The E³UDRES² Times is free of charge

This newsletter is organized by WP6. All information pre-sented herein were provided by colleagues from all E³UDRES² work packages.

The EUDRES Times

Issue No. 02

The official internal newsletter of the Engaged and Entrepreneurial European University as Driver for European Smart and Sustainable Regions

PAST MEETINGS



E³UDRES² visit to ViA

After the first in person meeting of the E³UDRES² partners in Autumn 2021 at STPUAS, members from all E3UDRES2 institutions had the chance to visit Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences during their annual International Week (5 - 8 April 2022). The 4-day programme kicked off in Riga, where all partners met at the Latvian National Library and had the chance to network in person. For more info about the meeting **click here**.

NON-ACADEMIC STAFF WORKSHOP =

In March/April 2022 partners organised in their institution, workshops with the non-academic staff of their institution, to discuss with them opportunities and pitfalls for the future university in their domain. The Non-academic staff (representatives of various departments) of the institutions is one of the focus groups of the project and its feedback is of key importance for knowledge creation.

MID-TERM REPORT =

The E3UDRES2 mid-term report is coming up! The first completed draft will be discussed in the next Board of Coordinators' meeting (19 May).

NEW IPS PRESIDENT =

On 27 April prof. Dr. Angela Lemos started to act as the new President of IPS, following the finished mandate of the previous President prof. Pedro Dominguinhos. Our community appreciates the confirmation of Angela's continuous support and focus on E³UDRES² and views on further development, and would like to wish her a lot of success in IPS. This is also an opportunity to appreciate a thorough commitment of Pedro Dominguinhos and hope there will be a lasting link to the E³UDRES² community.



WP5 Meeting in Gödöllő

On March 31st the members of the WP5 met at MATE in Gödöllő, Hungary for a very first in-person meeting. During the two-day meeting, the members had the chance to network and work intensively on the strategy of WP5 and the organization of the Bootcamp. WP5 members report: "This meeting was very important for us and we are looking forward to the next one. Thanks to Zsuzsanna and Zsófi for organising our perfect stay in Gödöllő!"



The Future Casting Workshop organised by WP2 on 7 April in Latvia was part of the activities focused on envisioning mission and features of Future Universities while reflecting the regional focus of E3UDRES2. The workshop's objective was to question the existing practices, consider future arrangements in different aspects. The workshop included a "Speed Dating Workshop" in which various challenging topics related to teaching, learning, entrepreneurship, adequate concept of research and their reflection in regional ecosystems were dis-

seemed to confirm a need for flexibility of learning, balancing academic and applied elements of research, enhanced openness, communication and listening to students, as well as to regional stakeholders.

WHITE SPOTS EXERCISE

Partners organised the "White Spots exercise" with various stakeholders to be able to map the priorities in their institution, visualise them and allow comparison.

NEW IPS E3UDRES2 COORDINATOR =

Raquel Barreira is officially the new coordinator of E³UDRES² at IPS. With experience in several multidisciplinary projects and member of WP2 since the beginning of E3UDRES2, Raquel is now taking over Susana Piçarra's role, who ensured the coordination of E³UDRES² at IPS since the development of the project proposal.

To Susana, many thanks for her huge contribution in the ideation of E³UDRES² and its implementation.

regional partners. The "Vision Statement Workshop" allowed to formulate several vision proposals reflecting focus and views of diverse groups within the alliance. These will serve as an input to further shaping the Future University vision and its characteristics including their consultation with The concept builds on a two-dimension-

al view at opportunities, indicating these

on two axes. The axes reflect the values

identified in the Context Map.

I LIVING LABS =

In the past few months, the cooperation between T-shaped Innovators and Educational Entrepreneurs of WP3 has brought the second batch of I Living Labs to their conclusion. To showcase the challenges tackled, each Lab Team pitched their challenge, process and solution in the "I Living Labs Showdown" event on the 9th of May. The second showdown was livestreamed and recorded, and it will soon be available on the

E³UDRES² YouTube channel.



International Engagement Circus

The International Engagement Circus took place in Hasselt, in the premises of UCLL, between the 26th and 28th of April. The event was organized by WP3 and it aimed to bring people from all different E³UDRES² Work Packages together to nurture our E3UDRES2 alliances and to tackle the topic of on- and offboarding. The busy bees of E³UDRES² have been busy indeed! Find more about the Internation Engagement Circus here.

cussed in small groups. The results

OPEN POLICY SUBGROUP

♦ 2nd Onsite Research Living Labs:

The IPS and the research networks prepared the 2nd Research Living Labs that took place in Setúbal, from 2 to 6 of May. During that week, 1st and 2nd generation research groups and corresponding stakeholders, students and citizens collaborated in different activities and working sessions.

♦ Markets of Stakeholders and Researchers: These two online sessions, within the scope of the 2nd Research LLs, were held on 10 and 12 of May, respectively, to promote the involvement of new researchers and stakeholders in E³UDRES² research networks and projects.

♦ Ent-Re-Novators: The coordination team is about to complete the Grant Agreement Preparation phase, and the project is due to start on 1 October 2022.

EUDRES TEA-TIME =

A new interview series entitled "E³UDRES² Tea Time" is about to be released! The series is focusing on submission of Inspiring Ideas during the first E³UDRES² online Opening Conference and it consists of short interviews of the concepts' authors. The series highlights the spirit of E³UDRES² and its dedication to establishing Future Universities and developing rural areas into Smart and Sustainable ones. The series is currated by WP6 members of STPUAS and ViA and will be released in June in the E³UDRES² YouTube channel.

SCIENCE IN CLOSE-UP

ViA has released new videos in the "Science in close-up" series, which is being broadcasted on the Latvian national television (ReTV channel). The programme is about community-based research and topics. The original programme is in Latvian but subtitles are available in English.

♦ New episode, with Iveta Puntiņa and Gatis Krūmiņš as guests, focusing on the future of small villages in A newly established E³UDRES² Subgroup of WP6 has started working on the development of an Open Access / Open Science Strategy for E³UDRES². This task was originally set in the E³UDRES² proposal and aims to ensure a full commitment to Open Access and support all members and partners to act in line with the related European poli-

cies. A first kick-off meeting of this subgroup already took place at the end of March, where the newly formed team had the chance to exchange experiences from their own institutions and define the task more clearly. The coming meetings will be used to form and draft the Open Access / Open Science strategy further.

BOARD OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

The E³UDRES² Board of Student Representatives, the main body of student representation of E³UDRES² with members from all partnering universities, is currently setting up a new structure within the board. The goal of this restructuring is to enable the students

on the board to work independently, have clear responsibilities, create proposals, and also get engaged in the management processes of E³UDRES². The Board of Student Representatives will meet again at the end of May to discuss the next steps.

BOOTCAMP =

From July 4th – 8th the E³UDRES² Bootcamp will be happening in the beautiful Austrian Alps in St. Jakob in Defereggen. For five days, students from the six E³UDRES² institutions will work in small international groups

on challenges focusing on "the new sustainable future campus", giving them the possibility to shape their future study places. The call for applications is already open. More information about the bootcamp can be found **here**.



Latvia and how European Universities could help. Watch the episode **here**.

- ♦ New episode, with Linda Lancere as guest, focusing on technologies for physical and mental health. Watch the episode **here**.
- New episode with Maira Leščevica as guest, focusing on circular economy and the E3UDRES2 Change cornEr. Watch the episode here.



E³UDRES² SCIENCE PUB QUIZ =



After two successful events, the E³UDRES² Science Pub Quiz is back for its third edition! This time, the quiz is brought to you by the Change cornEr, which is a great opportunity to disseminate the vision and activities of the internal project. So far the Science Pub Quiz engaged over 60 participants, including staff, students, and stakeholders. We hope to see more of you next time! We have fun prizes waiting for you:)

Find more **here**.

ENHANCING EUDRES PARTNERSHIP

E3UDRES2 is with ca 55 thousand students one of the smallest European university alliances in this aspect. This is caused by the nature of universities of applied sciences which most of the alliance' partners are. The plans for potential enlargement and invitation of new partners to strengthen further the expert capacity, enhance the pool of students have been discussed since autumn 2021. The systemic efforts to identify the partners who might optimally match the alliance mission, profile, values as well as relative flexibility led to identification of two institutions which were invited to join the alliance:

♦ Fulda University of Applied Sciences from Hessen, Germany

♦ Saxion University of Applied Sciences

from the Netherlands

Both institutions share the view on the role of higher education in regional ecosystems, offer of relevant skills, learning opportunities, supporting regional development and innovation through user-oriented research. Their study offer, approach to research and development as reflected in their strategies correspond very well with those adopted within the E3UDRES2. This enlargement would allow to engage potentially further 40 thousand students and a wide range of collaborating companies and regional institutions. This enlargement will also allow to balance experience and capacity across Europe as E3UDRES2 has been so far one of the most East-oriented alliances.

While the new partners will be fully involved in the E3UDRES2 activities from the autumn 2023 should the extended funding proposal be approved, it is great to see their commitment and willingness to integrate into governing and thematic structures, as well as students and research activities from the very beginning.

One of the key formal steps would be a small ceremony in Brussels on 8 June 2022 on the occasion of the signature of new partnership agreements accompanied by a brief panel discussion and a reception at the Austrian permanent representation.

E³UDRES² SNAPSHOT & WAY FURTHER

March and April 2022 brought various meetings and individual interviews with various actors within the E³UDRES² alliance. The purpose was to reflect on the interim progress, position of the alliance and ideas for further improvement within the second half the Erasmus+ funding. In addition, a lot of attention is given to developing a E³UDRES² long-term strategy which should be a foundation for the next year application. What are the emerging conclusions?

There is a shared satisfaction with the progress of the alliance, the main achievement being seen in strong commitment, coherence, balanced respect and equality within the alliance and the feeling of a true community. Considering the relatively recent setting up of the partnership and all difficulties of interaction during the pandemics restrictions, this is a wonderful basis for further development. The values of innovative approach, focus on

practice-based learning and applied-science, strong engagement with the respective regions and linking them at international level, shared expertise and capacity just underline the basis.

There are also various issues to improve – and there are plans how to do it, the communication strategy should strengthen the systemic focus of sharing information within the alliance and promotion of its capacity and achievements externally, more attention to early planning activities of the next academic year activities might enhance the potential of integration of various activities into standard learning, teaching and research agenda of partner universities and allow better engagement of students and staff. The possibility of in-person meetings, as well as a variety of online webinars should allow to learn more about other partners, their capacity and practices – and again, feed into further plans and priorities. Even stronger involvement of students and stakeholders are within key priorities for the nearest period, as well as on longterm basis.

Not last, reflecting the European policies, the Executive Board has decided to set up three targeted task forces – on joint/European degrees, on micro-credentials and on structure and status of European university, all reflecting E³UDRES² profile and specifics. The task force should propose approaches for the next period, yet come also with some immediate capacity building and actions.

Long-term strategy will build upon the existing experience, input from various E³UDRES² structures and the priorities are to be agreed by all 8 partners – including the 2 new ones – in the autumn 2022.

Any proposals and idea might be shared with Michal Karpisek, E³UDRES² Senior Policy Expert at michal.karpisek@fhstp.ac.at.



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