Heinmets, T. Department of Teacher Education, University of Helsinki.

**The Renewal of Physics Curriculum in Estonia: the Relation between Official and Experienced Curricula**

The Research Methods of the Inquiry "The Renewal of Physics Curriculum in Estonia: Relation Between Official and Experienced Curricula".

My report is constructed in style where every researcher can find something for himself.

The aim of study: The renewal of physics curriculum in Estonia: to study the relation between official and experienced curricula. To make a new physics curriculum.

The background of study: There is a new social system and a new paradigm in Estonia. The connection between theory and practise is broken. New paradigm requires new study methods and materials, also new physics curriculum and new training of teachers.

The methods used: The methods of research work are functions of curriculum as a document, a phenomena (in this moment of time), a process in the longer period. The foreign research works have shown that the teacher himself is the best resource of information about his work and pupils (Houston, Haberman, Sikula, 1996). The Finnish questionnaire of Maija Aksela and Riitta Juvonen with some changes according to conditions in Estonia has sent to Estonian physics teachers in spring 2000. The quantitative and qualitative analyse of the answers has made. The case study is going on in one Estonian school in winter and spring 2001. The interviews, questionnaires, the results of study of pupils are used. The analyse of textbooks, of study materials, the integration with other subjects, the analyse of tests and exams are used. The project method 2001-2003 will be used for making a new model of physics curriculum and for practice it in 40 Estonian schools.

The results: The answers of the 153 physics teachers to questionnaire are used for preanalyse of situation in teaching physics in spring 2000 in Estonian schools. The case study is going on in spring 2001. The project is made for continue the research work.

A discussion of the results and the implications for research and practice:
The results were presented by me in conference Modern (Real) Subjects and the New Curriculum in Tartu University in 2000, October 27-28. The requirements of society and learned in school material are not in correspondence. The hidden curriculum is going on. There are the very different levels of pupils knowledge over Estonia. The minimum of knowledge and skills is not agreed, also the range and extent of treatment of every concept, law law, theory, phenomena, also what kind of tasks and problems to solve. The relation between practice and theory is broken in every level in education of Estonia. There is a serious war of ideologies in the field of education in Estonia.

The status of the research study: The research study is going on.