

Round Table "Education in Health Sciences in the digital/global era" within Hygieia Conference

The StudES project was presented at Round Table "Education in Health Sciences in the digital/global era" within Hygieia Conference held in Lisboa 24-25 November 2022, both on site and online.

Prof. dr Anđelija Malenović was invited to participate at Round Table of the Conference and present Erasmus+ KA226 Project *Effective teaching for student engagement & success in digital learning environment - StudES*. She is the UB contact person, and responsible for the overall project management and administration.

StudES project partnership brings together the AGH University of Science and Technology (PL), the University of Maribor (SI) and the University of Belgrade (RS) as applicant organization. Participating institutions share common interest for continuous quality improvement of teaching and learning, recognize the importance of teaching competencies development and the need for institutional support.

Prof. Malenović pointed out that for effective teaching in a digital learning environment, academic staff has to be equipped with knowledge and tools to accommodate a broad range of educational situations and contents. Thus, comprehensive and continuing professional development of academic staff has to be provided. It has been recognized that transition to digital learning education should also be accompanied with revised quality standards and necessary guidelines, applicable to an altered educational context. StudES project objectives are set to respond to these perceived needs and prepare HEIs for the anticipated changes.

Therefore, in StudES Project application three IOs were proposed, accordingly three WGs were nominated.

WG1 developed, distributed and collected data from the Survey on teachers needs in digital learning environment – in total we had more than 500 responses recorded. The results obtained are presented in the form of infographic entitled *Teachers needs in online teaching* which is available on the Project website and LinkedIn account.

<https://studes.studije.rect.bg.ac.rs/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/erasmus-studes-project/?viewAsMember=true>

Part of the results obtained are published in the scientific paper *University Teachers' Perspectives on the Quality of Emergency Remote Teaching — the Case of Serbia During the COVID-19 Pandemic*.

StudES Roadmap for the Enhancement of Digital Readiness in Higher Education has been prepared and published in December 2021. It is accompanied with the relevant infographic and short video which are available on the Project website and LinkedIn account.

WG2 developed training program *Advanced teaching for students' engagement, wellbeing, and success in a digital learning environment: Mind the gap*.

The program is delivered as a joint online short training program offered to academic staff at the participating universities and the wider academic community. It is delivered as a modular online learning program, in English as a language of instruction, hosted on Moodle platform. Having in mind that the target group consists of employed adults, the program is organized in asynchronous and self-paced mode, with moderation. To encourage community building, online forums and social network groups are used.

The program was designed based on the constructive alignment approach – starting from the specification of learning outcomes (based on desk research and university teachers' needs analysis and well-known frameworks of competencies for teaching in digital environment), learning activities and resources were designed, the assessment strategy to evaluate the learning outcomes set, participants satisfaction with the program elaborated, etc.

The program is based on an active learning approach, i.e., a learning-by-doing paradigm. It allows enrolled teaching staff to experience the recommended innovative online teaching and learning approaches from the student perspective, but also encourage them to design innovative learning activities and resources, tailored to the specific needs of the courses for which they are responsible. Moreover, the participants are encouraged to trial newly developed skills and resources in their teaching practice and to share and reflect on their experiences with their colleagues.

WG3 is working on *StudES Quality standards & guidelines* development. They have conducted desk research of available documents and existing standards and guidelines, including their mapping. Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015) have been identified as basis for the StudES Quality standards & guidelines development, but we also marked certain individual standards which should be further elaborated in the context of digital learning environment.

At the very end of project duration (February 2023) Final Symposium in Belgrade will be organized. It is intended to wrap-up and finalize all the project activities and evaluation reports.

It would be our pleasure to have you as guests and participants on our Final Symposium.