



**TEMPUS PROJECT CD JEP 18046-2003**  
**Management and (e)Business Education in**  
**Computer Studies**

**Workshop:**  
**Workshop for realization of new BIT studies**

**London, February 2007**

## **Workshop for realization of new BIT studies**

The host was project partner Prof. Dilip Patel, the head of department, Prof. Peter Linecar, and his colleagues Prof. John and Ph. D. student Michael Kashoski.

The first day of the workshop covered procedures for **establishing new curricula and its upgrade**.

The first session was discussion about **course realization** with a lot of details about units that form a course. We have overviewed details for what are the skills required for appropriate course and what knowledge and skills are required in the learning process to obtain them. The identification of these assets means formation of units.

The second session was about **unit organization**. The hosts gave detailed elaboration about units and fruitful discussion followed afterwards among participants, especially about the process of identification and formation of units.

The final session covered **unit guides**. Unit guides are documents that explain motivation for units and identify goals, and aims for each unit. The unit guides also contain a lot of material that supports the teaching and learning process, like identification of learning objectives and skills, homework assignments and projects, assessment strategy etc. There was a brainstorming discussion afterwards for units and unit guide content from both the professor and the student perspectives.

The second workshop day covered details for new **Master programs at London South Bank University**.

The first session was about **initiation of new M. Sc. study programs**. The review of university programs – how to create a sustainable study programs. The main idea is to reconstruct study program starting from information systems to business oriented courses, since the number of students is decreasing. They tried to find way to increase the number of students – continuum of management of information.

The second session was discussion about the **new M.Sc. program about health information systems**. The new health information systems program is domain oriented, where Information Systems professionals would understand business, not just the technology. You can not make IS if do not know the problem. NHS supports these efforts.

The third day of the workshop was intended for sessions that overlap with the SMILE project. The sessions covered **analysis of the student records information system and possibilities for student exchange, ECTS and**

**Diploma Supplement.** It is surprising that the system in UK usually works one-way and not in opposite way, since students usually come in UK, but almost none of them go abroad from UK. Therefore corresponding systems for credit exchange is not developed. The head of the Department Prof. Peter Linecar and his Ph.D. student Geoffrey explained about initial efforts for issuing European Degree for Erasmus programs. This project was initiated by three Universities in Slovenia, Czech Republic and Hungary as joint program.

The final day was about **transparent web system for study programs.**

The hosts demonstrated the use of UCAS admission system. There is a handbook which explains briefly all study programs. Students then must contact universities for details about programs.

Each University is independent body and chooses direction. Therefore this is not shared info. UCAS is clearing house which collects applications and transfers to Universities. This system works well in UK with 120 Universities, but for smaller countries it may be better to develop centralized system like the Greek system.

The main objective is to make a transparent centralized system where one can choose possible study program. One of the issues is the question of choice. Sometimes one would like to study particular program, but due to limited places it can not be a free choice.

The applicants submit applications to UCAS, and then UCAS send them to Universities, they choose the students, and send back responses to applicants. Then the applicants choose and send answer to UCAS. UCAS is therefore man in the middle organization and acts as clearing house.

Prof. John attended a conference with debate about academic freedom and consumer market. Transformation of happy individuals and train them towards serious professionals, capable for the market. One of the questions was to understand soft and easy programs (mashy) to convert them into crunchy universities.

The main problem is that computing is taught at elementary school as a tool, and is not scientific or business driven. Almost all students understand it as easy environment and not as scientific research area, nor as market oriented problem.