation to develop postcards showcasing the eco-justice work being done in each group. On a European level, [Pawel Pustelnik](#), Mozaik Editor-in-Chief, led a workshop that gave time for participant to feedback on the magazine itself, brainstorm how they and other students can contribute to the magazine (through sharing SCM stories) and finally gave them the chance to advertise for *Mozaik* through [YouTube](#). A workshop and evening discussion on Ecumenism also helped participants to reflect on their work in the Church community to which we all belong.



A special thanks to our donor who made this meeting possible: European Commission "Youth in Action Programme"



'Youth in Action' Programme



Problem solving and reflecting

This year staff and officers asked for help on how to meet the problem of finding and keeping volunteers active in their national and local movements. As each participant brings experience and expertise to this field the group worked together on a problem solving method in order to come up with concrete actions to face the problem that many students don't have a lot of time, fear taking on too much responsibility and that the SCMs don't clearly communicate their vision.

Building a network of support

Participants were able to laugh during silly ice-breakers, share with one another their feelings about their work and get to know one another as friends and colleagues. As one participant put it, *"I feel more connected with the work of WSCF-E and local SCMs in the region, and have a better understanding of how my SCM is part of a global movement of Christian students working for a better world. Very inspiring!"*