

ERASMUS MUNDUS AWARENESS DAY

The event EM-ACE - *Promoting Erasmus Mundus Towards European Students: Activate, Communicate, Engage* (<http://www.em-ace.eu>) was released using several ways to reach all the academic community. The IpLeiria used its website to publicize the event as well as the email of all students, teachers and staff sending an emphatic information about the session and sending it together with the program that was intended to attract the interest of all the community.

Furthermore, and being the IPLeiria a member of a prestigious Portuguese Consortium with eight polytechnics and 122 companies, the information was displayed using this large community, asking our partners in the Consortium to join the event.

We noticed that regardless of the online application who was conceived for the Student community, lots of staff and teachers demonstrated interest in attending the event but didn't apply using the online document because it was, obviously conceived for students. The interest of the academic community was mainly with the purpose mentioned during the session of enhance both quantity and quality for further projects in an area less explored in this context. It was most evident that the teachers had still a great deal of doubts mostly regarding the applications and management procedures.

During the email release information and on the website as well as on the beginning of the session, we explained that it was part a financed project of the European Commission, in the frame of the Erasmus Mundus Action 3 (EM A3) coordinated by the University of Roma "La Sapienza".



The event took place on January 7, between 2.00pm and 5.30pm in the *auditorium* of the main building of the IPL, where is located the presidency. With the goal a giving a more practical demonstration of an actual project raining as we speak, the second part of the event was destined to a program were the IPLeiria is involved- the INFINITY program which help to consolidate the information of the first part of the event.

The session opened with an interested approach by Professor Pedro Lourtie, chairman of the General Board of The IPLeiria , FAIRE Honorary member and former BFUG member and Secretary of State of Higher Education. The key note speech had as main subject the the importance of Erasmus Mundus for the global strategy of the IPLeiria- thinking ahead for a more global strategy beyond European frontiers, and originated at the time questions and further discussion on several international education issues.

The second speaker was the contact point Erasmus Mundus in Portugal, a representative of the general Directorate of Higher Education. framing of the Erasmus Mundus in the general context of Erasmus +, program policies and actions. This intervention was more objective and project oriented as helped the participant to noticed the several possibilities given by the program in spite of the changes that the program Erasmus + will originate.

At this point , and after the discussion and questions of the second speaker we had a 15 minutes coffee break and star the second half of the session with the presentation of the INIFINITY project, gathering along with European partners, third countries like Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia.



The first speaker about the project was Professor António Castelbranco, general project coordinator, belonging to the University of Lisbon- Faculty of Architecture. He showed the importance of the project focused partly in civil engineering, Architecture, Design and Sustainable Environment. In his approach we noticed the important of the subject, actions and targets groups.

The second speaker, Professor Oksana Turchanina also from the same university and faculty, executive coordinator of the same project, gave us a more specific approach regarding policies and outcomes as well as the management of the program.

After the 3rd round of questions, the president of the IPLeiria, Professor Nuno André O. Mangas Pereira, took to the floor for the closing session. His speech was mostly in the bias of connecting the interest in establish links with third countries outside the comfort zone of Europe and the fact the IPLeiria is celebrating this year the "IPL+Global" a set of policies intended to take our name outside the EU to new and unknown markets.

Remarks: Several people arrived during the session without previous enrollment.

