

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

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JOINT ONLINE WORKSHOP

November 17, 2014, 9.00 GMT

Participants

University of Craiova: Monica Tilea Anca Tănasie Costel Iona Cu Silviu Lofelman Ion Buzera Daniela Dincă Mihaela Popescu Oana-Adriana Du ă Gabriela Anca Mic Loredana Mateescu

Bifrost University: Jon Freyr

Nesna University College: Patrick Murphy

MEETING REPORT:

1. Discussion on the results of the TRANSMOD Questionnaire

An outline of the questionnaire results was presented, which showed the primary indicators obtained by means of statistical processing and interpretation. The main purpose was to emphasize the similarities and differences between the





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three partner universities in terms of knowledge, implementation and evaluation of transversal skills.

The UCv team explained that in some cases there was a lack of internal consistency and coherence in the answers of teaching staff, and that this will also have to be discussed when enlarging upon the questionnaire results.

Project members agreed that the outline is very useful in order to decide upon the actions that have to be taken in the future.

2. General organisation of the Project Conference of April 2015: dates, contents, etc.

The project manager proposed to have the Project Conference in the final week of April. Jon Freyr and Patrick Murphy said they would check their calendar and the matter will be discussed by e-mail.

Another topic of discussion referred to the activities that will take place during the transnational mobilities of the Icelandic and Norwegian researchers. Such mobilities will include: participation in the Project Conference, information and dissemination activities which will be jointly organised by the three project partners, informal meetings with teaching staff and students from the University of Craiova. The final schedule of the mobilities will be agreed upon at least two weeks prior to their beginning date and will be published on the project website.

The Norwegian and Icelandic researchers have to reserve in their schedule at least 7 days for this activity (2 days transport + 5 days mobility activities, as per the project application).

3. Discussion on the Good Practice Guide: structure, contents, etc.

The project manager proposed the following structure of the Good Practice Guide:

 a detailed discussion on the results of the questionnaire (that would support and document the need for the Good Practice Guide, as well as outline current models resulting from questionnaire analysis and concrete









recommended patterns and activities) – to be done by UCv, with punctual input from Bifrost and Nesna (approx. 15 pages);

- general discussion on transversal skills: definitions, concepts, general practice to be done by UCv, with punctual input from Bifrost and Nesna (approx. 20 pages);
- "good practice... in practice": a collection of contributions (approx. 15 pages each) where project members and other academic staff detail their approach on transversal skills in their classes. At least 2 contributions from Bifrost and 2 contributions from Nesna. It would be ideal to have 10 contributions x 10 pages each.
- conclusions;
- bibliography.

The general principle is to have the Good Practice Guide conceived and structured as a joint scientific publication, with everyone's name appearing only one time (on a single contribution), so that it can also be helpful for individual research paths. Jointly authored contributions are also welcome.

Patrick Murphy asked whether a structure of an individual contribution ought to be designed. The matter will be thought of and then discussed by e-mail.

The text of contributions should be ready before the Project Conference, so that we may discuss them and make all required clarifications with that opportunity. Afterwards, according to the project application, the Guide has to be compiled, translated (since both an English and a Romanian version will be published), proofread, edited and published by the end of June at the Universitaria Publishing House of Craiova. The guide will also be available free of charge on the project website.

4. Discussion on the possibility to ensure the project's sustainability with the submission of a new project application in 2015

As Jon Freyr proposed during the visit of three project members at the University of Bifrost, in August, a sequel to the project, that would enlarge upon its results and propagate them to a higher scale, will be more than welcome. The









submission of an Erasmus+ KA2 (Strategic Partnerships) project was proposed and the whole team agreed on the organization of an Intensive Programme, where the valuable information on transversal skills acquired within the hereby project would be actually implemented in practice. The entire team manifested their availability to help writing this project. The deadline for the submission of KA2 projects is March 31, 2015. Such an Intensive Programme would mark a shift of focus in terms of target group, addressing not only higher education teaching staff, but also students.

5. Presentation of the project website, logo and poster.

TRANSMOD

Jon Freyr and Patrick Murphy said that the logo and poster were great and that they would look into the project website in more detail and send their feedback by e-mail. The Bifrost University and Nesna University College will also have to set up a dedicated webpage on their websites. For the *Team* heading of the website, each member will have to provide a short (8-10 lines) biographical notice including their experience relevant for the activities of the project. All the information will be sent to the project manager by e-mail as soon as possible.