

ENHANCING STUDENT MOBILITY IN A DIGITAL WORLD: SHARING EXPERIENCES IN AN ENLARGED EUROPE - SUMIT SEMINAR **UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW** October 11 & 12, 2007







We will select FIVE of the following topics for discussion in the Working Groups. The emphasis will be on practical applications and sharing of good practice rather than on theoretical ideas and abstract concepts.

We would like you to indicate which THREE of the topics interest you most and we will select the final Working Group topics taking account of the overall preferences of the participants.

- 1. If a student is still deciding at which university and in which country to study for a visit, what are the most effective ways to enable them to gain access to such information? Can the 12 new EU countries use these ICT-based methods to make themselves more attractive to intending visit students? How might IRO websites or online services help in this process? What sorts of information should be provided, how (eg websites, in online communities, via past visitors, in what language(s)?)
- 2. Once a student has selected a university to visit, what services should the university provide before the physical visit begins? Registration? Student ID? Library access? VLE access, other local students as 'buddies/mentors'? virtual tours? etc. What unit in the university (IRO??) should coordinate all these information and services?
- 3. Language is a known problem for many visiting students. Should universities wishing to attract such students provide language tuition and practice online before the visit begins, during the visit, use a less uncommon language if their local language is not widely spoken in Europe etc?
- 4. After the visit to another university, what might students reasonably expect to be provided by means of ICT? Continuing information such as that offered to alumni, electronic transcripts supplied automatically, electronic transfer of credits, continuing access to some university services to enable them to look back academically at their period of study visit etc?
- 5. How might a university fit the ERASMUS mobility programme into its global international approach and policy? What is the interaction between student mobility and global international policy?
- 6. How ready are universities for large scale virtual mobility in which many students are able to take courses from European universities not in their own country without ever visiting? Can we provide a valuable 'exchange experience'? What are the opportunities ICT offers us and what barriers exist to taking these up on a large scale? Is there actually demand at present from students for such experiences?
- 7. Instead of creating new ICT systems to attract and communicate with visiting students, could we use existing social networking softwares such as Facebook, MySpace to create a wider community?
- 8. Does the University Library have a special role to play in supporting mobility and virtual mobility? Can we make the Library more open to visiting students, before and after their visits?