1 Opening Remarks

The first EULiST student conference is going to take place at the beginning of July at TU Wien. Furthermore, a ranking of the best technical universities in Europe was published. There TU Wien is among the top, further, EULiST partners also rank highly.

2 EULiST Steering Board Meeting with EC, Brussels, EU Alliances lessons learned

After the meeting with Brussels, the situation is clearer. The proposal is at the centre point of all activities and the reports by the alliances are based upon it. Otherwise, a lot of interesting and numerous plenary sessions did take place to which the slides will be available on SharePoint including remarks by Shabnam Tauböck. The sustainability of financing European University Alliances (EUAs) is not clear yet. So far, only financial possibilities with an emphasis on research are available. The involvement of professors has turned out to be difficult, especially introducing non-monetary incentives. To alleviate the general workload to make room for alliance projects is key.
Longer existing alliances have not yet achieved a running common study programme. The legal hurdles in terms of recognition, admission criteria and ECTS equality are in fact quite steep. In EUAs 50% of students when achieving their degree shall have taken part in a mobility. What constitutes a mobility is not settled yet. The commission puts an emphasis on having the EU commission logos presented.

Finally, Shabnam stresses that it is important to regularly return to the principal goals of the alliance and having defined a clearly structured governance. The wheel does not have to be invited again. One can use other networks as support and for exchange.

3 Work Package reports

3.1 Work Package 1
- 1.1. Current projects involve the code of conduct and consortium agreement.
- 1.2. A lead was defined.
- 1.4. does slowly start now.
- 1.5. activities have not yet started.
- 1.6. Activities started, currently a common understanding of tasks and responsibilities is being discussed.

3.2 Work Package 2
- 2.1. Quite active already as the NTUA lead is very engaged in terms of IT infrastructure
  - The cornerstones of first deliverable in April were defined.
  - Furthermore, there is a closer collaboration with LUH and BUT
  - The decision making is going to be interesting.
- 2.2. Chris Schubert and Christian Kaier are working on a mapping of the task group.
- 2.5. A best-practice exchange is now happening, further guidance is expected during the Madrid Staff Week.

3.3 Work Package 3
- Roadmap has been designed and displays quite some overlaps with other work packages.
- For the deliverable in October a collection of language courses is being compiled
- 3.5. Started a questionnaire for student mobility. Additionally, the double degree master programme with Hanover advanced strongly. Currently for approval with the rectors.

3.4 Work Package 4
- Friday for research on 1 March. The topic is the hydrogen economy where TU Wien also shall present its progress.
- 4.2. Activities shall start in autumn. A coordination meeting among leads is planned soon.
- 4.3. Competences have been evaluated and a podcasts shall be launched. One question is who decides? A call for PhD ambassadors is in the planning. Unfortunately, there’s no budget for exchanges in the scope of the ambassadorship.
3.5 **Work Package 5**

- Commitment survey within TU Wien is underway. This includes an orientation meeting soon. Finally, a mapping like WP 3 is ongoing.
- Generally, URJC and IMT are very active. The plan is to open various offices, e.g. with African or Latin American countries.
- 5.4. A common format for communication is being elaborated. The idea is to introduce virtual roundtables which work as podcasts always designed in line with a specific topic.

4 **Events**

4.1 **Staff Week in Madrid**

The staff week has a focus on teambuilding. Interaction between participants is fostered with a number of tours and also social events. Furthermore, URJC also invited partners of which some are from the Global South. The full programme can be found in the JF slides. TU Wien is going to be represented with the strongest delegation (around 15 people).

4.2 **Student Board Meeting in Lappeenranta**

After the option to meet in parallel to the Staff Week in Madrid fell through LUT representatives invite the Student Board to Lappeenranta. Eight out of ten partners will send their delegates to the meeting. L’Aquila and JU are missing due to funding problems and internal occurrences, respectively. Again, TU Wien is represented with the strongest delegation.

The main topics are the Student Conference, Involvement in Task Groups and Work Packages and promotional activities at university level. The student conference is going to make some important steps forward but the programme is still open for feedback. Finally, we expect more involvement from Student Board Members due to further integration following the in presence meeting.

5 **Upcoming events**

- 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February: Student Board Meeting in Lappeenranta
- 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> February: Staff Week in Madrid
- 13<sup>th</sup> March: 5<sup>th</sup> Jour Fixe
- 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> May: General Assembly