

HERE Seminar

“The Positioning and Distinguishing of Applied Studies in Montenegrin Higher Education Reforms”

“Pozicioniranje i razlikovanje primijenjenih studija u reformi visokog obrazovanja Crne Gore”

Rectorate of the University of Montenegro, December 05th and 06th, 2018

Background:

From the very beginning of the Bologna reforms in Montenegro, the theoretical and applied studies were practically embedded into institutions of faculty (academic) types. Both programmes were conducted below the same institutional roof, by the same teaching staff, using common personal and infrastructural capacities.

The specifics and the core idea of the applied education were not sufficiently respected, especially in terms of sharing knowledge and skills needed to be acquired by students. Until recently the applied profiles were self-financed, and very few experts from the industry/services were engaged in the process of teaching and constructing practical skills of the students. The academic Faculties have used the opportunity of applied education to expand their educational offer.

In addition to the positive effects brought by these programs, there are several reasons that led to the pretty production of the applied graduates and their less competitiveness on the market. Obviously, there is a need to analyse such a situation and reform applied programmes in Montenegro in both, conceptual and organizational ways. Bridging the gap between theory and practice requires the development of new innovative strategies at higher education institutions across the country. This seminar, organised by SPHERE Consortium (<https://supporthere.org/>), Higher Education Reform Experts Team of Montenegro (HERE, http://www.erasmusplus.ac.me/?page_id=4601), under funding of the EU ERASMUS+ programme presents an effort in this direction.

Sažetak:

Od samog početka Bolonjske reforme Crnoj Gori, teorijske i primijenjene studije praktično su bile realizovane u institucijama fakultetskog (akadenskog) tipa. Oba programa izvode se pod istim institucionalnim krovom, od strane istog nastavnog osoblja, koristeći zajedničke kadrovske i infrastrukturne kapacitete.

Specifičnosti i osnovna ideja primijenjenog obrazovanja nijesu u dovoljnoj mjeri ispoštovani, posebno u pogledu fuzije znanja i vještina koje student primijenjenih studija treba da stekne. Do nedavno su se primijenjeni profili samofinansirali, a veoma mali broj stručnjaka iz industrije ili sektora usluga je bio angažovan u procesu nastave primijenjenih studija. Fakulteti su koristili mogućnosti primijenjenog obrazovanja da proširire svoju obrazovnu ponudu.

Iako je uvođenje primijenjenih programa donijelo određene benefite, evidentni su određeni problemi koji su doveli do poprilične produkcije primijenjenih diplomaca i njihove manje konkurentnosti na tržištu. Očigledno je da postoji potreba za analizom takve situacije i reformom primijenjenog obrazovanja u Crnoj Gori, na konceptualnom i organizacionom nivou. Premošćavanje jaza između teorije i prakse zahteva razvoj novih inovativnih strategija u visokoškolskim ustanovama naše zemlje. Ovaj seminar organizovan od strane SPHERE konzorcijuma (<https://supporthere.org/>) i Crnogorskog tima eksperata za reformu visokog obrazovanja (HERE tim, http://www.erasmusplus.ac.me/?page_id=4601), finansiran od strane EU ERASMUS+ programa predstavlja napor u datom pravcu.

AGENDA

December 05, 2018

9.00–9.30 **Registration of the Participants**

9.30–10:00 **Opening and Introductory Session**

- Representatives of the stakeholder institutions: University of Montenegro, Montenegrin National Erasmus+ Office (Mr Ranko Lazović), Montenegrin HERE Team (prof. Mira Vukčević), relevant Ministries etc.
- Introduction to Seminar, prof. Radovan Stojanović, moderator

10.00–11.00 **Prerequisites for high-quality Applied Science Programmes**, prof. Constantinos S. Psomopoulos

- General principles in design of an applied programme.
- Applied vs Academic, how to Best Benefit from these two Streams.
- Different approaches worldwide, EU, USA, Overseas...

11.00–12.00 **Status of the Applied Sciences Programmes in Montenegro**

- Representatives or Coordinators of the existing Applied Science Programmes in Montenegro (prof. Mira Vukčević, Dean of Faculty of Metallurgy and Technology, prof. Biljana Šćepanović, Vice-dean, Faculty of Civil Engineering).
- Terrain experiences and opinions, MSc Nebojša Šolaja Elkon d.o.o.
- Proposals for the improvements.

12.30–13.30 **Lunch break**

13.30–14.30 **Best Practices in Organizing and Implementing Applied Studies with the Emphasis on the Technology and Maritime Sectors**, prof. Constantinos S. Psomopoulos

- Applied sciences in maritime study programmes: what it all means?
- Inclusive and flexible practices across different sectors: energy, ICT, maritime, etc...

14.30–15.30 **Panel Discussion**

15.30–16:00 **Students' Expectations and Experiences**

- The notes and the experiences of the students who are attending or graduated in Montenegrin Applied Science Programmes.

16.00–16.30 **Wrapping up of Day 1 and Concluding Remarks**, prof. Constantinos S. Psomopoulos and prof. Radovan Stojanović

December 06, 2018

9.00–9.30 **Registration of the Participants**

9.30–10:00 **Introductory Session of Day 2**

- Representatives of the stakeholder institutions: University of Montenegro, Montenegrin National Erasmus+ Office (Mrs Vanja Drljević), HERE Team, relevant Ministries, etc.
- Reflection on the Results of Day 1, prof. Radovan Stojanović, moderator

10.00–11.00 **Tuning Education and Training in Europe - The Issue of Employability**, prof. Volker Gehmlich

- Parity of Esteem – Qualification Framework.
- Paradigm Shift – Learning Outcomes and Tools
- Future Expectations

11.00–12.30 **Status of Applied Sciences in Montenegro and the Needs of the Local Industry and Services: The Views from Inside and Outside**

- The view from inside the academia: reflections of the representatives and coordinators of applied programmes offered by the Montenegrin universities, (panellists TBC)
- The view from outside the academia: reflections of representatives of the Montenegrin industry/service sectors, (panellists TBC).

12.30–13.30 **Lunch break**

13.30–14.30 **Lessons Learned**, prof. Volker Gehmlich

- Programmes of the European Commission
- German challenges
- Mission and Vision

14.30–15.30 **Panel Discussion**

15.30–16:00 **Proposal for Applied Science education in small country as Montenegro**, prof. Volker Gehmlich

16.00–16.30 **Conclusive Remarks of the Seminar**, prof. Volker Gehmlich and prof. Radovan Stojanović

About seminar's speakers/experts



Dr. Constantinos S. Psomopoulos received his diploma degree and Ph.D. thesis in Electrical and Computer Eng from the National Technical University of Athens, Greece. In 2007 joined as Assist. Prof. and since 2016 Professor in Electrical Eng Department of T.E.I. Piraeus, Director of Electric Power Division and Head of High Voltage Lab. From March 2018 he is Professor in the Department of Electrical and Electronics Eng at the University of West Attica. He is Vice President of WTERT – Greece since July 2012 and Research Associate in Earth Engineering Center Columbia University NY since 2011. His working experience includes a several number of projects in the fields of electromechanical installations, energy production and energy efficiency, municipal and industrial wastes' management and wastewater facilities. Before joining the Academic Staff of T.E.I. Piraeus he has worked in Thyssen Krupp Marine Systems – Hellenic Shipyards Skaramanga Yards as electrical engineer in the Divisions of Shipyards Maintenance (Head of Electrical Maintenance II Division) and New Yard Infrastructure Projects (Head of Electrical Projects Division) from 2003 to 2006, in NRG – ORION as technical manager for the South Greece from 2000 to 2001, and as a free lancer consultant worked with several consulting and public works companies. He has also participated as key expert in a number of research – consulting projects funded by EU and Hellenic Republic. His research activities and technical experience involve Eco Design and Energy Efficiency, Materials & Energy Recovery from wastes, Electromechanical Installations & Apparatus, Electrical Measurements & High Field Effects, High Voltage Eng. He is Reviewer or Member of the Editorial Board in several International Scientific Journals and member of the International Scientific Committees of several International Conferences. He is author or co-author in over 100 research papers in scientific journals and proceedings of international conferences.



Prof. Volker Gehmlich is Professor of Business Management at the Fachhochschule Osnabrück – University of Applied Sciences, Germany since 1972. His national and international activities include the involvement in education and training programmes of several directorates of the European Union in various functions as well as the work as Bologna Promoter and National Contact Point for ECTS – European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System. He worked in the Technical Assistance Office of the COMETT-Programme (1987-1995), is a member of the Working Group of both the European and German Qualifications Frameworks (EQF), member of the Management Committee and higher education expert to the Business Subject Area of the Project “Tuning Educational Structures in Europe” as well as consultant in the design of new international universities, faculties and study-programmes. His research activities and publications focus on internationalisation, skill needs, mobility, credits systems, lifelong learning, qualification frameworks, university-enterprise partnership and supply chain. In 2000 he was awarded the “Prize for excellence in international cooperation of higher education” by the German Minister for Education and Research.