



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

Workshop:
Workshop on dissemination of results

Skopje, May 2007

Workshop on dissemination of results

The intention of this workshop was to disseminate the results and present overall project achievements. EU partners have presented several new ideas about future activities in the scope of project objectives that will have added value.

Prof. Hatziprokopiu was the first presenter about “Overall MABECS achievements”. He elaborated the motivation of initiating the MABECS project and especially answering the question: “Why IT products can not match standards and quality from EU?”. In his presentation he pointed out the quality aspects and the international context, the emergence and strengthens of the global society and digital economy. He showed how these issues have implications on employment and development. The emphasis has to be moved towards knowledge creation and exploitation, especially by using ICT. Today knowledge and information work accounts 60% of US GDP. Therefore the objective of the project is curricula restructuring in economics, business, management and marketing, software engineering, e-World, and technology courses and content production of learning material, environment and methods. General outcomes are introduction of 32 new courses, 130 Interactive response learning system, 5 labs with more than 120 computers, 32 printed learning materials and 17 courses with e-learning material.

Prof. Dilip Patel presented the “Project Impact in higher education”. In his presentation he expressed concerns how restructuring of curricula is very important especially in cases when more than half of the budget comes as government funding and he pointed out that there is a decreasing trend in the next years. Therefore continuous curricula development, restructuring and quality assurance should be necessity that the institutions should offer as internal and external scrutiny. The key thing is transparency. The institution should provide documents to all public on course and subject level. This system depend on external examiners, that answer what is the quality of services, listen to the students as customers of services and then to the market as consumers of educated students.

Prof. Shushma Patel presented “Best practice of higher education in UK”. She particularly talked about knowledge transfer partnership (DTI projects) and National Health Service projects. Some of the DTI knowledge transfer projects were Preuveneers LLB, Blues Clothing and Quest Media project details. The National Health Service projects concern education, training & development for particular market area, as biggest employer at the moment. She concluded that we have to fit for purpose in terms of graduates and courses we deliver. The motivation is always market driven.

Prof. Vlado Dukovski presented “Improvement of Quality assurance at higher education”. He pointed development of Quality Standards in EHEA, starting from 1997. The Bergen conference at 2005 the EU has accepted set of standards and recommendations for QA which include internal quality assurance, external quality assurance of higher education and external quality assurance of quality assurance agencies. In the framework of this project there is a publication of recommendation available in Macedonian and Albanian language. He pointed out several details that can be found in these recommendations, like cyclic periodical review of procedures and evaluation etc. We need system and institutions that will follow the framework set by EU. He expressed several recommendations to upgrade the current situation in accreditation, like inclusiveness of private HE institutions in work of quality assurance agency, then not issuing accreditation in the beginning but after finishing the first cycle; the institutional evaluation in cyclic manner, integration of QA bodies (the accreditation board and evaluation committee) into one agency responsible for quality assurance at higher education and then membership into ENQA.

Prof. Gjorgji Manceski and Prof. Pece Mitrevski presented project achievements at University St. Clement Ohridski at Economic Faculty in Prilep and Faculty of Technical Sciences in Bitola correspondingly. They pointed out all relevant project results, realized activities to reach project outcomes and realize project objective.

Prof. Vlado Radevski presented project achievement for SEE University of Tetovo. He pointed the impact of a such project and initiation of a new specialization/master degree curricula at the university about Management of Information Systems.

Prof. Marjan Gusev has presented the “Overall achieved results from MABECS project”. The total value of four TEMPUS projects that are presented in this workshop is 1.3 million euros. He pointed out what is the added value of all projects concerning the outcomes specified in project proposals and achieved results. He also specified a lot of quantity and quality numbers that show the realization of results. A great number of workshops and visits were realized in order to achieve the results. Prof. Gusev also presented what are the spin off effects of realization of all these projects, such as start up of new projects, start up of sustainability conditions like organization of CISCO and MS academy, realization of a lot of application projects etc.

M. Sc. Goce Armenski demonstrated the “Education web information system” delivered as outcome of the projects. He pointed out the definition of education system, current problems, which include how many universities and faculties are existing, which have accreditation, how to find it etc. University operation as rather bureaucratic can not provide updated and comparable information that will

solve some of these ideas. For example an average student should complete 11 procedures to get one certificate. Another issue is the transparency, flexibility and dynamic with updated information. He gave diagram and data/work flow and functionalities of integrated UMS and pointed what each project has focused on. This was an official set up of the web site of the board of accreditation. M. Sc. Armenski has described the main functionalities of the comparable university programs offered at the moment, the register of high education institutions even with details for CVs of staff that realizes curricula.

This event was excellent dissemination event and good nice response at the audience. Due to conversations with the persons from the audience I got the impression that it had influenced all visitors with new initiatives.