

ELEVATING THE INTERNATIONALISATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN MOLDOVA -ELEVATE-

Reference number: 573921-EPP-1-2016-1-MD-EPPKA2-CBHE-SP

STUDY VISIT TO BUCKINGHAMSHIRE NEW UNIVERSITY (BUCKS), 01-05 July 2018

MINUTES

Date: SUNDAY, 1 JULY 2018	
Arrival day: TRANSFER FROM STANSTEAD AIRPORT TO PREMIER INN HOTEL	
<i>Arrival and accommodation in High Wycombe city</i>	
Participants:	
Date: MONDAY, 2 JULY 2018	
Venue: <i>Queen Alexandra Rd. High Wycombe Buckinghamshire, England HP11 2JZ Tel 01494 522141</i>	
	<i>Room S3.04</i>
<p>Item 1: Dorin Festeu offers an opening speech welcoming the participants at the Buckinghamshire New University. He makes a summary of the tasks which are to be undertaken during the whole period of the study visit. Also, he underlines the specific objectives which should be realised i.e. Internationalization of Research, International Partnerships, Internationalisation of research in the UK and other related matters.</p> <p>Item 2: Rebecca Bunting welcomes the participants from the position of vice chancellor (rector) of the University. She mentions the history of the Buckinghamshire New University, including the foundation year 1891, preconditions of foundation and goals aimed to be reached at that period. Mrs. Bunting underlines the main specialisations of the University including Business studies, creative industries, arts and health. She describes the main campuses and their focus i.e. Aylesbury-health, Uxbridge-professional training. He mentions that 7300 students are following courses in the University, including 2500 in consortium with partner institutions. It is also mentioned that the institution is 25th in the UK in terms of Asian students share and 11th, Black. The apprenticeships of the university are entrepreneurship, business orientation, market and competition. She also mentioned the regulations on which HEI are based and the authorities in charge.</p> <p>Item 3: Professor Florin Iora, BUCKS makes a presentation regarding Internationalization of Research. He highlights that research at BUCKS is concentrated on the following directions including Sport Technology, Security, Aviation, Design, Social Sciences, Digital Art and Sustainable development. Mr. Iora highlights the main aspects of the research and the respective generated income, mentioning that research at BUCKS generates 2.5 million pounds, 45 active professors being involved from the 160. He mentions the principles of research classification based on the problems studies i.e. regional, national and global. Also, there are mentioned the principles of getting additional funding and exchange of experience. In this frame, he mentions the interdependence between customers, business, research and innovation. Iora speaks about the project within which BUCKS participates including 3 under H2020, 12 Erasmus plus, Erasmus mobility, ERDF project, there are presently 10 current project submissions. 28 ISI research papers were published and 80 partnerships are functioning. He speaks about the main priorities including to raise profit, increase business orientation and private sector connectivity.</p>	

Item 4: Dr. William Lishman, BUCKS informs the participants regarding International Partnerships. He mentions that in the university there is a specialised team concerned about building and maintaining active the partnerships. He underlines that presently BUCKS is working with 22 partner institutions, 2000 students benefiting from the collaboration in one or another way. 500 students are from the European Union, 500 from overseas, while the rest from the country. Despite the fact that universities are self-regulated they are supervised by the Office for Students and UK Quality Assurance Agency which provide regular assessment and review of HEI. The main priorities in this regard are: setting and maintaining high academic standards, provision of the information regarding HEI provisions, and monitoring and enhancing academic quality. There are mentioned several indicators of evaluation and the system's expectations. He points the main types of partnerships and the principles through which they operate including franchise (validation and accreditation of HEIs in offering BUCKS diploma), distance learning with partner support, degrees with integrated professional training, as well as cooperation in provision of Joint and dual degrees. Moreover, he states the main guidelines in setting due diligence principles. He speaks also about financial aspects, human resources, physical capital, administrative resources and student's support, QA policies. Also, there is covered the operational context, stages of approval of partnerships which include initial proposal, business case, academic and due diligence, approval event including programme specification, module description and externalities.

Item 5. Dr Anne Evans, BUCKS provides a presentation regarding Internationalisation of research in the UK and its funding. The main authority in this regard is the UK R&D Council setting as main principles the quality and selective allocation of funding. Overall quality is measured by offering 60% priority to outputs' quality (minim 1, max 5 papers), 15% to environment concentration (sustainability) and 25% for impact (case studies significance). She also speaks about metrics of research, suitable structure-special accent being put on interdisciplinary, open access and open research, equality and diversity. Dr. Evans mentions that 1 billion pounds of financing support is allocated to quality related research, 58 million global challenges, 260 million supervision of PHD candidates and Business research- 64 million pounds.

Item 6. The participants served a light LUNCH offered by BUCKS (Room S3.04).

Item 7. The participants had a visiting tour throughout the University. Specifically, the following facilities were visited:

- 13:30-13:50-Health facility-15 min paul.wheeler@bucks.ac.uk
- 13:50-14:10-Sports lab-15 min philip.woodbridge@bucks.ac.uk
- 14:20-14:40 -Flight simulator-15 min yvette.scott@bucks.ac.uk
- Fablab-15 min-Horia.Broscatan@bucks.ac.uk
- Fashion-15 min
- Music management-15 min
- Animation-15 min

The first day of the study visit ended.

Date: TUESDAY, 3 JULY 2018

Venue: *Queen Alexandra Rd. High Wycombe Buckinghamshire, England HP11 2JZ Tel 01494 522141 Room S3.04*

Item 1: Dr. Olesea Sirbu, ELEVATE Grant coordinator, Vice-Rector for International Relations and European projects, Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova made an analysis of the international strategies developed within ELEVATE project. She mentioned that she is satisfied with the work which has been done by partners marking the comprehensive and ambitious character of the strategies, but at the same time relevance in the context of Moldovan realities.

Item 2: Each of the participants were offered an opportunity to generally inform about the priorities each institution has set. In this context, should be mentioned the short presentations of Rodica CRUDU, PhD, assoc.



prof., ELEVATE`s manager for academic and scientific issues, Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova; Serghei ANDRONIC, Prof. dr., Vice-rector for Education, Technical University of Moldova; Elena SCRIPNIC, assoc. prof., Vice-rector for International Relations, Agrarian State University of Moldova; Valentina PRITCAN, assoc. prof., Chairman of the Committee for projects and the partnership of the University Senate, “Aleco Russo” Balti State University of Moldova; Sergiu CORNEA, assoc. prof., Vice-rector for International Relations, Cahul State University “B.P. Hasdeu”; Tatiana RACOVCEA, assoc. prof., Vice-rector for International Relations and Research, Comrat State University of Moldova; Veaceslav MANOLACHE, Rector, University of Physical Education and Sport of Moldova/ Rectors` Council of Moldova; Mircea BETIU, Prof., Dean, N. Testimiteanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Moldova/ Rectors` Council of Moldova; Valentin CHIRITA, Rector, Academy “Stefan cel Mare” of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Moldova/ Rectors` Council of Moldova; Larisa SAVGA, prof. dr., Rector, Trade co-operative University of Moldova / Rectors` Council of Moldova; Victoria MELNIC, PhD, Rector, Academy of Music, Theater and Arts of Moldova/ Rectors` Council of Moldova; Alexandra BIBICU, Vice Rector, Ion Creanga Pedagogical State University of Moldova/ Rectors` Council of Moldova; Eduard COROPCEANU, assoc .prof., Rector, Tiraspol State University/ Rectors` Council of Moldova.

Item 3: Light LUNCH offered by BUCKS (Room S3.04)

Item 4: Fine tuning meeting has been realized by members of UWG-1 on assessment of institutional internationalization strategies, analysis of draft strategies and action plans of partners based on EU practices, exchange of opinions and presentation state of art of the internationalization strategy.

Item 5: Organizational questions were discussed. Dr. Olesea SIRBU, Augustin IGNATOV, Sabina MISTREAN covered some aspects related to their area of responsibility.

Item 6: A visit tour to Oxford was undertaken.

Date: WEDNESDAY, 4 JULY 2018

Venue: London

Item 1: STUDY VISIT TO LONDON was undertaken by the participants of the Study visit.

Date: THURSDAY, 5 JULY 2018

TRANSFER TO STANSTEAD DEPARTS FROM PREMIER INN HOTEL

DEPARTURE DAY