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RE VICA Launch large-scale wiki on Virtual Campuses

The Re.ViCa project wants to make an inventory and to carry out a systematic review of Virtual Campus initiatives within higher education and aims to identify relevant parameters and success factors for evaluating and comparing Virtual Campuses, based on thorough research and expert input.

The results of the Re.ViCa research are published on a wiki which was officially launched and opened for the public in June 2009 during the ICDE World Conference in Maastricht, the Netherlands. The Re.ViCa wiki is probably one of the largest repositories on the topic of Virtual Campus available today. It contains information about interesting programmes, initiatives, research projects, leading institutions, experts as well as a rapidly growing series of country reports describing Virtual Campuses around the world.

Interested? Visit the wiki at <http://www.virtualcampuses.eu> to contribute, and help us to sustain the wiki, as a large and dynamic inventory of Virtual Campuses by becoming a member of our international group of experts!

*"Re.ViCa
Reviewing (traces of)
European Virtual
Campuses"*

Visit the project website
<http://revica.europace.org>
and subscribe to the
Re.ViCa newsletter!



The screenshot shows the Re.ViCa wiki interface. At the top, it says "RE VICA" and "Reviewing (Traces of) European Virtual Campuses". Below this is a search bar and a "Log in / create account" link. The main content area is titled "Main Page" and contains a "Content Index" with the following items:

1. Historical overview
2. Definitions of virtual campus
3. An Inventory of virtual campuses across the world
 1. Programmes of interest to Virtual Campus analysts
 2. Country reports + Country template for authors and Countries of relevance
 3. Institutional reports (Includes the case studies)
 4. Theoretical Categorization
4. Critical Success Factors
5. Resources
6. Glossary of terms and Abbreviations
7. Project description
8. International Advisory Committee, People in the project and other relevant Experts
9. List of all Categories - countries, case studies, etc
10. Copyrights

UNIQUE Quality Label for the use of ICT in Higher Education

The UNIQUE project was successfully completed and the first universities and institutes awarded. The UNIQUE Quality Label for the innovative and creative use of ICT in higher education was officially launched on Friday, June 12th, 2009 during the EDEN Conference, in Gdansk, Poland. Institutions that are interested in getting the label can contact the EuroPACE secretariat or can access the UNIQUE service through the new official website of the UNIQUE Quality Label at: <http://unique.qualityfoundation.org>

The original project website remains available at: <http://unique.europace.org>



EPICS Portal for Virtual Erasmus



“European Portal for International Courses and Services for Virtual Erasmus”

EuroPACE participates in the EPICS project which aims to increase the number of student mobility throughout Europe and to support the realisation of a European Higher Education Area by organizing a Virtual Erasmus scheme. A scheme in which students have the opportunity and benefits of visiting other university programmes and courses without the necessity of being mobile. All this within a framework of bilateral or multilateral agreements between universities on accepting visiting students (for the bigger part) online.

The EPICS consortium of European Virtual Mobility coordinators will support universities in organising Virtual Mobility as integral part of their study offerings, partners will share expertise and experiences, build on existing networks in Virtual Mobility and broaden these with increased involvement of universities and staff.

Next, the project team will develop the EPICS Portal blueprint that will be worked out in a full operational web version (available beginning 2010). EPICS will not only be a database but also include on-line services to offer high quality guided independent learning and support organising mainstream offering of Virtual Mobility in a Virtual Erasmus scheme.

Higher education institutions interested in being involved in the EPICS network as provider and/or user of Virtual Mobility courses are invited to join this initiative and to contact the EuroPACE secretariat or the project coordinator – George Ubachs at EADTU (george.ubachs@eadtu.nl). Further information can be found at <http://www.eadtu.nl/epics>

New projects approved!

The results of the Lifelong Learning Programme call for proposals have been published. EuroPACE is happy to announce its involvement in following new projects:

■ Move-IT “Seminars Promoting Virtual Support for Mobile Students”

Erasmus Accompanying Measures

Coordinator: EuroPACE ivzw

The Move-IT project, coordinated by EuroPACE, will keep blended/virtual mobility and e-coaching methodologies for the support of physically mobile students high on the agenda of the different European stakeholders by promoting and dissemination best practices and activities of former projects in the field. To this end, the Move-IT project will organise two seminars on blended mobility, two webinars on e-coaching and a Forum on “Coaching exchange students from a distance”.

■ EU-VIP “Enterprise University Virtual Placements”

Erasmus Multilateral Projects - Co-operation between Universities and Enterprises

Coordinator: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

EU-VIP aims to enhance the quality, efficiency and impact of international work placements, thereby boosting interaction between HEIs and enterprises and using the advantages of the newest technologies. The project will develop and provide the necessary (technical, pedagogical, organisational) models and services for both (1) virtual mobility activities to prepare and follow-up students who go physically abroad for a placement and (2) fully virtual placements, from selection, preparation, execution to follow-up.

■ EMQT “Erasmus Mobility Quality Tools”

Erasmus Networks – Structural Networks

Coordinator: Università degli Studi di Padova

The EMQT project focuses on promoting quality of Erasmus mobility through the development of monitoring and self-certification tools for the benefit of HEIs. Main foreseen outcomes are “Guidelines for good practice in Erasmus Mobility” and a “Quality Tools’ Box” (describing a.o. key-indicators and relative, guidelines to improve positioning of HEI, mechanisms/procedures, etc.).

■ EUGENE “European and Global Engineering Education”

Erasmus Networks – Academic Networks

Coordinator: Università degli Studi di Firenze - Facoltà di Ingegneria

The EUGENE Network aims at improving the impact of European Engineering Education (EE) on competitiveness, innovation and socio-economic growth in a global context. This goal will be achieved by setting-up a top-level “discussion & action” forum to monitor and support the continuous evolution of EE in the EHEA and to open its competition and cooperation borders beyond Europe.



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Publications

"Institutional Transformation through Best Practices in Virtual Campus Development: Advancing E-Learning Policies"

Edited by Mark Stansfield & Thomas Connolly

This book has been published as a result of the PBP-VC project (Promoting Best Practice in Virtual Campuses). It presents cost effective and sustainable learning procedures vital to ensuring long term success for both teacher and student and provides the latest research and findings in relation to best practice examples and case studies across the globe. The Re.ViCa project team wrote the chapter on "Reviewing traces of Virtual Campuses: from a fully Online Virtual Campus to a Blended Model".

Ask the EuroPACE secretariat for a special code and order this book with 30% discount at IGI Global: <http://www.igi-global.com/reference/details.asp?id=33409>

"Distance and E-learning in Transition - Learning Innovation, Technology and Social Challenges"

Edited by Ulrich Bernath, András Szücs, Alan Tait & Martine Vidal

This publication presents the developments in the field of open, distance and e-learning, through new technologies, methodologies and tools, which have profoundly changed the paradigms, scenarios and values at all levels of education over the last decade. To this end, the best EDEN conference papers from the past years have been selected, revisiting research, innovation and professional practice in distance and e-learning.

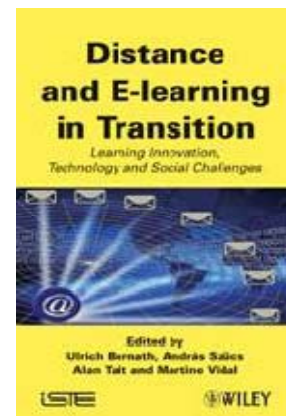
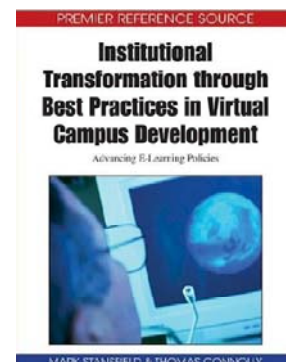
The table of contents is available at: <http://www.eden-online.org/papers/publications/toc-book.pdf>. An order form is available at: <http://www.eden-online.org/papers/publications/of-book.pdf>

"Handbook of International Associations in Higher Education. A Practical Guide to 100 Academic Networks World-Wide"

Chripa Schneller, Irina Lungu and Bernd Wächter

A sign of the growing cooperation in higher education world-wide is the increasing number of associations, consortia, networks, etc. in the field. Their aims, history and activities, however, are less tangible for outsiders. This publication by ACA presents 100 higher education associations from various continents as well as their global counterparts. Most importantly, it seeks to showcase the interrelation *among* the various networks and to provide information for future cooperation, partnerships and true *networking*. EuroPACE is one of the networks mentioned in this publication.

An order form is available at: <http://www.aca-secretariat.be/handbook2009.htm>



Networking events to which EuroPACE contributed/s to

- **23rd ICDE World Conference on “Flexible Education for All: Open – Global – Innovative”, Maastricht, the Netherlands, 7-10 June 2009.** Key issues of this conference are published at <http://www.ou.nl/eCache/DEF/2/11/255.html>
- **EDEN Annual Conference on Innovation in Learning Communities, Gdansk, Poland, 10-13 June 2009**
<http://www.eden-online.org/eden.php?menuId=410>

- **UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education, Paris, France, 5-8 July 2009**
<http://www.unesco.org/en/wche2009>

EuroPACE staff member Bieke Schreurs was invited to the UNESCO World Conference gathering about 1000 participants from 150 countries. Together with Ministers, university rectors, faculty, students and key representatives of the private sector as well as regional and multilateral institutions we debated a wide range of issues including the impact of globalisation on higher education, social responsibility, academic freedom, research and ICT in education. EuroPACE embraced the idea that information and communications technologies should be more fully integrated throughout higher education to meet increasing student demand and share the results of scientific research, which is expressed in the Conference communiqué.

- **EFQUEL Forum in TKK Dipoli, Helsinki, Finland, 24-25 September 2009**
<http://www.qualityfoundation.org>
- **ICL 2009 - Interactive Computer Aided Learning, Villach, Austria, 23-25 September 2009**
<http://www.icl-conference.org>
- **15th CIAED - Brazilian International Congress of Distance Education, Fortaleza, Brazil, 27-30 September 2009**
<http://www.abed.org.br/congresso2009>

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