PEB and OECD activities

• **Higher Education: Spaces and Places**
What better place for 140 delegates to discuss how changing higher education needs will impact on facilities than the campus of the Helsinki University of Technology at Otaniemi in Espoo, Finland, designed by Alvar Aalto? What better place for 22 speakers to explore the future of universities than in Finland where hotly debated proposals for university reform could have a profound effect on facilities and buildings used by universities ...

• **Mandate Approved for OECD National Experts on Education Facilities Evaluation**
On 20 February 2008, the OECD’s governing council formally approved the mandate for the OECD Group of National Experts on Education Facilities Evaluation. Following that approval, Barbara Ischinger, Director of Education, invited OECD ambassadors to nominate experts from their countries to participate in this group ...

• **PEB Archives in Mexico**
PEB is pleased to announce that its document archives will be housed in Mexico and made available to everyone ...

• **PEB Earthquake Documents in Chinese**
The China Development Research Foundation is translating the PEB publication Keeping Schools Safe in Earthquakes into Chinese and plans to print 1 000 copies to make available to the Chinese government and to the public. In addition, the Foundation is translating the OECD Recommendation Concerning Guidelines on Earthquake Safety in Schools.

• **PEB in China**
PEB was part of an OECD delegation to Beijing for a conference hosted by the Ministry of Education and Beijing Normal University on “Education Decision Making and Indicators”. This was an opportunity to discuss aspects of education facilities and to exhibit for the first time the new PEB Compendium posters which were specially translated for the event.

• **Keep up to date with the OECD**
To receive personalised e-mails announcing new OECD publications, statistics updates and free newsletters related to your specific areas of interest, the Organisation offers a free service called OECDdirect. *PEB Exchange* is now part of this service ...
Editorial

• Keeping Schools Safe
Disaster strikes and world attention is drawn to tragedy. In horror, we all watched as reports on the earthquake in China filled our television screens. School buildings collapsed killing thousands of children. There may be little we can do to prevent earthquakes, but some of their worst effects can be avoided. This is not the first time that an earthquake has struck with such dire consequences, and it will not be the last ...

Articles

• Special Primary School Complex in the United Kingdom: Booker Park
Booker Park School is a new complex for pre-primary children and primary pupils with a range of behavioural and learning difficulties. To respond to the pupils’ varied needs, the school facilities offer a high degree of flexibility and a quality environment for learning ...

• A Flexible School for Early Childhood Education in Italy
The design of a flexible school for early childhood education in Milan, Italy, takes into account children’s development and the different ways they experience space according to their age. The facilities will include not only a nursery school and kindergarten, but also a drop-in day-care centre, a play centre and outdoor areas to develop the senses ...

• Primary School Architecture in Portugal: A Case Study
Describing primary schools in a small city in Portugal is an opportunity for an overall look at the evolution of schools in general as special public buildings. A look at four of the six primary schools in the city of Caldas da Rainha shows how these public buildings have evolved, what they represent to the community, and how their architecture has corresponded to changing concepts in education and demands for flexibility over the years ...

• Sustainable Education Campus in Spain: Nature and Architecture for Training
The sustainable education campus project for San Agustín de Guadalix is based on an innovative concept of urbanism and architecture. The campus design and landscape aim to support training and exemplify sustainability ...

News

• Mexico’s UACJ Designing University City
Mexico’s Autonomous University of Ciudad Juarez (UACJ) is designing a 300-hectare University City which will consolidate its existing campuses into one ...

• Reducing Greenhouse Gases in English HEIs
Higher education institutions (HEIs) in England will benefit from a new fund to provide repayable grants for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Projects funded under the new scheme will reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, from both existing and new buildings, and enable HEIs to save money in the long term and to benefit from carbon trading. Projects might include better energy management, on-site renewable energy generation, waste management, and sustainable construction and refurbishment ...
• **Disaster Risk Reduction Website**
  PreventionWeb (www.preventionweb.net) is a new information service created to increase knowledge on disaster risk reduction. The website provides a common tool for those interested or working in the area of disaster risk reduction to connect, exchange experiences and share information ...

• **Architecture & Behaviour Colloquium**
  The XIII Architecture & Behaviour Colloquium brought together academic researchers and architects from Europe and North America, representatives from the ministries of education and school construction from African and Middle East countries as well as experts from organisations which subsidise school construction in developing countries ...

• **Online Educational Facility Planning Programme**
  A new advanced certificate programme on educational facility planning entitled “Improving the Places Children Learn” will be delivered online beginning in August 2008 ...

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**Publications**

  *OECD Review of National Policies for Education – Quality and Equity of Schooling in Scotland*, OECD.
  *Slovene Education System: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow* and *Slovene Education System in Numbers*, Ministry of Education and Sport, Slovenia.

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**Events**

• 25 June 2008 – “School Buildings – The State of Affairs: A New Architecture for a New Education”, a symposium on the design of urban school environments, in Boston, Massachusetts, and an exhibit showcasing 31 new and innovative school buildings from Switzerland and other European countries, at MIT’s Compton Gallery until 8 August, contact Kati Reusche, Kati@swissnexboston.org.
• 26-27 June 2008 – “International Conference on Educational Facilities Quality” in Naples, Italy, organised by the Campania Region, contact Giorgio Ponti, arch@giorgioponti.it, tel.: +39 362 302100.
• 27 June 2008 – “Building Better Schools Summit” hosted by the British Council for School Environments in London, United Kingdom, bbs@bcse.uk.net, tel.: +44 20 7785 6288.
• 18-20 August 2008 – “Inclusion and Integration through Innovation: The Role of 21st Century Learning Environments in Promoting Social Participation and Access to Education for Learners with Special Needs”, a PEB conference held in co-operation with the New Zealand Ministry of Education in Auckland, peb@oecd.org.
• 29 September-2 October 2008 – CEFPI’s 85th Annual International Conference, in San Diego, California.