The NETQUES project: European speech and language therapy education - united in diversity

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Background

NETQUES: Network for Tuning Standards and Quality of Education programmes in Speech and Language Therapy across Europe

Major 3 year EU grant to CPLOL - €+++++

65 partners
32 countries
25 languages
Aims

• Enhanced quality of SLT education
• Increased co-operation between SLTs in Europe
• Better SLT service for clients
Objectives

• Define **EU-level benchmarks** for SLT education and clinical competencies

• Establish **common SLT vocabulary** across EU

• **Harmonise** standards of SLT education thus

• Help **reduce inequalities** of care provided for SLT clients in Europe
Approach

‘Tuning’ methodology: clarify and compare curricula

5 levels – identify:
• academic competencies
• subject-specific competence
• ECTS accumulation system
• approaches to learning, teaching and assessment
• quality enhancement in the educational process

http://tuning.unideusto.org/tuningeu
THE TUNING MODEL FOR EUROPEAN COMPARABLE DEGREES

IDENTIFICATION OF SOCIAL NEEDS

- CONSULTATION AT EUROPEAN LEVEL
  - EMPLOYERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS
  - ACADEMIC COMMUNITY: COMMON REFERENCE POINTS
  - PROFESSIONALS AND PROFESSIONAL BODIES

LOCATION OF RESOURCES
- ACADEMIC RESOURCES
- ORGANISATIONAL RESOURCES
- FINANCIAL RESOURCES
- STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

DEFINITION OF ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PROFILES

TRANSLATION INTO DESIRED LEARNING OUTCOMES:
- GENERIC COMPETENCES
- SUBJECT RELATED COMPETENCES

TRANSLATION INTO CURRICULA:
- CONTENT (knowledge, understanding and skills)
- STRUCTURE (modules and

APPROACHES TO:
- TEACHING
- LEARNING

TRANSLATION INTO EDUCATIONAL UNITS AND ACTIVITIES TO ACHIEVE DEFINED LEARNING OUTCOMES

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

PROGRAMME QUALITY ASSURANCES

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Organisation

Coordinated by CPLOL (experience in working with EU members across cultures and languages).

Six ‘work packages’ (WPs) reflect stages of Tuning process

- WP1 steering group (leadership)
- WP2 development (of surveys)
- WP3 analysis (of surveys)
- WP4 quality assurance (monitor)
- WP5 dissemination (share)
- WP6 exploitation (use for development)

http://tuning.unideusto.org/tuningeu
Organisation: organogram
Activities to date: *the more exciting ones….*

- SLT competencies generated
- Glossary of terms devised
- Survey 1 instrument developed, translated into all 25 languages and distributed online (survey monkey)
- Electronic database of key information provided to all partners
- Methodology of Survey data analysis agreed
- Exploitation plan devised
Activities to date: ..... the less exciting but necessary ones

- Finance management
- Partner contracts
- Risk management procedures
- Quality guidelines developed and implemented
- Half way report completed and submitted to EU
Results to date

- Survey 1: **4383 responses from 30/32 countries** (every EU participant country, plus 2 others). Respondents: students/ new graduates; clinicians/ employers; academic SLTs

- 2864 complete surveys available for analysis (others only partially completed)

- Statistical data analysis almost complete
Communication to date

Restricted to partners:

Website intranet and web master

Face to face and virtual communication (Skype, email, Dropbox) within and between WP groups

Inaugural and annual project meetings
Communication to date

Public:
Logo
Leaflet
Newsletter
Website **www.netques.eu** 1500 hits a month
Poster at ASHA
Papers invited at 2 national conferences
This presentation at CPLOL congress
Paper submitted to RCSLT conference
Moving forward….

- Survey 2 on SLT education devised and circulated to SLT educational establishments (May 2012). English only
- Survey 3 (CPLOL/NETQUES survey) on student numbers, staffing. English and French
- Analysis
- Dissemination
- Exploitation ….. *watch this space*
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