EUROPEAN THEMATIC NETWORK for DOCTORAL EDUCATION in COMPUTING

MEETINGS

**MINUTES
and
MAIN RESULTS
of the
MEETING
held on 27 to 29 August 2006 in Istanbul**

In this Meeting **120 representatives from 60 partners institutions of 24 European countries** took part, including Belgium, Germany, Spain, Italy, The Nederland, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden, UK, Norway, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Cyprus, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Turkey.

The project meeting was conducted with the following agenda:

- Welcome Address of the Vice Rector of the Bahceşehir University **Prof. Senay Yalcin** to the Meeting participants.

- Introduction of the Meeting participants.

- Summary report about completed work and specifying final activities – **Assoc. Prof. Angel Smrikarov.** Discussion.
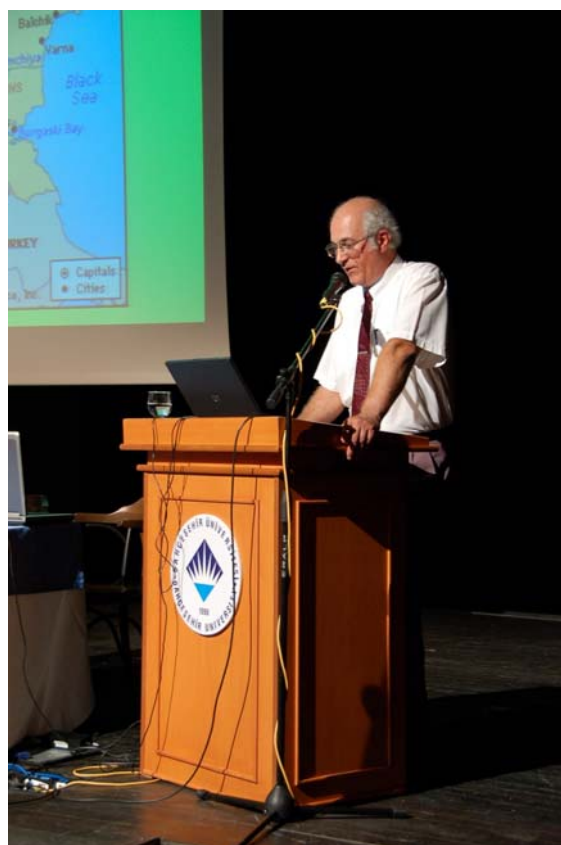
- Report about developed teaching materials and e-Learning courses for PhD students in CS, CE, SE, IS. – **Assoc. Prof. Plamenka Borovska, Assoc. Prof. Alexander Sudnitson, Assoc. Prof. Avram Eskenazi, Assoc. Prof. Rostislav Fojtik.** Discussion.

- Report about developed WEB database of PhD offerings and WEB database of PhD holders in the field of computing – **Prof. Olegas Vasilecas.** Discussion.

- Discussion and adopting the final version of the conceptual model of the quality assurance system – **Prof. Pavol Navrat.**

- Discussion and adopting the final version of the tools and methods for assessment, validation and certification – **Assoc. Prof. Karl O. Jones.**

- Report about organized Summer school in Cyprus – **Dr. Andreas Panagidis.** Discussion.

- Evaluation of the project work - **Academician Peter Kenderov.** Discussion.

- Clarifying some of the financial rules for project work.

- Any other business.

- *Taking a photo of all meeting participants in front of the University **central entrance.***

The meeting was opened by **Prof. Dr. Ali GUNGOR**, Assoc. Dean and Head of Computer Engineering Dept. – contact person in the project for Bahcesehir University. The Vice Rector of the Bahceşehir University **Prof. Senay Yalcin** welcomed participants in the Meeting.

The Coordinator of the Thematic Network **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Angel Smrikarov** presented a detailed report about the completed work and marked the forthcoming activities.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Plamenka Borovska presented a very detailed and complete report about the work of the expert group in CS, full analysis was done of the developed syllabi for PhD students in this area. She also presented the developed teaching materials and e-Learning courses for PhD students in **Computer Science.** **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alexander Sudnitson** addressed the developed teaching materials and e-Learning courses for PhD students in **Computer Engineering**, and made analysis of the involvement of the separate partners when completing this activity.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Avram Eskenazi reported the developed teaching materials and e-Learning courses for PhD students in **Software Engineering**.
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rostislav Fojtik reported the developed teaching materials and e-Learning courses for PhD students in **Information Systems**.

Prof. Olegas Vasilecas reported the developed WEB database of PhD offerings and WEB database of PhD holders in the field of computing. It was noted that the

databases are still not filled by all partners and this activity should be accomplished as soon as possible by all members.

Prof. Pavol Navrat presented the final version of the conceptual model of the quality assurance system, which was discussed and adopted by everyone.

Assoc. Prof. Karl O. Jones presented the final version of the tools and methods for assessment, validation and certification.

It was decided that these two materials will be united in a common one, which will be sent to the TN members to be printed and enclosed to the project documentation.

Mr. Andreas Panagidis reported about the organized Summer school in Cyprus.

Assoc. Prof. Jouni Ikonen reported about the organized Summer school in Lappeenranta, Finland. He emphasized that there was a programming competition and the first place was taken by a team with PhD students from our TN.

Academician Peter Kenderov presented an evaluation of the project work.

Mrs. Smrikarova gave some detailed explanations about important financial issues.

All participants in the meeting were present at the 4th e-Learning conference.

The conference was opened by **Prof. Dr. Ali GUNGOR.**

Three papers were presented during the plenary session:
- E-Learning and Implementation Difficulties – **Meltem Özturan**
- Overview of E-Learning Industry in Turkey & Sample E-Learning Portals – **Ahmet Hançer, Müge Atakan**
- Education and E-Learning in Overcoming the Problems in closing the digital gap an example – **Ufuk Akdağ**

The conference continued its work on the next day in sections. The number of the papers totaled 37, which were distributed in 2 sections.

During the conference a total of **16 PhD students** presented their papers.

The hosts from the Bahceşehir University surprised the participants in the conference with a very rich social programme.

During the first dinner the vice-rector of the university handed to the project manager a plate with a gratitude address for the active work on creation and support of the network.

During the second dinner, which took place on a boat after the conference, the best papers were rewarded.