

After Mobility – Keeping in Touch - from Erasmus Programme Perspective

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Erasmus Programme

- EU Education Programme since 1987
- Student Mobility (Studies and Placements), Staff Mobility (Teaching Assignments and Staff Training), Intensive Programmes, Multilateral Projects and Networks
- Key Players:
 - European Commission
 - National Agencies (31 European countries)
 - Higher Education Institutions (>3000)
 - Participants



Erasmus Student Mobility

- Targets for Student Mobility
 - Better Quality of Higher Education
 - 3 Million Erasmus Students by 2013
 - Quality of Mobility: e.g. support services, language and cultural preparation, recognition of studies
 - Additional value for students e.g. employability
 - New activity: placements
- Volume of Student Mobility (2006-07):
160 000 mobile students per year
(in Finland 3800 outgoing and 6100 incoming)
-> a lot of potential!



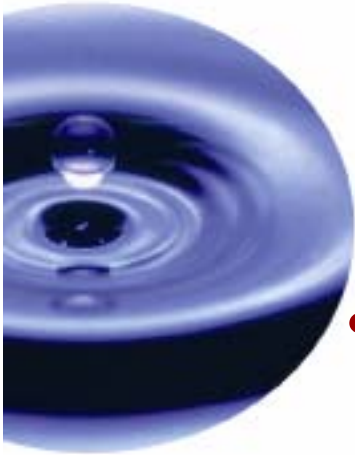
Erasmus Alumni

- Who are Erasmus Alumni? Incoming and/or outgoing Erasmus students?
- Activities for Erasmus Alumni could take place at several levels: European, national, institutional
- So far, not much attention to Erasmus Alumni
- “European Erasmus Alumni Association”?
(cf. Erasmus Mundus Alumni Association)
- Existing Erasmus Alumni activities mainly take place at HEI level
- Erasmus Student Network
- Is there a need for additional activities at European or national level?
- What do students expect?



Why Erasmus Alumni Activities?

- Programme perspective:
 - Need to increase participation – marketing of the programme (student ambassadors)
 - Need to improve quality – collection of feedback, dissemination of good experience
 - Need to increase number of placements available (alumni are potential employers)
- National Level Perspective (in addition to the above):
 - Need to contact Alumni later on in order to conduct surveys, distribute information etc.
 - Mobility of workers, doctoral students, researchers – alumni (incoming students) are potential candidates.



What kind of activities? Some national level examples 1

- Hungary - Tempus Public Foundation: Alumni for Europe Network (AfE)
 - Interactive network of former participants of several mobility programmes
 - Free membership
 - Aims: networking, integration in Hungary, contacts between incoming and local/outgoing students
 - Contacts via e-mail, website, newsletter
 - Common events for international and Hungarian alumni



What kind of activities?

Some national level examples 2

- Italy - Caffè Erasmus “la community degli studenti Erasmus” <http://erasmus.indire.it/>
- Online student reporting systems:
 - IRIS - Integrated Reporting for International Students (Norway) <http://www.iris.siu.no/>
 - Stars – Study Abroad Reporting System (Sweden)
- Poland - GISE (Gielda Informacji Studentow Erasmus): database of information provided by former Erasmus students to future Erasmus students



Thank you for your attention!