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IN2IT

this issue

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Eid Mubarak

May this special day brings peace, happiness and prosperity to everyone!

Eid al-Fitr is an important religious holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide that marks the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting.

Welcome

Dear IN2IT partners,

It has been a while since we published the last newsletter, but a lot has happened since then. Mainly, during this time, we were all engaged in finalizing the development of the course pilots, implementing the pilot online sessions, and conducting lessons learned summaries.

In the current volume, you will find a brief review of WP3-WS3 meeting that was held in Warsaw, information on the four IN2IT pilot courses, in addition to highlights on IN2IT dissemination activities, and preliminary details on the forthcoming meetings and project activities.

Last, but not least, we are happy to announce that the Agency in Brussels has formally approved the joining of Brunel University to the consortium. We also submitted the project intermediate report and we are now waiting for the review and approval by the EACEA.

Wishing you a pleasant reading,

Vered Holzmann

veredhz@braude.ac.il

"It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the Credit"

Harry Truman

Summary: WP3-WS3

Development of virtual-international curriculum

13-15 March 2017, Warsaw University of Technology, Poland

The last training session on development of virtual-international curriculum took place in Warsaw University of Technology, Poland. Representatives from all partner institutions participated in this meeting with the aim to finalize the development of the pilot sessions and to review and test the pilot activities.

Mrs. Marta Szajnowska-Ksit, Acting Director of the Centre for International Cooperation, welcomed the project partners and presented the overall international activity that takes place at the university to promote collaboration with universities around the globe.

Dr. Vered Holzmann opened the meeting with a brief review of the latest updates on dissemination, sustainability and management tasks and issues.

The opening lecture was an online training session on the IN2IT Moodle technological platform, mentored by **Ms. Aya Elovits**, ICT Director in Sapir Academic College and her team. The training was moderated on-site with the help of **Shay Pinsker**. Shay explained the process of ticketing a new issue, while Aya presented the requirements collected from the partners' experience. She explained how to manage group activities, including establishing groups, engaging students to groups, etc.

The following sessions were based on "pilot the pilot", where each one of the four development teams presented their planned pilot activities and the project colleagues experienced the pilot as students, in order to provide preliminary feedback.

The remaining meeting was structured in team work to enable each one of the four development teams: (i) English for Internationalization Purposes, (ii) Essential Skills, (iii) Embracing Diversity, and (iv) Global Entrepreneurship, to decide on the content of the pilot and the overall structure of the planned course, to assign tasks to team members, and to decide on the pilot dates, to assess attendance of student groups, and to plan the remaining development process of the programme and selection of student groups.

In addition, **Dr. Marek Polak** from WUT, the leader of WP1: International Capability Maturity Framework, presented the guidelines for 2nd performance survey that all the Israeli College should submit by the end of June 2017.

The partners celebrated the successful collaboration at restaurant “Wiesz co zjesz”. The overall meeting was very productive. On behalf of all IN2IT partners I wish to express our gratefulness to the team at WUT, and especially to **Dr. Marek Polak, Dr. Roman Podraza,** and **Ms. Joanna Kozuchowska**, for their pleasant hosting.

Review: WP3- Pilot online-international courses

May-June 2017, IN2IT LMS

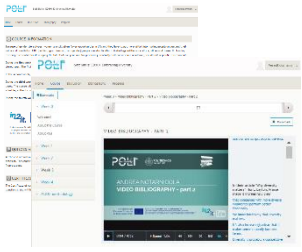
Each one of the IN2IT international teams, composed of Israeli colleges and EU universities, conducted an online pilot of the online-international course. The content was developed by faculty members from the partner institutions and the delivery was facilitated by the technological platform, which was developed concurrently (under the scope of WP6). Following is a brief review of each one of the pilot activities. I would like to thank the team leaders for sharing their summaries with us.

Essential Skills pilot lasted three weeks and focused on the Essential skill of teamwork. It included an introductory video, a "Getting to know each other" pre-task and two main Tasks. A BBB synchronic meeting followed each of the tasks. At the end of the pilot, participants were presented with the subjects of the full course. The 36 students from seven different institutions (Brunel, Kingston, WUT, OBC, BBC, THC, SAP) enrolled in the course, while few of them dropped after registration and at the end of Task 1. The participants were divided into seven groups of 5-6 students. Each group included students from various institutions and countries. At this stage, each institution maintains focus groups and/or a survey to receive feedback from the students about the pilot. The comprehensive summery from all the institutional feedbacks will used to build the full course.

The **Global Entrepreneurship** pilot included an introduction to entrepreneurship, presentation of the challenge and ideas for solutions by the students, followed by a hackathon. 16 students from 5 institutions (KU, UM, SAP, BBC, and MTA) collaborated in 4 international teams to offer innovative ideas for "making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" (based on goal 11, taken from The UN sustainable goals, and specifically). The students' feedback for the Hackathon format and cross cultural teams was very good though they were required to put in an intensive work assignment in just a few days. There

were some comments regarding the "dull look & feel of course on Moodle" and "vague instructions" so it was difficult to understand what goes next, assignments and dates. Further development will have to take into consideration these issues, as well as guidelines for building up the international teams of students.

The **Embracing Diversity** pilot is delivered on PoliMi MOOC and includes the part on gender diversity. More than 500 people from all over the world participated in this course and 119 of them have already completed the course (passing at least the 60% of the quizzes included). It includes 51 users of the IN2T pilot students from the partner institutions (KU, LUE, BBC, and KC). The course is based on four modules and at the end of each module, the student finds a self-evaluation quiz specifically created to help him/her check the status of learning progress.



The **English for internationalization Purposes (EIP)** pilot module was comprised of 3 online sessions and was originally scheduled to take place over a period of 3 weeks (a week per session). 25 students from 5 institutions (SAP, KC, WUT, QSM, and UCSC) were selected to participate in the pilot. Recruiting students was fairly easy, as most of them expressed interest and enthusiasm to join, the strongest incentive being the international group learning experience. Due to real-time difficulties in synchronizing schedules between the participating institutions, the pilot was stretched over a longer period of time and 22 students actually took part.

Teachers monitored their students' progress in the pilot, guiding and supporting them through the learning environment when needed. According to student feedback collected so far, students felt relatively comfortable in the learning environment, saying it was friendly to use, and expressed their interest to take a complete EIP course. The EIP teachers are now in the process of drawing conclusions from the pilot experience and making the relevant adjustments to the development process of the entire course.

Summary: The pilot activities were performed while the students and staff were in their home institutions and communicated and collaborated with their colleagues through innovative customized technologies. The pilot activities were mentored by the development teams' leaders and a summary report will be prepared by the participants in the pilot programs to provide an overview and analysis of the pilot teaching and learning activities. The pilot provided us with an excellent opportunity to test the content and the structure as well as the teaching and learning methods.

In the next two months, each one of the development teams will meet again to learn from the pilot and to make the required planning activities for the development and implementation of the completed courses next year. The lessons learned from this experience, recommendations and best practices will be summarized in reports that each development team will prepare and it will be used in the implementation phase during the third year of the project.

Review: WP8- Dissemination

Following is a brief update on some of the dissemination efforts and deliverables that were achieved during the last few weeks.

The project pilot activities were published in the partner institutions in a variety of forms. For example, The Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo used Facebook to announce the opening of the pilot of Global Entrepreneurship and to wish their students good luck in this assignment.

Certificates of accomplishment were prepared for all the students who participated in the pilot activities upon completion of the pilot requirements. The certificates were awarded to the students in each institution to express our appreciation and as a means for additional marketing of IN2IT in the campus.

IN2IT online-international courses pamphlets for the next academic year were prepared in two versions: one of them is a general marketing brochure that presents all four IN2IT courses, and the other is a specific leaflet that is aimed to promote one course in more details. The partners received the templates of the pamphlets and will use them for distribution in class and publish on the university website.

On March 20th, 2017, the IN2IT project was presented to the members of VARAM – the Board of Public Academic Colleges in Israel, which is an associate partner in IN2IT. 22 public academic colleges are partners in this board, and they are represented by the Presidents, Vice Presidents and the General Managers of the colleges. It was a great opportunity to present the project to the higher education community in Israel and to expose them to the project activities and deliverables.

On June 14th, 2017, the Israeli CHE conducted a conference on Internationalizing Higher Education Institutions for all Israeli HEIs. On behalf of IN2IT consortium, **Dr. Vered Holzmann** presented the topic of Internationalization Strategy in

HEIs, explaining how IN2IT partners developed internationalization strategies and are now measuring the maturity of internationalization.

Further dissemination efforts will be made in parallel to the project core activities. In particular, IN2IT International Conference will take place in the University of Montpellier on 14-15 November, 2017, under the framework of the DigiWeek 2017 (12-19 November, 2017). The theme of the conference is **Investing in Our Digital Future**. Thanks to **Dr. Francesca Casoni**, the IN2IT team submitted a proposal to participation in the conference and information about the project will be added to the conference webpage.

Please note that the Digi World Summit will follow the DigiWeek event, beginning on November 15, 2017, so interested partners will have the opportunity to participate. No fees will be needed from IN2IT partners for participation in DigiWorld Week. If someone wants to participate in the DigiWorld Summit, this event is not free but we probably will be able to get special rates.

The dissemination tasks are performed under the leadership of Tel Hai College, with a great support by **Ms. Mira Hershkowitz**.

Review: WP4-Development and delivery of international CoP for knowledge-sharing

On behalf of the team in PoliMi (WP4 Leader)

The **IN2IT COP** is composed by two main parts: **International Teams** and **Community of Practice**.

The **International Teams** part (https://in2it.vbulletin.net/community/international-teams) is designed to support the collaboration among partners on the development of the international courses. In our opinion, now that the pilot courses have been realized, it would be worth to use this dedicated space to discuss on lessons learnt, results, feedback, future development and any other issues that can contribute to the process of creating the courses (not just the pilot) that will run for the next academic year.

The **Community of Practice** part (https://in2it.vbulletin.net/in2it-community-of-practice) is designed to support the collaboration of the partnership, but also researchers, teachers, administrative staff from Higher Education Institutions, and companies to share their experiences and needs to create new relations, joint projects and other collaboration opportunities.

In this area you can find 2 proposed path: **Community Tellers** and **Community Pathfinder**

In the first part, **Community Tellers**, you can share your experiences in internationalization in higher education, while in the second one, **Community Pathfinder**, you can discuss and propose your ideas and opportunities for international collaboration (i.e. grants, study visits, workshops, courses, international student exchange...).

As you probably remember, during the **WP4 Milan Meeting** (METID Polimi, 6th-8th Feb 2017) we have proposed to participants to work in small groups to identify possible collaboration areas on the basis of their common interests. Participants have used a **proposed document template** to organize and summarize the results of their discussions. Some groups have completed the template and we have proposed that each group upload this document in the COP area to continue the online collaboration to support the realization of the collaboration actions identified (i.e. grants, European calls, students exchanges, etc.). Unfortunately, at the moment there are not uploaded documents, but in our opinion, it could be worth to start from there to continue the

collaboration among institutions or, at least, to resume the discussion about it. Here is the link to the page of the COP where you can find this template:

https://in2it.vbulletin.net/forum/community-pathfinders/352-form-used-during-wp4-ws1-meeting-milan-february-6-8-2016

Of course, the COP can be used in many other ways according to participants needs as already explained in the **FAQ**:

https://in2it.vbulletin.net/faq

We hope these suggestions will be useful to support you in collaboration. However we remain at your disposal for any other suggestions on COP you will be willing to share with us.

Sapir Academic College, Israel.

Sapir located at the south periphery of Israel with large minorities population among students and lecturers. Sapir Academic campus is one of a kind in Israel, home to 12 different institutions of education ranging from first grade to a seniors' day center.

Over 8,000 students are currently enrolled in a wide variety of departments at Sapir College, the largest public college in Israel. Sapir located at the south periphery of Israel with large minorities population among students and lecturers. The college's main attractions are its openness for new quality education programs with innovative human approach.

http://www.sapir.ac.il/en

Next Meeting: WP9-2nd meeting on exploitation and sustainability

10-11 July 2017; Sapir Academic College, Israel

IN2IT second meeting on sustainability will be held in Sapir Academic College on 10-11 July 2017. The goals of the meetings are to discuss options and alternatives for effective advocacy campaign, based on the project progress and feedback from partners and other stakeholders. Kaye Academic College, the leader of WP9: sustainability, will coordinate the meeting.

Representatives of all IN2IT Israeli partner institutions will take part in the meeting.

A detailed agenda will be developed in cooperation with all the meeting's participants and will be published soon.

The Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo, Israel.

MTA is reputed as an excellent academic institution, thanks to it uncompromising admissions and teaching standards. The College offers 6 undergraduate and 8 graduate degree programs, in 5 different schools: Computer Sciences, Economics and Management, Behavioral Sciences, Government and Society, and Nursing, as well as a degree in Information Systems. MTA's mission statement is to promote social justice, by laying the infrastructure for community-driven programs that address the needs of Israel's social, economic, and cultural periphery groups, and foster systematic change.

https://www.mta.ac.il/en-us

Following Meeting: 3rd Consortium Meeting

5-7 September 2017; The Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo, Israel

IN2IT 3rd consortium meeting will be held in the Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo on 5-7 September 2017 and include the Steering Committee (SC), and Executive Committee (EC) meetings. The goals of this meeting are to review the project status on each one of the WPs, to get updates on the project progress in each one of the partner institutions, and to make decisions on administrative and managerial issues. In addition, we will dedicate some time to plan the next steps that each one of the development teams will take to successfully deliver the online-international courses in the next academic year.

Representatives of all IN2IT partner institutions will take part in the meeting.

Venue

The Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo, Israel.

Address: Khever ha-Le'umim St 10, Tel Aviv-Yafo.

Directions to Tel Aviv Yaffo Academic College:

By Bus: from Tel Aviv Savidor Central Railway Station (the main central train station of Tel Aviv) or from Azrieli Railway Station (HaShalom Railway Station), lines 40, 42, 83, 240.

From Tel Aviv Center, lines 10, 18, 25, 125, 142.

By Car: if you arrive from north, take Heinrich Heine Street direction south (do not turn on Rabenu Yeruham Street). Turn right on Khever ha-Le'umim Street. After 200 meters, you will find the entrance to the College parking. If you arrive from south, take Heinrich Heine Street direction north, turn left on Nes Lagoi'm Street, Take right on Aza Street, and again right to Khever ha-Le'umim Street. After 200 meters you will find the entrance to the College parking.

By Taxi: Taxi from the center of Tel Aviv to the Tel Aviv Yaffo Academic College costs: ~€15. For your convenience, here is the Hebrew name and address (in case you want to show it to the driver): יפו 10 רחוב חבר הלאומים. המכללה האקדמית תל אביב יפו.

Accommodation

The team in the Academic College of Tel Aviv Yaffo recommends the Sea Net Tel Aviv Hotel.

The rate for a single room (including breakfast) is $110.

Address: 6 Nes Ziona Street, Tel Aviv.

Telephone: +972-3-5171655

Reservations and payment should be made directly to the hotel until **10 July 2017**.

Please use code "IN2IT project" for reservation.

Tentative Programme:

Day 1 - Tuesday, Sep 5, 2017	
08:30 - 09:00	**Registration**
09:00 - 09:15	**Welcome** Prof. Dahlia Moore, Vice President for Academic Affairs, MTA Dr. Ruti Gafni, IN2IT Coordinator at MTA
09:15 - 09:45	**Project Status Review** Dr. Vered Holzmann
09:45 - 10:15	**WP1: International Capability Maturity Framework, Status Review** Dr. Marek Polak & Dr. Roman Podraza
	WP3: Development and delivery of international online curriculum, Status Review
10:15 - 10:20	**Opening**: Dr. vered Holzmann (on behalf of Dr. Fiona Hunter)
10:20 - 10:30	**Essential Skills** Development Team, Dr. Dvora Toledano-Kitai
10:30 - 10:40	**Global Entrepreneurship** Development Team, Prof. Eli Gimmon
10:40 - 10:50	**EIP** Development Team, Dr. Doron Narkiss
10:50 - 11:00	**Embracing Diversity** Development Team, Prof. Susanna Sancassani
11:00 - 11:20	**WP4: Dev. and delivery of international CoPs, Status Review** Ms. Valeria Baudo & Ms. Nicoletta Trentinaglia
11:20 - 12:00	**WP6: Dev. and delivery of an innovative tech. platform, Status Review**

	Dr. Hanan Maoz
12:00 - 12:20	**WP7: Quality Assurance, Status Review** Dr. Francesca Casoni
12:20 - 12:40	**WP8: Dissemination, Status Review** Prof. Shira Hantman
12:40 - 13:00	**WP9: Sustainability, Status Review** Dr. Liron Ohayon-Shokty
13:00 - 14:00	***Lunch***
14:00 - 15:00	**Campus Tour** MTA
15:00 - 17:00	**WP1: International Capability Maturity Framework** Presentations of 2nd Assessment Results by the Colleges 15 min. each presentation
19:30 pm	***Dinner***

Day 2 - Wednesday, Sep 6, 2017	
09:30 - 13:00	**Online-International Courses Development** Teamwork
13:00 - 14:00	***Lunch***
14:00 - 17:00	**Online-International Courses Development** Teamwork
19:30	***Dinner***

Day 3 - Thursday, Sep 7, 2017	
09:00 - 11:00	**Partner Institutions Progress Review** A brief summary (no presentations) by each partner on IN2IT achievements and challenges 5-10 min. each partner institution
11:00 - 12:00	**Steering Committee (SC), and Executive Committee (EC) meetings**
12:00 - 13:00	**Closing**
13:00 - 14:00	***Lunch***
14:00 - 17:00	**Optional session on Online-International Courses Development** Teamwork

Updates

Intermediate Report

I would like to thank all the partners for their contribution to the effort of submitting the intermediate report on time. All IN2IT institutional coordinators have received a copy of the submitted intermediate report, including the narrative part and the financial statement. The report is now under review by the EACEA.

External Auditing

Due to the Erasmus+ Programme Guide, we are requested to produce an audit report by an approved external auditor. The external auditing CPA was already selected and the team will start to review the projects' financial documentation in the next few weeks. The auditor may ask for additional documents and/or may have comments or questions regarding your financial

reports. In such cases, I will contact the relevant partner with the specific requests. Please cooperate with us in order to facilitate this process as smoothly as possible.

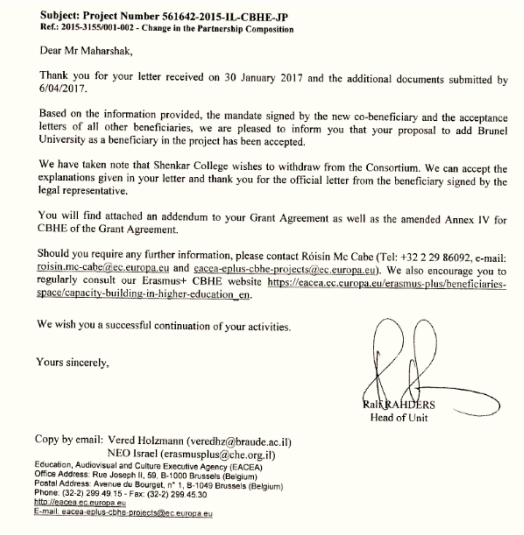
Development Teams' Meetings

Following a special authorization that was received from the project officer to conduct additional team meetings for the purpose of further developing the online-international programmes, we

are now working (with the institutional coordinators on one hand and the development teams' leaders on the other hand) to schedule those meetings.

IN2IT Consortium

Finally, the very long process of getting the official authorization for the modification of the consortium, i.e., the joining of Brunel University as a formal member of the IN2IT consortium, has been completed.



Subject: Project Number 561642-2015-IL-CBHE-JP
Ref.: 2015-3155/001-002 - Change in the Partnership Composition

Dear Mr Maharshak,

Thank you for your letter received on 30 January 2017 and the additional documents submitted by 6/04/2017.

Based on the information provided, the mandate signed by the new co-beneficiary and the acceptance letters of all other beneficiaries, we are pleased to inform you that your proposal to add Brunel University as a beneficiary in the project has been accepted.

We have taken note that Shenkar College wishes to withdraw from the Consortium. We can accept the explanations given in your letter and thank you for the official letter from the beneficiary signed by the legal representative.

You will find attached an addendum to your Grant Agreement as well as the amended Annex IV for CBHE of the Grant Agreement.

Should you require any further information, please contact Róisín Mc Cabe (Tel: +32 2 29 86092, e-mail: roisin.mc-cabe@ec.europa.eu and eacea-eplus-cbhe-projects@ec.europa.eu). We also encourage you to regularly consult our Erasmus+ CBHE website https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/beneficiaries-space/capacity-building-in-higher-education_en.

We wish you a successful continuation of your activities.

Yours sincerely,

Rait RAHLDERS
Head of Unit

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Currently, the IN2IT consortium is composed of 7 Israeli Colleges, 7 European Universities, and 1 associated partner (VARAM).

The updated IN2IT Word template and Power Point template are available on the project website. Please use only those templates from now on.

On behalf of all IN2IT partners I would like to formally welcome Brunel University to the consortium, even though the team from Brunel is already a valuable partner in our project and its contribution to our successful achievements is well known and appreciated.

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IN2IT website: www.braude.ac.il/IN2IT

IN2IT CoP Forum: https://in2it.vbulletin.net/in2it-community-of-practice

IN2IT LMS: http://in2it-lms.erasmus-plus.org.il/