

StudES Multiplier Event 4 – Report

To communicate the results of the project to a wider audience, a dissemination event was organized in the University of Gdańsk in Poland at the beginning of January 2023. More than 30 participants attended the event. The majority of attendees were academic teachers from various disciplines such as medicine, science, humanities, psychology etc. Also heads of disciplines, decision makers, and teachers support units representatives were present. This university does not have a central strategy to transform teaching and learning into the digitally enhanced one, only some bottom-up approaches and initiatives from individual teachers. Therefore, such an event became an opportunity to raise awareness, open a room for discussion and equip teachers with knowledge and ideas on how to incorporate digital technologies into their everyday teaching.

The profile of participants was with mixed abilities, knowledge and attitude towards providing meaningful learning experience and creating stimulating, digitally enhanced learning environment. Therefore, the facilitators communicated the results of the StudES project: recommendations, content of Mind the Gap online course and quality standards in the form of “microteaching, nugget size ideas” that could be used without adapting the whole course or changing all the materials. This way, teachers could try new ways of teaching without risking spending too much time on preparation. The assumption was that if teachers find the new approaches working, they will be eager to take another step and transfer their teaching into more student-centred and enrich it with digital technologies.

During the event, teachers were exposed to the theory of teaching and learning in an online, and digitally enhanced environment (from the Mind the Gaps course), they learnt and discussed how this knowledge resonates with their pedagogical expertise on how adults learn. They were given a lot of ideas of small exercises, methods and form they could use in their teaching, and they had a chance to try some of them during the workshop. The ideas were also from the “Mind the gap” course and from the StudES recommendations. In groups, they were discussing the quality of teaching and learning in the digitally enhanced environment (based on the StudES quality standards).

All the participants were truly engaged in the workshop and enthusiastic about the project and its outcomes. Given that they only tried “small ideas” on how to improve their didactics, they were curious to learn more about all the project results. The space of open discussion and reflection on their role as academic teachers allowed them to experiment with innovative methods and to broaden their perspectives. This event also became an opportunity for

dialogue between the teachers and authorities from various departments, who would normally not interact with each other on this subject. Also, it promoted a culture of sharing of good practices and prepared a ground for further cooperation between the universities.