



CALL FOR PAPERS & INVITATION TO THE BEST EN THINK TANK XI “Learning for Sustainable Tourism”

May 21 – 24, 2011: Temple University, Philadelphia, USA

About Think Tank XI

We cordially invite you to the BEST EN Think Tank XI entitled “Learning for Sustainable Tourism”, held in Philadelphia from May 21–24, 2011 in conjunction with Temple University, Philadelphia.

BEST EN is committed to furthering the development and dissemination of knowledge in the field of sustainable tourism. At a BEST EN Think Tank, participants engage in workshops and active and extensive discussions that are used to generate a research agenda and educational module. Those willing to be creative, to explore new ideas, who are comfortable with unconventional approaches and seek a broader perspective of the field are welcome to participate.

The focus of Think Tank XI is “Learning for Sustainable Tourism”. This theme highlights the importance of education and learning in the field of sustainable tourism to promote and implement sustainable tourism practices in tourism. The theme encompasses both institutionalised and non-institutionalised learning by students, tourism providers, communities and travellers.

In 2011, BEST EN will partner with the Tourism Education Futures Initiative (TEFI) World Congress, which will take place prior to the Think Tank XI May 18-21, 2011 at Temple University. Philadelphia is located on the Eastern coast of the United States, and home to over 120,000 college and university students, placing a great focus on higher education. Considered the Birthplace of America, Philadelphia has a historical element to it while still offering great cultural amenities such as concert halls, fine arts institutions and a variety of great museums. Temple University, founded in 1884, has evolved into a comprehensive urban research and academic institution. The university offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs. The School of Tourism & Hospitality Management is located on the main campus in easy reach to the city centre. It offers excellent meeting and leisure facilities and a vibrant team that looks forward to making the Think Tank a unique experience.

BEST EN Think Tank XI welcomes academics from tourism and related disciplines, higher degree research students, government officials and tourism industry experts with an interest in sustainable tourism practices.

Participants are also welcome to present conceptual and empirical papers on a range of topics including:

- learning principles
- values in sustainable tourism education
- innovative sustainable tourism pedagogies, curriculum and assessment
- learning tools (value of, types, exemplary)
- learning environments (communities, physical, institutional, onsite, etc.)
- reflexive learning for sustainable tourism
- interpretation and free choice learning
- life wide learning
- trends in sustainable tourism education (e.g. E-Learning, digital divide)
- other topics relevant to sustainable tourism and learning

We invite authors to **submit either an abstract or a full paper**. Papers submitted by the due date will be peer-reviewed and published in the proceedings.

Early submission of abstracts and papers is encouraged and will expedite the review process for those needing advanced notification of the status of their submission.

Abstracts should be approximately 1,000 words with a title page containing full name and contact information. The deadline for submission of abstracts is **February 7, 2011**. Authors will receive feedback by March 15, 2011.

Alternatively, authors can submit **full papers** for blind review. In this case, please submit a 15 page (double-spaced) paper in APA format by **February 7, 2011**. The author will receive notification of acceptance by March 15, 2011. Full papers should include a title page with author name and affiliation; introduction; methods; findings; application of results; conclusions and references. The author's name should appear only on the title page.

The submission of a paper or abstract requires that at least one author attends the Think Tank to present the paper.

The BEST EN Outstanding Paper Award is open to all full papers that reflect the theme of Think Tank XI. Selected full papers are published in a special issue of the Journal of Tourism and Hospitality Research.

Please submit your electronic abstract or paper (as word attachment) to tina.tiller@modul.ac.at