



Erasmus Experience
Sirje Virkus, Riga, October, 2013



TALLINNA ÜLIKOOL

How it started...

- Involved in Erasmus activities since the EC Erasmus mobility scheme opened up for Estonia in 1999
- An Erasmus coordinator of the Department of Information Studies of Tallinn University.
- Established Erasmus agreements with more than fifteen universities in Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Turkey.

Academic Exchange

- A visiting lecturer in many partner universities since 2000
 - University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands (2000);
 - University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland (2000);
 - University of Northumbria at Newcastle, UK (2002);
 - University of Applied Sciences, Potsdam, Germany (2003);
 - Royal School of Library and Information Science, Copenhagen, Denmark (2004);
 - **University of Graz**, Austria (2003; 2006; 2007, 2008, 2010);
 - Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK (2005, 2006);
 - **Parma University**, Parma, Italy (2003, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013);
 - **Oslo University College**, Norway (2003, 20022007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013).

Developments

- **24 Erasmus agreements** (Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom, etc)
- Over the years the number of visiting lecturers and students have increased rapidly.
- 38 international projects (e.g. Phare, Tempus, Leonardo da Vinci, Comenius, Minerva, Grundvig, eLearning programme, NORFA, ESF project, Interreg, Lifelong Learning and UNESCO projects)

Results of the Erasmus Collaboration

- **Erasmus Mundus**
- **Digital Library Learning** is a joint programme between Oslo University College (Norway), Tallinn University (Estonia) and Parma University (Italy) in the framework of the EU Erasmus Mundus programme.
- The students acquire a joint Master's degree (120 ECTS) which is recognised by all three partners.

Digital Library Learning (DILL)

- The main goal:
 - To develop a new innovative programme which is different compared to the current LIS programmes and
 - To integrate the best expertise of the partner institutions

Digital Library Learning (DILL)

- Learning outcomes of the students at the programme level
- Expertise of the partners related to the learning outcomes
- Mobility
- Teaching staff

Institutional objectives

- **to attract students from all over the world and introduce the Estonian LIS education globally**

Digital Library Learning (DILL) (2007-2013)

Partners:

- Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences
- Tallinn University
- Parma University

Applications:

2007: 101
2008: 204
2009: 247
2010: 280
2011: 320

First semester: Oslo

- Research Methods & Theory of Science (15 ECTS)
- Digital Documents (15 ECTS)

Second semester: Tallinn

- Information & Knowledge Management (15 ECTS)
- Human Resource Management (15 ECTS)

Third semester: Parma

- Access to Digital Libraries (15 ECTS)
- Users and Usage of Digital Libraries (15 ECTS)

Fourth semester:

- Students can choose to write their Master Thesis at either of the 3 partner institutions, depending on the subject of the thesis and the location of the student's main supervisor.

Demographics

2007: 18 st. 16 countries

- **Gender:** 11 female, 7 mail st.
- **Age:** 22<52 (33,9)

2008: 21 st. 15 countries

- **Gender:** 14 female, 7 mail st. **Age:** 24<44 (29,6)

2009: 20 st. 14 countries

- **Gender:** 10 female, 10 mail st.
- **Age:** 24<49 (28,8)

2010: 17 st. 16 countries

- **Gender:** 9 female, 8 mail st. **Age:** 23<37 (29,2)

2011: 16 st. 15 countries

- **Gender:** 12 female, 4 mail st. **Age:** 23<35 (27,3)

TOTAL 92 st. 48 countries

- **Gender:** 56 female, 36 mail st.
- **Age:** 22<52

48 Countries Represented

Australia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh (5)
Bosnia and
Herzegovina (2)
Botswana (2)
Brazil
Canada (2)
Colombia
China (2)
Cuba
Denmark

Ethiopia (8)
Germany
Ghana (3)
Greece
Hungary
India (3)
Indonesia (3)
Iran (3)
Italy (5)
Kenya (2)
Kosovo
Kyrgyzstan

Laos
Lithuania
Malaysia
Maldives
Netherlands
Nigeria (2)
Norway
Pakistan
Philippines (3)
Poland (2)
Romania
Russia

Serbia (2)
Spain
South Africa
Zimbabwe
Taiwan (2)
Tanzania
Thailand (3)
Turkey
Uganda (4)
USA (3)
Venezuela
Vietnam (5)





ALLINNA

ULIKOOL







From 2012 international joint MA “Digital Library Learning”

- Cape Verde
- China
- Croatia
- Hungary
- India
- Iran
- Ireland
- Italy
- Moldova
- Spain



Characteristics of the Programme

<i>Pedagogical Approach</i>	<i>Multiple perspectives and representations of content</i>	<i>At the leading edge technology</i>
Constructivist approach to learning	Integration many experts from different parts of the world QQML Publishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social software (FB, Twitter, blogs, YouTube, Flickr, wiki)• Skype• IVA, Moodle,• Videoconferencing• Virtual classrooms• OER• MOOCs

Multiple perspectives and representations of content in IKM



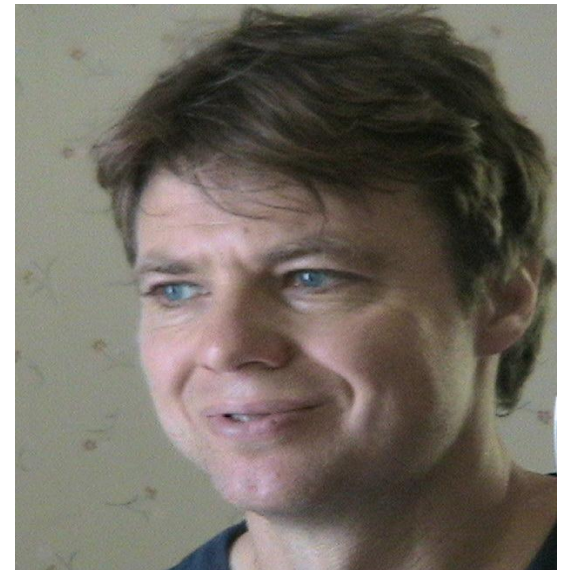
Vidoconferences with the Leading Experts



Christian Schlögl,
Austria



Tom Wilson,
UK



Ron Day,
USA



Thesis Distribution

- 92 thesis:
 - 42 Thesis - Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences
 - 32 Thesis - Tallinn University
 - 18 Thesis - Parma University

DILL programme

- Integrated whole
- Integration of theory and practice
- Pedagogical approach - constructivist approach to learning
- Multiple perspectives and representations of content
- Interdisciplinary collaboration (ITIN)
- Media integration
- Diagnostic analysis
- Sustainability

Students feedback

What has impressed you in living and studying in Estonia (both positive and negative sides)?

- variety of teaching methods
- Student support system
- User-friendly study environment
- Use of modern technology
- Different approaches and viewpoints to see the phenomenon
- Organization

Conclusions

- The Institute of Information Studies has changed internationally very visible.
- Many professional contacts and other European joint research and development projects have been developed.
- It has widened knowledge in many professional fields and about modern teaching and learning methods in partner institutions, and supported the development of intercultural competencies.
- Many good friends have been acquired in this process.

Thus, Erasmus activities have been very beneficial both professionally and personally.

- Erasmus activities have been and will be a crucial in achieving the internationalisation aims of the Tallinn University and the Institute of Information Studies.

Thank you for your attention!

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