Minutes EADTU General Assembly meeting

17th of April 2017

**Venue:**

**Dutch House of Provinces**

**59-61 Rue de Trèves, B-1040 Brussels**

13.30h – 16.30h

Present:

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| **Name:** | **Organisation** |
| Fenna Adriaanse | EADTU |
| Theo Bastiaens | FernUniversitat in Hagen |
| Mark Brown | Dublin City University |
| Alessandro Caforio | UNINETTUNO |
| Damien Carron | UniDistance Switzerland |
| Paulo Dias | Universidade Aberta |
| Ruben Gomez | UNED |
| Sarah Guri-Rosenblit | The Open University of Israel |
| Piet Henderikx | EADTU |
| Darco Jansen | EADTU |
| Paivi Kananen | University of Jyvaskyla |
| Liz Marr | Open University UK |
| Jean-Marc Meunier | FIED |
| Anja Oskamp | Open University NL |
| Ingrid Thaler | FernUniversitat in Hagen |
| Alejandro Tiana Ferrer | UNED |
| George Ubachs | EADTU |
| Nadja Gmelch | Universitat Oberta de Catalunya |
| Eamon Costello | Dublin City University |
| Jean-Michel Jullien | UniDistance Switzerland |

Welcome by Alejandro Tiana Ferrer (President EADTU) to everyone at the General Assembly meeting.

1. **Minutes of the General Assembly meeting 25th of October 2017** are approved unanimously by the General Assembly.
2. **EADTU finances / Annual accounts 2017**

George Ubachs informs the General Assembly on the correspondence with the European Commisison on the possible reimbursement of about 42.000 Euro regarding the projects SEQUENT and HOME for the year 2014. This is based on the assumption by the European Commission that all staffdays of EADTU were covered by the Operating Grant for that year. The secretariat is in appeal on this. Worst case scenario is that we have to pay the reimbursement, but this will not endanger EADTU’s financial position as we have set provisions aside for this risk.

The General Assembly:

1. Approved the Annual Accounts 2017
2. Discharges the Supervisory Board from liability with respect to their supervisory task during the financial year concerned
3. Discharges the Managing Director from liability in respect of the exercise of his management duties during the financial year concerned.

**EADTU ACTIONS: For Information / discussion and next steps**

1. **EADTU’s position and role in Quality Assurance 2018-2019**

EADTU and ENQA have started a “partners in dialogue’’ action line together with other stakeholders in QA in HE like governments and students. This was launched in the peer learning activity of September 2017. As a follow up, EADTU and ENQA will organise a webinar together and present further developments in the OOFHEC2018 conference.

Working with ENQA and ICDE extends EADTU’s network of exposure and offers politically important platfoms on QA. For example, EADTU was invited to present the results of the EADTU-ENQA PLA at UNESCO in Geneva.

It was concluded that EADTU needs to continue the dialogue as well in 2019.

Further, a call was done on extending the number of universities with the E-xcellence label; a call for new applicants by members was done.

1. **Continuous education and MOOCs for the European Labour Market**

EADTU has submitted a project proposal under the title EMC-LM (European MOOC Consortium for the Labour Market). A presentation on the goal of this project was given this morning by Catherine Mongenet of FUN. Selection results by EU to be expected by July 2018. When selected, the starting date will be 1st of January 2019.

1. **European Short Learning Programmes approach**

The E-SLP project started by a kick-off meeting led by EADTU in Leuven last month. The focus will lie on institutional offerings and cross institutional cooperation in SLPs. Darco Jansen reported on the 3 year project planning, emphasizing the importance of university management level support for the actions under E-SLP. Therefore, the progress will be part of the Rectors’agenda for the coming years. It is a demanding project but the universities are well committed.

1. **Bologna follow up process**

EADTU will submit two papers under the Bologna process. One on behalf of EADTU focussing on continued education and SLPs and one on behalf of the European MOOc Consortium on the uptake of MOOCs in the educational system. In the Summit this morning both were presented.

EADTU is invited for the first time to be present at the Paris Council of Ministers meeting for the Bologna Process. George Ubachs and Alejandro Tiana Ferrer will represent EADTU in this event in Paris. The comments given by the GA on the two statemenets will be processed before finalisation and submission.

1. **European Maturity Model for Blended education (EMBED)**

Under the EMBED project EADTU is organising a first training session at TAMK Tampere in the last week of September. This event is organised for project partners, but other interested parties are welcome to join. Next, there will be an EMBED multiplier event during MID2018 in Maastricht. Dates are 13-14 of December 2018.

1. **EADTU membership of ICDE**

Last year, EADTU received a letter from ICDE about the membership of associations. We’ve had consultations with ICDE on how this relates to our cooperation and what the benefits of membership are? There are some considerations about conflicting events, ICDE actions building on EADTU actions and ICDE’s intentions for applying for EU funding, possibly in competation with EADTU. On the other hand, our position as focal point for Europe on QA offers a big benefit for us.

Theo Bastiaans indicated that we actually are partners more than in a relationship of membership. We have mutual benefits. Most GA members share this feeling of creating a hierchical positioning if we become full member of ICDE. Therefore it is concluded that we best opt for the category of associate member.

George Ubachs will meet Gard Titlestad to discuss a clear field of cooperation. We will apply for associate membership and evaluate after 2 years.

1. **OOFHEC2018 in Aarhus, Denmark**

The planning is well underway. There are some new elements re foreseen in coming conference as we have decided to have more networking time during the conference. Therefore 4 changes to the conference programme were presented:

-First of all presentations will be made shorter max. 15 min / 5 minutes discussion.

-Secondly we will work on creating more of a community feeling. In Aarhus we can think of the programme including networking drink on first day / Combi walking dinner / Sitting dinner conference (high tables) / aperitif at municipality. To be discussed with the host.

-Thirdly, introduce a special research event. We want to organise a research session that is more high level and more exclusive. Meet the keynotes to have a discussion. Use sign up for smaller group sessions of main researchers only. We can think of arranging discussions around keynotes and reporting of that in the closing panel.

-Fourthly, make participants more involved. Do they take home what they expected from the conference? Should we support them in achieving their goals? We can explore tools in the conference app to make the conference experience more worthwhile.

All changes were welcomed and accepted by the GA.

1. **The Changing Pedagogical Landscape follow up**

As we had decided to give EMC and ENQA cooperation more attention in the last part of 2017, we have some delay on the CPL report. However, during the Summit this morning some intermediate results of the CPL study were already presented. EADTU is now in the process of reviewing and finalising the report. We will send out an update to the countries that reported within a week of this meeting. Early May we expect to have the final report.

**EADTU Strategy 2019-2025**

1. **Setting the strategic objectives 2019-2025**

In the annex of this meeting a draft version of the strategy paper 2019-2025 included. We plan to have a final draft of the strategic objectives to be discussed on 10th of October 2018, during the GA Meeting in Aarhus.

As the timeperiod is quiet long and the outline not attractive for our targetgroups to read, the GA decided to have a 2 page summary nexct to the full strategy paper.

It was further porposed to include “access for all” and open education resources. Also there was a comment to be more focused by making a action plan for next year.

**Note to all:** Further comments on the strategic objectives can be send to secretariat EADTU

1. **UPDATE ON RUNNING EADTU ACTIONS 2018 – 2019**

*EMPOWER: the 2nd EMPOWER* Envisioning report is published. Further, the EMPOWER webinars are planned for 2018. As the number of participants in 2017 was relatively low we have decided to dstart with thematic weeks of webinars. This way we can improve the marketing of the webinars as dedicated events rather than individual presentations.

In addition, EOLLA is scheduled but pending we have not yet achieved the minimum number of participants.

*OpenupEd:* about to publish an EMPOWER like report early June. MOOC related webinarsare also on the programme for 2018.

*E-xcellence:* 2 reviews are scheduled for 2019, OUNL and UNED. More calls for reviews by members are welcome.

1. **Closure**Alejandro Tiana Ferrer thanked all for coming to Brussels and for their contributions to the meeting.