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### **Validation Prize 2013. European Observatory on VNIL issues**



OBSERVAL-Net invites you to submit case studies on *Validation of non-formal and informal learning*, in three different categories:

- **Bottom-Up Approach** - the role of grassroots initiatives in supporting VNIL, and strategies towards their mainstreaming
- **New Profession** - the competence profile required for VNIL professionals
- **Work-Based Competence Development and Recognition** - the implementation of VNIL in the workplace.

A prize will be awarded in each category. Please follow the link to read more about the Validation Prize 2013 <http://www.observal-net.eu/validation-prize>

#### **How to participate**

Simply download the Case Study Template available at the following web link [http://www.observal-net.eu/sites/default/files/OBS-Net\\_CASE\\_STUDY\\_Template\\_v4.doc](http://www.observal-net.eu/sites/default/files/OBS-Net_CASE_STUDY_Template_v4.doc), fill it in following the given directions (and paying attention to the evaluation criteria) and submit it to the email address [observal-net@eucen.eu](mailto:observal-net@eucen.eu) **before 26 April 2013**. Each participant can submit several Case Studies, if wished. You are welcome to visit the Observatory and see the materials collected so far <http://www.observal-net.eu>

#### **What will winners receive**

The Scientific Committee of the Validation Prize 2013 will select up to 3 finalists in each category. All the finalists will be invited to attend the OBSERVAL-Net Final Dissemination Event in Brussels **15 October 2013**. The invitation will cover the costs of travel and accommodation to the event for each finalist that confirms participation. The selected works will be presented during the final event and the three winners will receive a commemorative prize during the plenary session. Please contact us for further details.

**Register in the Observatory and receive information on Validation automatically!**

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**Deadline Extension for the submission of contributions to the EUCEN conference in Charmey (29-31 May 2013)**



***“Transferring Knowledge in a Globalised World: A ULLL Responsibility”***

### Background

Nowadays knowledge is globalised. Universities position their knowledge in a world-wide context. New ways of delivering learning are essential. E-learning and on-line courses open up new possibilities. The location of learning is being displaced, migrating from the classroom to smart phones, tablets, etc... Internationalisation has become one of the major challenges for universities. The 45<sup>th</sup> EUCEN conference will conduct a debate on the *University of Tomorrow*, engaging with different points of view and numerous case studies.

### Key Words of the conference

International ULLL • Governance • Policy • Strategies • Partnerships • Technologies • Human Rights • Business • Ethics

### Deadline and Call

The deadline to submit contributions for the EUCEN Conference hosted by the University of Geneva has been extended to **Friday 12 April 2013**. ***Do not miss this opportunity to present your work to your colleagues!***

Follow the link to the page of the Call <http://www.unige.ch/formcont/EUCEN/call.html>

### Registration procedure

The on-line registration and hotel booking is fully available on-line following this link <http://www.unige.ch/formcont/EUCEN/reg.html>

Registration fee for EUCEN members: 440€

Registration fee for non-EUCEN members: 480€

Accompanying Person's fee: 110€

### The Registration Fee covers:

- Conference Programme (access to all sessions, i.e. keynotes, workshops, panels)
- Conference Pack
- Welcome reception on Wed evening 29 May 2013
- Lunch on Thu 30 May 2013 and Fri 31 May 2013
- Conference Dinner on Thu 30 May 2013
- Coffee breaks throughout the Conference

### The Accompanying Person Fee only covers:

- Welcome reception on Wed evening 29 May 2013
- Conference Dinner on Thu 30 May 2013

***The Registration period closes 01 May 2013***

## **What next? Brussels - October 2013**

*EUCEN is organising the Final Dissemination Event of two of the projects coordinated by the Association: DIALOGUE and OBSERVAL-Net. These two events, co-funded by DG EAC, open to a limited number of participants, will be free of charge.*

*And, if you go to Brussels to attend one of these free events, why not staying and joining EUCEN in its Brussels Seminars the following morning?*

The **DIALOGUE project** intends to build bridges between Research and Practice in ULLL. The consortium has explored this from four different perspectives: *Access and progression | Learning and Guidance | New Media | Quality.*



A large number of materials, including Case Studies, National Overviews and Analyses have been collected. The Final Dissemination Event will be an interactive dialoguing event where the findings of the project will be presented in the form of a set of Recommendations prepared by the consortium.

**Date of the event: Tuesday 15 October 2013, from 09:00 to 17:30**

**Maximum attendance: 70 participants**

**Location: Fondation Universitaire, rue d'Egmont 11 - 1000 Brussels | Room Cattier**

The **OBSERVAL-Net project** intends to consolidate the on-line network of organisations supporting the Validation of Non-formal and Informal Learning (VNIL) in Europe. From the



beginning of the project the consortium has established strong links to policy makers in 8 different EU countries. The project is focusing in three different areas: *Bottom-Up | New Profession | Work-based Competence.* During the Final Dissemination Event a Memorandum on VNIL and an advocacy pack to promote VNIL will be presented. The Validation Prize 2013 will be given to the 3 winners (one in each category).

**Date of the event: Tuesday 15 October 2013, from 09:00 to 17:30**

**Maximum attendance: 60 participants**

**Location: Fondation Universitaire, rue d'Egmont 11 - 1000 Brussels | Room Francqui**

**What else can you do?** Following the project events on Tuesday, EUCEN is organising a working day on projects on Wednesday 16 October. The programme will combine a keynote from the



Commission with some hands-on seminars to enable the participants to talk about future proposals and start organising their own groups for projects under future Calls. The Members' Forum will have a slot to meet during this event. Participation to this sessions will involve a small registration fee of 180€ that will include the welcome pack, a coffee break and lunch. The Preliminary Programme will be available in June.

**Date of the event: Wednesday 16 October 2013, from 09:00 to 14:00**

**Maximum attendance: 80 participants**

**Location: Fondation Universitaire, rue d'Egmont 11 - 1000 Brussels | Room Cattier**

**Registration to the above 3 events will be available in June 2013 from EUCEN's website**

## Recent EUCEN activities

- EUCEN has submitted **two new proposals** under the 2013 LLP Call:
  - **COMMIT** (*Committing to the social dimension in universities*). This ERASMUS proposal intends to increase commitment to the social dimension of higher education and to support strategies for increasing attainment. The project builds on the work of a previous EUCEN project (ALLUME) which developed 3 self-evaluation tools for universities to review their strategy for implementation of a comprehensive and coherent LLL university. COMMIT will review those 3 tools and design and develop a new tool for monitoring attainment in HE and integrate these tools in HEIs management systems.
  - **HEIVET** (*Professionalisation of Training for Working with Older People in the HEI/VET sectors*). This GRUNDTVIG proposal aims to support and strengthen the knowledge, skills and understanding of the many different professionals working in Higher Education (HE) and Vocational Education and Training (VET) at advanced level (EQF 5-8, formal and non-formal) with older people who are still active or who wish to be active in the employment market.
- EUCEN has agreed to become **full partner** in a number of proposals for the 2013 LLP Call coordinated by other institutions. EUCEN would have mainly the dissemination and/or exploitation of results roles in these projects:
  - **Connect-VET** (*Vocational education and training connecting HE and rural companies*). This Leonardo proposal (transfer of innovation) coordinated by the University of Helsinki seeks to support and impact on improvements in quality & innovation in VET systems, institutions and practices in rural micro enterprises.
  - **TALOE** (*Time to Assess Learning Outcomes in eLearning*). This KA3-ICT proposal coordinated by the University of Porto intends to provide a practical tool to suggest an adequate e-assessment strategy.
  - **VIRQAL+** (*Observatory for Virtual Mobility in European HE and CE*). This KA4 proposal coordinated by the University of Minho intends to create an observatory focused in virtual mobility and a community around this topic.
  - **PACE** (*Project actors community in Europe*). This KA4 proposal coordinated by dieBerater seeks to establish a platform for the partners from projects to share, develop and disseminate existing project support products.
  - **LLL-Pro** (*New business models for open and flexible higher education*). This KA4 proposal coordinated by EADTU and ERASHU will support and consult universities in the processes of designing, adopting and implementing new strategies for LLL.
  - **PACT** (*Project actors capacity training in Caucasus*). The main aim of this TEMPUS proposal coordinated by dieBerater is to successfully transfer existing knowledge funded by the EU for project developers in the Caucasus Region and sharing experience of EU-universities in project development.
  - **VALERU** (*Validation of non-formal and informal learning in Russian HE*). This TEMPUS proposal coordinated by the University of Krems intends to build capacity in VNIL in Russian HEIs in line with the EU2020 strategy.
- EUCEN has organised in conjunction with the University of Strathclyde the **DIALOGUE Symposium 2013** in Glasgow (UK), 22 March 2013. The Symposium counted with the presence of external experts from the Slovak Republic, Germany, Ireland and the UK. Access to the presentations is available following this link <http://dialogue.eucen.eu>