

New Tools for the Integration of Transversal Skills in Modern Teaching Practice

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Beneficiar: Universitatea din Craiova (RO), parteneri: Bifröst University (IS), Nesna University College (NO)

<http://proiecte.ucv.ro/transmod>

ACTIVITY REPORT A2: VIRTUAL AND ACTUAL MOBILITIES (Phase 1: Documentation & Mobilities)

August 1-31, 2014

As stipulated in the project application, the second month of the project (August 2014) witnessed the development of two different tasks:

1. Virtual mobilities:

- constant communication between Romanian, Norwegian and Icelandic team members by e-mail and Skype talks;
- a twofold purpose: sharing the results of Activity 1 (Documentation) and establishing a range of benchmarks for the Questionnaire on the Implementation of Transversal Skills in partner institutions.

2. Actual mobilities of Romanian team members to Bifröst University (2 members) and Nesna University College (2 members) – August 25-29, 2014:

Main purposes:

- good practice exchange with peer teachers on the development of students' transversal skills;
- disseminating the objectives, results and envisaged activities of TRANSMOD;
- discussions on the *Questionnaire* that supports the 3rd activity of the TRANSMOD project, that aims at assessing the methods and strategies used for students' training by the three partner universities;
- documentation.

Mobilities to Bifröst University:

- Meetings with instructor Jon Freyr JOHANSSON, member of the TRANSMOD project. In a first meeting, the activities and timeline of the project were discussed. The subsequent meetings focused on the draft *Questionnaire* proposed by the team of the University of Craiova, that aims at assessing the methods and strategies used for students' training in the three partner institutions. Discussions also dealt with how will the *Questionnaire* be disseminated to the teaching staff, on which categories of respondents would be taken into account and on the data collection and interpretation methods. The final meeting summarized the previous talks, established the work plan for the development of future activities within the project (how will the *Questionnaire* be provided to teaching staff,

organisation of the joint online seminar) and dealt with possibilities to extend and further the current project upon its completion.

- Documentation at the Bifröst University Library and Research Centre: consulting scientific literature on state-of-the-art methods and techniques for the development of students' transversal skills.
- Presentation of the TRANSMOD project to teaching staff of Bifröst University;
- Work meeting with teaching staff of Bifröst University for an exchange of point of views on the development of students' transversal skills and sharing good practice;
- Visits to various laboratories (computer science, foreign languages) of Bifröst University and presentation of how are transversal skills developed in these laboratories.

Mobilities to Nesna University College:

- Meetings with Patrick MURPHY, member of the TRANSMOD project. The activities and timeline of the project were discussed. An analysis of the *Questionnaire* was performed, in terms of dissemination strategies, data collection methods and interpretation of results. The methods of cooperation were established for the development of future project activities (administration of the Questionnaire, joint online seminar) and various aspects were discussed on the *Good Practice Guide*.
- Observing classes on how to teach phonetics, language and vocabulary, using Lego to teach communication skills, benefits of outdoor teaching, distance learning, teaching creative writing, etc. The classes were followed by extended feedback discussions.
- Meetings with staff of the Teacher Training Department and round table discussions;
- Presentation of the TRANSMOD project to teaching staff of Nesna University College;
- Documentation at the library of Nesna University College: consultation of scientific literature (books, journals, online resources) with a view to identifying resources related to transversal skills in teaching theoretical and applied subjects;
- Discussions with members of the ICT Department of Nesna University College, Campus Helgeland regarding online teaching, ICT, the use of ICT in teaching, distance learning programmes, ways to equip students with 21st century skills.