



EUCEET Association

# NEWSLETTER 1/2015

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## FROM THE EUCEET ASSOCIATION

### 3<sup>rd</sup> EUCEET Association Conference

3<sup>rd</sup> EUCEET Association Conference, to be held on 22-23 September 2015 in Florence, is organized under the umbrella of the World Engineering Education Forum 2015 (20-24 September 2015), hosted by the Congress and Exhibition Center of Florence.

Since the EUCEET Association Conference became **part** of the Forum, its theme representing one of the Forum's topics, the abstract submission should be made **on line**, following guidelines found in the official website [www.weef2015.eu](http://www.weef2015.eu).



**Online registration, call for paper and hotel reservation** for the WEEF 2015 Forum are now open in the official website.

Deadline of the abstract submission has been extended until **April 10, 2015**

Deadline of the early bird registration fee is **June 30, 2015**

The new timeline is now:

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 27 Apr 2015 | Invitation for complete paper submission (full, short papers)  |
| 01 Jun 2015 | Submission deadline for full and short papers, work in progress, special sessions' papers, posters, workshops, tutorials |
| 23 Jun 2015 | Notification of Acceptance   |
| 15 Jul 2015 | Final/Camera-ready Due   |

The 3<sup>rd</sup> EUCEET Association Conference will take place, as all other events of the World Engineering Education Forum, in the Congress and Exhibition Center of Florence.

PALAZZO DEI CONGRESSI

Piazza Adua 1 – Florence

<http://www.firenzefiera.it/en/our-venues/palazzo-dei-congressi>





Preliminary program of the WEEF 2015 Forum

08:00 - 09:00	<b>Tuesday, Sept 22, 2015</b>						
	Registration Open from 08:00 to 17:00						
Room	Auditorium	Verde	Onice	4	5	6	9
Capacity	1000	200	70	50	30	30	45
08:30 - 09:00							
09:00 - 09:30	IGIP Plenary session						
09:30 - 10:00							
10:00 - 10:30							
10:30 - 11:00	Break						
11:00 - 11:30	<b>EUCEET Plenary session</b>						
11:30 - 12:00							
12:00 - 12:30							
12:30 - 13:00	Break						
13:00 - 13:30							
13:30 - 14:00	<b>EUCEET Association conference</b>						
14:00 - 14:30		Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	
14:30 - 15:00		Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	
15:00 - 15:30		Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	
15:30 - 16:00	Break						
16:00 - 16:30	<b>EUCEET Association conference</b>						
16:30 - 17:00		Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	
17:00 - 17:30		Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	
17:30 - 18:00		Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	
18:00 - 18:30		Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	Papers	
18:30 - 19:00							

Post conference programme

IFEES award Dinner (upon invitation)
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Preliminary program of the WEEF 2015 Forum

08:00 - 09:00	<b>Wednesday, Sept 23, 2015</b>						
Registration Open from 08:00 to 17:00							
Room	Auditorium	Verde	Onice	4	5	6	9
Capacity	1000	200	70	50	30	30	45
08:30 - 09:00							
09:00 - 09:30	Round table on disastered cities						
09:30 - 10:00							
10:00 - 10:30							
10:30 - 11:00 Break							
11:00 - 11:30	<b>EUCEET association conference</b>						
11:30 - 12:00							
12:00 - 12:30							
12:30 - 13:00 Break							
13:00 - 13:30							
13:30 - 14:00		<b>IGIP AGM</b>	COPI/EEDC/GEDC Colloquium	<b>EUCEET association conference</b>	Papers	Papers	Papers
14:00 - 14:30							
14:30 - 15:00							
15:00 - 15:30							
15:30 - 16:00 Break							
16:00 - 16:30		<b>IGIP Award Session</b>	COPI General Assembly	<b>EUCEET General Assembly</b>	Papers	Papers	Papers
16:30 - 17:00							
17:00 - 17:30							
17:30 - 18:00							
18:00 - 18:30							
18:30 - 19:00							

Post conference programme

**IGIP Dinner (upon invitation)**

Preliminary program of the WEEF 2015 Forum

Thursday, Sept 24, 2015							
Registration Open from 08:00 to 13:00							
Room	Auditorium	Verde	Onice	4	5	6	9
Capacity	1000	200	70	50	30	30	45
08:00 - 09:00							
08:30 - 09:00							
09:00 - 09:30	ENAEE Plenary session: "Engineering Programme Accreditation, the approach of the European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education (ENAEE)"						
09:30 - 10:00							
10:00 - 10:30							
10:30 - 11:00	Break						
11:00 - 11:30	Central Asia Special Session						
11:30 - 12:00							
12:00 - 12:30							
12:30 - 13:00	Closing Session						
13:00 - 13:30							
13:30 - 14:00							
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18:00 - 18:30							
18:30 - 19:00							

  

IFEES General Assembly	ENAEE workshop "The Accreditation Process, and Authorization to award the EUR-ACE label"
IFEES Executive Committee meeting	

As seen, three EUCEET events are included in the programme:

### 1. EUCEET plenary session

This is a 90' session to take place in the Auditorium, meaning a session open to all participants to the Forum. Two lectures will be delivered in the Plenary session:

- ❖ Prof. Carlo Viggiani (University of Naples): "*The Leaning Tower of Pisa: a History of Resilience*"
- ❖ Prof. Barry Clarke (University of Leeds): "*The Resilient Engineer*".

### 2. EUCEET Association Conference

Four sessions are previewed, two on Tuesday, September 22, 2015 and two on Wednesday, September 23, 2015.

### 3. EUCEET Association General Assembly

The 8th General Assembly of the EUCEET Association will take place on Wednesday, 23 September 2015, after the closure of the EUCEET Association Conference.

## New member of the EUCEET Association

**The Novosibirsk State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering**

<http://eng.sibstrin.ru/>



Starting with February 2015, the Novosibirsk State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering became member of the EUCEET Association.

### About the university

Novosibirsk State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering (Sibstrin) was founded in 1930 as Siberian Institute of Construction (Sibstrin). Being the first higher educational establishment in the field of construction and architecture in Novosibirsk it has been for many years considered to be the only one in that field in the entire region of Siberia, Far East and Central Asia of the former Soviet Union. In 1935 the Institute was transformed into Novosibirsk Institute of Civil Engineering named after V.V.Kuibyshev. In July 1993 the Institute changed its name to



Novosibirsk State Academy of Construction. In June 1997 the Academy got the status of the University. Since 2003 the full name of the University has been Novosibirsk State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering.

Nowadays Novosibirsk State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering (NSUACE (Sibstrin)) is a large educational and scientific establishment providing training of specialists for the construction industry of Russia. The University carries out research in various fields. The University successfully does organizational and methodical work as the main higher educational establishments in Novosibirsk Regional Branch of

Education and Methodology Union of the Higher Educational Establishments of the Russian Federation for conducting educational activities in the field of construction.

The University has gained universal recognition. NSUACE (Sibstrin) has been awarded a number of national and international prizes, including "The Leader of Russian Economy", "The American Golden Certificate of International Prestige", the gold medal of "SOCIETE D'ENCOURAGEMENT POUR L'INDUSTRIE NATIONALE" (The Association for Encouraging Industrial Development), "European Grand Prix for Quality ". According to All Russia Public Organization "Business Russia", NSUACE enters top 50 of higher educational establishments graduating specialists in high demand in labor market.

The University has gained recognition not only in Russia, but also abroad. Students from more than 40 countries of Australia, Asia, North and South America, Africa, Europe have been trained at the University.

Novosibirsk State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering has the State Accreditation Certificate and the License for the Right of Conducting Educational Activity. The University provides education in 9 training directions and 16 specialties, including 2 training directions of Bachelor Degree Courses and Master Degree Courses, combining 19 Master Degree Programs. It also trains Post-Graduates in 29 educational programs. Specialists can attend Refresher Courses and Professional Retraining at the University. The University has its own preparatory school where prospective students can take a course of Russian as a Second Language.

### **Synthesis on the survey on programmes in foreign languages**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015 the Secretariat of EUCEET Association launched a survey on programmes in foreign languages (English or French) offered by the universities members of the EUCEET Association.

On the basis of answers received, dipl. Eng. Mia Trifu prepared a synthesis, which was sent to all members and will be placed also on the site of the Association.

## FROM MEMBERS

### KU Leuven: Engineering4Society Conference



The conference will take place **June 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015** in **Leuven** (Belgium), in the historical buildings of the [Grand Beguinage](#), a medieval, walled part of Leuven, fully restored at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



Topics and areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Engineering case studies focusing on the environment and related social factors
- Examples of adapted curricula relevant to the theme of the conference
- Engineering cases that helped bring more harmony, understanding and compassion
- Projects highlighting the contexts of "engineering for society" in engineering curricula
- Methods of teaching and/or practicing participatory design in engineering
- Inspiring examples of Engineering4Society in practice

More information on: <http://www.engineering4society.org/>

## École des Ponts ParisTech (ENPC), France



École des Ponts ParisTech has made internationalisation one of the priorities of its development strategy.

Engineering education offered by École des Ponts ParisTech has been awarded the [Certificate for Quality in Internationalization Program](#), on February 27, 2015, by the ECA (European Consortium for Accreditation) represented by Rafael van Grieken (ECA) and CTI (Commission des Titres d'Ingénieurs), during the conference “[Assessing the Quality of Internationalization](#)” (<http://ecahe.eu/home/services/events/assessing-the-quality-of-internationalisation/>) held in Paris.



This certificate was awarded to 11 institutions and programs in Europe as part of a pilot scheme conducted from 2012 to 2015 to establish an international seal of quality in higher education. For France, the approach has been implemented by the CTI (Commission des Titres d'Ingénieurs) and the HCERES (High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education).

The picture shows Thibaut Skrzypek, head of the project for the School, receiving the certificate from Marie-Jo Goedert.



## Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia



Tallinn University of Technology organized together with HITSA Innovation Centre, on 18-20 March 2015, **IEEE Global Engineering Education Conference "Engineering Education towards Excellence and Innovation" EDUCON2015**



The IEEE Global Engineering Education Conference EDUCON2015 was the sixth of the series of conferences that rotates among central locations in IEEE Region 8, Europe, Middle East and North Africa.

Main conference topics were:

- Educational Methods and Learning Mechanisms in Engineering Education
- Excellence in Engineering Education
- Infrastructure and Technologies for Engineering Education
- Innovative Materials, Teaching and Learning Experiences in Engineering Education
- Learning in Transition and Engineering Education Ecosystems

Keynote Speakers:

- Tarmo Soomere, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia
- Stephanie Farrell, Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey, USA
- James Uhomobhi, University of Ulster, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

For more information: <http://www.educon-conference.org/educon2015/>

**Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland**



Wroclaw University of Technology

The International Summer School

**„3E+ = ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, ELECTRICITY, CIVIL ENGINEERING”**

4-25.07.2015, Wroclaw, Poland



- Organizers**
- Faculty of Electronics
  - Faculty of Mechanical and Power Engineering
  - Faculty of Electrical Engineering
  - Faculty of Civil Engineering
  - International Office



The Summer School provides didactic activities: lectures, laboratories and projects carried out in 4-6 person groups under the supervision of individual academic staff. The Summer School also includes a course of Polish language and visits at many interesting places in the Lower Silesia region.

Participant profile: students of the second and the third stage of study (PhD) at the following fields: Power Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Automation and Information Technology, Civil Engineering or related scientific areas.



More information at website [http://www.dwm.pwr.wroc.pl/other\\_programmes/](http://www.dwm.pwr.wroc.pl/other_programmes/)

## Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest, Romania

### Professor Emeritus Panaite Mazilu (TUCEB) celebrated for his 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary

21<sup>st</sup> March 2015 marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Professor Emeritus Panaite Mazilu, Honorary member of the Romanian Academy, President of the Union of Associations of Civil Engineers of Romania.

The disciplines which consecrated him as an outstanding teacher and scientist were Statics, Strength of Materials, Theory of Elasticity, Dynamics and Stability of Structures.

In parallel with the didactic activity, Professor Mazilu was heavily involved in the design of structures, among which landmarks of Bucharest, such as the huge "House of Press"(the first tall building in Romania designed to resist to seismic loads, 1954) or the nice building of the Baneasa airport.

Professor Panaite Mazilu was among the initiators and founders, in 1995, of the Union of Associations of Civil Engineers of Romania.

A big celebration took place on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015 in the beautiful aula of the Central University Library in Bucharest.



### A visit in Bucharest of 70 students from Imperial College London

A nice (and massive) group of 70 students, enrolled in the 4-year Master Programme in civil engineering of the Imperial College London, lead by Fiona Walport, came to Bucharest on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2015 for a visit to end on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015, initiated by CivSoc, the Society of civil engineering students at Imperial College London.

The technical part of the visit was organized by the Department of International Relations of the Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest, lead by Prof. Tudor Bugnariu.



On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March, took place at TUCEB a meeting during which Prof. Tudor Bugnariu introduced the University to the guests, without forgetting to mention the EUCEET projects (in fact, the visit of Imperial College students could be regarded as a follow-up of those projects).

Then, presentations were made by designers and consultants on the constructions to be visited next day.

A short visit of some laboratories of TUCEB was also included in the programme.



Visits to two of the most important construction sites in Bucharest were organized by Prof. Tudor Bugnariu:

- A station under construction of the line no.5 of the Bucharest metro, built by a consortium of Italian, Spanish and Romanian companies.
- A high rise office building (100 m in height, with 26 floors and 3 underground levels) ,being erected in the immediate vicinity(2 m) of a tunnel of the metro line no. 2.This is a big investment of a Greek company.

## ECCE – European Council of Civil Engineers, United Kingdom

### 61<sup>th</sup> ECCE General Meeting

The 61<sup>st</sup> ECCE General Meeting will celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the European Council of Civil Engineers and it will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in Naples, Italy at the Royal Continental Hotel, being hosted by the National Council of Italian Engineers (CNI).



This festive General Meeting will be combined with the Conference “Artistic and Monumental Heritage – Restoration, Safeguard and Enhancement” organized by CNI that will take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

The opening of the 61<sup>st</sup> ECCE General Meeting on Friday morning as well as the Conference will be held at the Basilica di San Giovanni Maggiore a Pignatelli.

More information: [http://www.ecceengineers.eu/news/2015/61\\_ecce\\_meeting.php](http://www.ecceengineers.eu/news/2015/61_ecce_meeting.php)

### The Workshop ““Lifelong learning in civil engineering profession in Europe”, Prague, 20-21 April 2015

The ECCE Standing Committee Education & Training is organizing a Workshop “*Lifelong learning in civil engineering profession in Europe*”, to take place in Prague on 20-21 April 2015.

The Workshop will be kindly hosted by CKAIT (Czech Chamber of Chartered Engineers and Technicians in Construction) on its headquarter premises (Sokolská Street 15).

The Workshop is intended to give the opportunity to ECCE members representatives and other participants to be engaged in an ample exchange of views and experience in a matter of major importance for the profession: the continuous professional development of European civil engineers.

The Workshop will start with a working session on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015 from 9.00 to 13.00. In the afternoon of the same day is planned from 15.00 to 18.00 a visit to the laboratories of UCEEB (University Centre of Energy Effective Building) located near Prague (pages <http://www.uceeb.cz/en>) followed by a dinner offered by CKAIT.

The second working session will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April from 9.00 to 13.00.

Information about the event can be obtained from Prof. Alois Materna ([alois.materna@seznam.cz](mailto:alois.materna@seznam.cz)) and Prof. Iacint Manoliu ([manoliu@utcb.ro](mailto:manoliu@utcb.ro)).

## FROM PARTNERS

**SEFI 2015 Annual Conference “Diversity in engineering education: facing new trends in engineering”**



Annual Conference of the  
European Society for Engineering Education  
University of Orléans



2015  
Monday June 29 - Thursday July 2

### HIGHLIGHTS

Keynotes lectures of:

- Jette Egelund Holgaard Aalborg University (DK)
- Christophe Morace ENSTA Bretagne (FR) and Alison Gourvès-Hayward, Telecom Bretagne (FR)
- Laura Tilly, Head of the Global Diversity Office at Daimler AG (DE)
- Teri Reed Texas A&M University (US)

A Round table on University-Business cooperation will also be organised during the conference.

The latest developments can be followed on [www.sefi2015.com](http://www.sefi2015.com)

### MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

Workshops offered during the Conference (list is not final):

- Workshop on Mathematics and Engineering Education
- Workshop on Curriculum and Online Engineering Education
- Workshop on Physics and Engineering Education
- Workshop on Gender and Diversity
- Meeting of the SEFI European Engineering Deans Council
- EPICES Project Workshop
- ReadySTEMgo Project Workshop

## EURASHE 25th Annual Conference

EURASHE (European Association of Institutions in Higher Education) will organize its 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference titled “**Professional Higher Education more Relevant than Ever – Challenges for the Future**” in Lisbon (Portugal) on 16-17 April 2015. It is co-organised by EURASHE, the Portuguese Polytechnics Coordinating Council (CCISP) and with Lisbon School of Health Technology (ESTeSL).



The 25th Conference will deepen the debate on institutional management, quality and international cooperation through various forms: presentations, workshops, panels, networking sessions, demonstration of good practices, as well as pre-conference masterclasses. Sessions are structured in 4 tracks: institutional management, quality management, regional cooperation and international cooperation, with each of them having a specific focus in different parallel sessions throughout two days: governance, education, employability and research.



The conference is addressed to different target groups: institutional management, head of programmes, teaching staff, researchers, quality assurance managers and agencies, business, public agents and more. All EURASHE members and participants are invited to involve their global partners in the conference.

More information on: [www.eurashe.eu](http://www.eurashe.eu)

## EUA Annual Conference 2015

***European Universities in Research and Innovation - People, Policies and Partnerships***



Hosted by University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium  
16-17 April 2015

Universities are unique institutions in combining education, research and innovation activities as part of their mission and thus are central actors in Europe’s research and innovation system. Universities play a vital role in attracting talent, educating the labour force of the future, and preparing the next generation of researchers. These highly-skilled professionals are essential to building Europe’s research and innovation capacity and to enhancing its competitiveness through generating high added value products and services. Because of their capacity to engage in new endeavors and partnerships, European universities are in a position to contribute greatly to societal advancement, and in particular to the European Research Area.

The role of universities in research and innovation is thus the topic of EUA’s Annual Conference 2015. The conference will address both new opportunities for universities to increase their research capacity and impact in society (e.g. through more and better research collaborations, better integration of state-of-the-art research into

educational programmes, the emerging movement of Science 2.0), as well as the challenges and pressures facing universities in delivering excellent research outputs and educational programmes.

The conference session will be organized along three main axes:

- the role of universities in educating and training researchers (the “People” dimension);
- the increase in partnerships with other universities, research institutions and businesses to better respond to societal demands (the “Partnerships” dimension);
- how policy frameworks create the conditions for regional transformation and foster innovation and competitiveness (the “Policies” dimension).



In addition, a dedicated session on **University Research: for the Benefit of Society** will look at the role of and benefits of science for society. This will include a series of poster presentations which will enable researchers from European universities present contributions in the form of scientific discoveries that have had a concrete impact on society.

In the afternoon of the second day, the EUA Hot Topic session will return for a third year, this time focusing on **Energy Research and Education**. This session will aim to engage universities in a dialogue on their role in this area through the newly-launched FP7 UNI-SET project, aiming at mobilizing the research, innovation and educational capacities of universities in Europe.

Given the relevance of the subject matter and the timing of the conference at a moment when the new European Commission is beginning to develop its strategic lines for the next five years, we believe that this event will appeal to a wide and diverse audience with an interest in research and innovation. We look forward to welcoming a large number of university leaders, including vice-rectors for research, and other senior staff as well as higher education and research stakeholders, including representatives of national rectors’ conferences, research organisations, public authorities and young researchers.

The goal of the conference is to enhance the visibility of research performed by universities and strengthen their impact on policy development in the field of research and innovation at European level. Based on the conference discussions and outcomes, EUA will prepare a declaration on the role of universities in research and innovation.

More information: <http://www.eua.be/events/upcoming/EUA-Annual-Conference-2015/Home.aspx>

## ACA Annual Conference 2015

*“Internationalisation: from strategy to implementation”*

**Brussels, 14-16 June 2015**



This year’s ACA Annual Conference of Academic Cooperation Association, to be held in Brussels, is dedicated to the theme of institutional internationalisation strategies and their (successful) implementation. The Conference is expected to draw an audience of some 300, including central actors and decision-makers from universities and

colleges as well as policy-makers and practitioners from government departments, international institutions, non-governmental organisations and think tanks.

### Theme

The 2015 ACA Annual Conference will address the theme of internationalisation strategies for higher education institutions from a double perspective. First, it will consider different concepts and approaches to internationalisation strategies, and at ways to design them. Second, it will address issues around the implementation of such strategies. We aim for a global perspective, with the majority of speakers coming from Europe, and presenting European approaches, but with several notable presenters originating from elsewhere in the world.

Sub-themes of the conference include mainstreaming of internationalisation as a strategic approach, branding a higher education institution, resourcing internationalisation strategies, and generating internal 'buy in' for them. We might even pose the heretical question of whether or not an internationalisation strategy is necessary for success in the international arena. Further, we will look at particular challenges to internationalisation efforts and how to overcome them, such as the integration of foreign students, teaching in English, incentivising short-term mobility of students and staff, and international marketing and student recruitment.

More information: <http://www.aca-secretariat.be>

## 10<sup>th</sup> European Quality Assurance Forum



Source: European University Association

Date published: March 19, 2015

EUA is pleased to announce that the 10th European Quality Assurance Forum (EQAF) will take place in London from 19 to 21 November 2015, hosted by the Quality Assurance Agency and UCL Institute of Education.

Through a mix of plenary and parallel sessions, the 2015 EQAF, entitled “**Taking stock and looking forward**”, will combine presentations of current developments in quality assurance with discussions on research, policy and practice that will take place in paper sessions and workshops. This year, the Forum will examine QA in the EHEA from a variety of perspectives and explore the ways in which concrete practices in institutions and agencies reflect European level policies.

The Forum organizers, ENQA, ESU, EUA and EURASHE, have opened a call for contributions from QA practitioners in higher education institutions and quality assurance agencies, students, and researchers in the field. Two types of contributions are sought: papers and workshops.

The deadline to submit contributions is **3 August 2015**.

For detailed information, please consult [www.eua.be/events/upcoming/EQAF-2015](http://www.eua.be/events/upcoming/EQAF-2015)

## International Tuning Academy (DITA) makes available the results of the EMCOSU project



University-business cooperation (UBC) is currently one of the key strategic challenges facing higher education in Europe. It holds implications for support for graduates career success, international mobility, modernisation of curricula and the more practical orientation of higher education in general. In a survey among 700 enterprises and enterprise associations in Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland, Slovenia, Spain and other countries, the EMCOSU consortium sought answers to three interrelated questions:

- i) which are the most relevant modes and results of cooperation;
- ii) what determines cooperation; and
- iii) which are the future developmental needs?

The most general factors that facilitate UBC are common goals in terms of mutual benefits, needs and aims, commitment of the right peoples starting from the leadership and involving all levels, and communication that includes open dialogue and a shared understanding of the challenges. The EMCOSU projects main findings are presented according to the following headings: diversification and mutual facilitation of modes of cooperation, the centrality of tacit elements, bureaucratic obstacles, the development of competencies, companies expectations of universities, the importance of work experience, future surveys, the role of employers associations, own consortium experiences, and future challenges.

More information about the project results are available from <http://www.emcosu.eu/en/project-outcomes/> and <http://news.tuningacademy.org/emcosu-final-report/>

## FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

### News from Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)



#### Erasmus + Programme Guide

The new edition of the Erasmus + Programme guide is available. The Erasmus+ Programme Guide is an integral part of the 2015 Erasmus+ Call for Proposals. Organisations and institutions seeking funding in the framework of this call must comply with the conditions for participation and funding expressed in this Guide.

The document provides information on the priorities of the programme, the actions supported, the funding available for different actions, detailed information on participation.

The conditions for participation in 2015 are described in the latest version.

More information and the Guide in your language on: [http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/discover/guide/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/discover/guide/index_en.htm)

## European funding

### Information on Reimbursement of travelling expenses under Erasmus+



The answer by the Commission is based on a question for written answer E-010812/14 to the Commission by Member of European Parliament, Petra Kammerevert (Socialists & Democrats)  
Subject: *Reimbursement of travelling expenses under Erasmus+*

On commencement of sponsorship under the new Erasmus+ Programme in 2014, the proportionate reimbursement of travelling expenses changed to a system of flat rates. This simpler system reduces bureaucratic effort, but the scale of flat rates is leading to serious injustices, especially in countries towards the geographical margins (e.g. Iceland and Cyprus especially, and others) or countries with remote internal areas (e.g. Finland and others where the capital city is hundreds of kilometers away). This flat-rate system is creating problems in the programme changeover, and increasing consequential difficulties for grant recipients.

What feedback has the Commission received about this from the first year of the programme, 2014, which is still in progress?

Is the plan to establish a fully differentiated system of flat rates which take account of the above mentioned countries?

Or does the Commission envisage other ways of correcting the nonlinear approach to grantee travelling expenses?

If so, what form will this system take?

If not, why is there no plan for such a system?

Answer given by Mr. Navracsics (European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Citizenship) on behalf of the Commission:

*“The system for reimbursement of travel expenses under Erasmus+ is based on historical real cost data incurred under the Lifelong Learning and Youth in Action projects in 2010-2011, referring to about 43,000 mobility activities. This methodology, underpinned by simulations performed on a representative sample, was validated by all countries participating in Erasmus+.*



*As set out in the rules of the Financial Regulation, the level of grants must comply with the principles of co-financing and non-profit. The grant is not meant to cover 100% of travel costs borne by beneficiaries.*

*According to an analysis carried out in 2014, there is no negative impact on the performance of Erasmus+. Nevertheless, the Commission is closely monitoring the simplified system. The Commission is gathering information on concrete examples of potential difficulties provided by National Agencies and other stakeholders and will take action, if appropriate. In addition, the Commission will organize a mid-term review of the methodology and level of grants, which will include surveys of samples of beneficiaries.”*

More information on: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=WQ&reference=E-2014-010812&language=EN>

## NEWS FROM THE WORLD

### 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT 2015

*"Capacity Building for Development"*, 11th - 14th December 2015, Sri Lanka

The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction Management 2015 will be held at Earl's Regency Hotel, Kandy, Sri Lanka, as the next in line of a highly successful series of conferences held since December 2010.

The Conference will run over three days and features presentations by authors of all accepted papers, as well as keynote lecturers. General and plenary sessions will be accompanied by workshops and technical sessions.

The objective of the conference is to provide a forum for scientist and researchers to present recent progress in research and development, and to report implementation of new tools and technologies in practical applications.

More information: <http://www.icsecm.org/2015/index.html>



### CECAR (Civil Engineering Conference in the Asian Region)



CECAR (Civil Engineering Conference in the Asian Region) is a major activity of ACECC (The Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council) held on a triennial basis started in 1998. The upcoming 7th CECAR (CECAR 7) will be hosted by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) in Hawaii. CECAR 7 will enlighten conference participants and others on strides made in sustainable civil engineering infrastructure applicable to the Asia Pacific Region. Knowledge dissemination will take place in research as well as practice areas.

Technical areas covered will include all fields of civil engineering such as construction, geotechnical, structural, environmental, water resources, transportation, and architectural engineering. Special sessions on timely topics such as climate change, coastal management, social and economic issues in infrastructure development, forensic engineering, safety and security issues, and use of sustainable resources will be included. Innovation in studies, design, construction, and operations will be emphasized. Research and case studies in application will be presented showcasing innovation in building sustainable infrastructure. A conference proceeding will be published.

Civil Engineering professionals in all areas (academia, consulting, government, construction, suppliers, and students) are invited to the conference, either as a presenter or attendee/participant. Space is available for table top exhibits for companies/organizations of interest to the attendees of the conference.

More information: <http://content.asce.org/conferences/cecar7/>

## 2<sup>nd</sup> ATC-SEI Conference on Improving the Seismic Performance of Existing Buildings and Other Structures

**Hyatt Regency Hotel, San Francisco, December 10-12, 2015**

On behalf of the Applied Technology Council (ATC) and the Structural Engineering Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), we would like to invite you to join us in San Francisco on December 10-12, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Following the success of the 2009 conference, this state-of-the-industry forum continues the effort of improving the seismic performance of existing buildings and other structures.



The program is being planned to provide a forum for the presentation and exchange of new information on the seismic evaluation and seismic rehabilitation of existing buildings, including case studies, new discoveries, innovative use of new technologies and materials, implementation issues, needed improvements to existing standards and methods, and socio-economic issues.

The goal is to provide an invaluable opportunity to advance the understanding of the tools, techniques, and innovations available to assist the attendees in meeting the challenges of seismic evaluation and rehabilitation.

More information: <http://atc-sei.org/call-for-papers/>

## CALENDAR

Date	Event	Place
29-30.05.2015	61 <sup>st</sup> ECCE General Meeting - 30 <sup>th</sup> ECCE Anniversary 1985-2015	Naples, ITALY
	 	
	<a href="http://www.ecceengineers.eu/news/2015/61_ecce_meeting.php">http://www.ecceengineers.eu/news/2015/61_ecce_meeting.php</a>	
15-18.09.2015	ICSSC 2015 - International Conference on Sustainable Structural Concrete	La Plata, ARGENTINA
		
	<a href="http://www.sustainconcrete2015.com.ar">www.sustainconcrete2015.com.ar</a>	
20-24.09.2015	World Engineering Education Forum 2015	Florence , ITALY
		
	<a href="http://www.weef2015.eu/">http://www.weef2015.eu/</a>	
22-23.09.2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> EUCEET Association Conference	Florence , ITALY
23.09.2015	8 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the EUCEET Association	Florence , ITALY