A small group of ten experts on quality in education gathered to get a grip on PASSION IN EDUCATION. What is passion in education? What hinders it? How can we tackle the obstacles? And what can we individually contribute in our daily work to the increase of passion in education?

The first day we started with a lunch, we got to know each other and the first Pecha Kucha (6-minute-power-point-presentation) was presented on the issue. The atmosphere of the Fontys department of Arts already showed us passionate students at work. The group biked from one meeting place to the other to stay within good Dutch traditions.

Day two we further got into passion on the side of the students. We visited students of the study CIRCUS and PERFORMANCE ARTS, filmed them and talked to them. The afternoon we looked at the hindrances for passion we experience in our own work.

Photo: ©Bart Hamming
In the evening we were in the audience of the passionate CIRCUS ELOIZE, one of the new circus performance acts, where even rain was produced on the stage.

Day three we worked under the passionate guidance of one of the group, being a teacher in drama on our own passion and movement.

We discussed two more Pecha Kucha’s and visited a restaurant school where we had dinner. A crucial element for the success of learning appeared to be the interaction between teacher and learner, between learners. That also means there should be room for emotions in this relationship. This concept is shown in a 9.45 minute video on Youtube showing dr. Kanamori, Japanese primary school teacher (http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=children+full+of+life+1+of+5&aq=1) and is put into practice by e.g. prof.dr. T.W. Hardjono’s Clinamengroup (in Dutch: http://clinamengroep.blogspot.com/2009/06/betekenis-clinamen.html).
We rapped up the meeting before the lunch on day four. Asked to summarize the Summer Camp 2010 in one word the following occurred: circus, co-creation, connection, future oriented, interaction, slowing down, passion, diversity, recognition, passion.

Everard van Kemenade

On the last day we were the guest of the Audax Textile Museum that has an interesting reflective practicum called Textile Lab, where designers, artists and students can work with the latest textile machines to make their experimental designs.

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