

European Space University for Earth and Humanity

UNIVERSEH is an alliance of five European universities established to develop a new way of collaboration in the field of Space, within the “European Universities” initiative.

The alliance aims to create new higher education interactive experiences for the university community, teachers and students, and for the benefit of society as a whole. Such initiatives will enable broadminded, informed and conscientious European citizens to capture and create new knowledge and become smart actors of European innovation, valorisation and societal dissemination within the Space sector, from science, engineering, liberal arts to culture.

Grant agreement number: 101004066

Funding Scheme: Erasmus+ / European Universities

D 2.8 Report on UNIVERSEH collaboration with Erasmus Student Network

Due date of deliverable: M12 2021
Actual Submission date: 18/11/2021

Start date of the project: 01/11/2020

Duration: 36 months

Organisation responsible for this deliverable: UDUS (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf)

Version: final

Dissemination level

PU	Public	X
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium	

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Document History

Version	Date	Author	Partner	Summary of main changes
1	05/10/2021	Britta Moormann (UDUS)		Description of collaboration with ESN, past joint activities, planned upcoming activities and events.
2	27/10/2021	Britta Moormann (UDUS)	Seth Berk (UDUS), AnnaCarin Larsson (LTU), Pawel Swierk (AGH), Anna Krukiewicz (AGH), Alessio Buscemi (ULUX), Milan Grigull (UDUS), Sandra da Silva Teixeira (UT2J).	Final Version.

REPORT

UNIVERSEH COLLABORATION WITH ERASMUS STUDENT NETWORK

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I. Strong collaboration

All partners of the alliance understand the involvement of students in the various phases of planning and implementation as key drivers of change and progress concerning the activities of WP2 and beyond. Student exchange on an interpersonal level drives connectedness, personally and digitally, motivates to various forms of learning mobility and creates cross-cultural bonds. Ultimately, collaboration interconnected on the individual, vocational, linguistic and academic level contributes to the aim of strengthening European identity as a whole across universities and their people. ESN chapters at all locations – Dusseldorf, Poland, Lulea, Luxembourg, Toulouse – are officially associated partners committed to cooperate with the purpose of engaging with Erasmus students and supporting a diverse range of events and activities facilitating local integration into student life. Representatives of ESN sections and other student associations have been involved in preliminary stages of the project by expressing their support towards the project goals and their commitment to cooperation. The idea is not to stay within an exclusive UNIVERSEH circle, but to involve staff and students as partners both dedicated to engage with students during the entire project cycle. Under the premise of peer-to-peer support (“students helping students”), bridging the gaps between the different European sections is beneficial to creating unique opportunities of exchange across academic disciplines all united under the umbrella of the European (new) space sector. Within the local sections of ESN, mobility students are usually contacted directly from the moment they arrive at their destination. ESN helps students dealing with the multifaceted challenges of cultural adaptation, language barriers and recognition. This underlines a fundamental pillar of UNIVERSEH student engagement supported by WP2 namely the Join the Crew Program.

Considering the Join the Crew program, cooperative efforts included the design of a logo, the development and driving of ideas considering potential themes, teaser and further material which can be used for external purposes. Further virtual meetings between the WP2 coordinator at University of Dusseldorf included both an ESN representative and another student involved in the student council. Those regular virtual meetings with the local ESN representative in Düsseldorf provided room to evaluate current activities in the working package, discuss obstacles from the student perspective and plan a cooperative student workshop for the first project conference in Toulouse. The conference for and by students focusing on diversity and inclusion in the space sector gave room to organise the workshop

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“Imagination and Space” jointly. Other ESN representatives from ULUX have also been involved in the student conference thanks to the initiative of WP6.

II. Joint activities

The international offices at all universities support peer-to-peer exchanges and networking activities within the strategic frame of internationalisation at home. The aforementioned student networking and exchanges will be facilitated through activities such as tandem, buddy and mentoring programs as well as self-managed events encourage student-led European discourse and networking. All five ESN chapters will contribute to the UNIVERSEH vision of a diverse, intercultural, open-minded learning ecosystem, which will involve students from all levels and across universities to foster European cooperation across academic disciplines. As the student-led expertise in creating lasting peer-to-peer relations and organising student activities is essential in developing a modern, appealing range of events, coordinating staff from WP2 and all ESN chapters started their cooperation at an early stage. Cooperation with ESN Düsseldorf kicked off through a virtual coffee break meeting between the WP2 coordinator at HHU in month 6 of the project. It soon became clear that there is a great interest in contributing to the project by organising joint events and integrating more students from other partners in local ESN activities. Cooperation with ESN AGH kicked off through ESN’s active participation in the European Day of Languages events whose aim was the promotion of multilingualism, cultural diversity and broadly understood student and staff mobility. ESN section in Krakow also confirmed their interest in future UNIVERSEH events and activities. Additionally, during the first physical conference held in October in Toulouse, an ESN meeting took place between those who were present in order to get to know each other and brainstorm on future cooperative activities. Next student-to-student meeting between the ESN section Düsseldorf and Luxemburg confirmed the common interest of jointly organising activities for UNIVERSEH students to share their culture, providing a cross European, open-minded community space to foster a unique sense of belonging to Europe and the UNIVERSEH crew in particular.

The regularly updated mobility platform helps students, staff or researchers to start their journey by accessing tailor suited information diving into the new prospective environment. The ESN representative at UDUS has been involved in evaluating the student perspective on MOPLAT and providing constructive feedback. Additionally, further recommendations have been included for broadening the communication channels of the Join the Crew program, which is very well suited to target the student audience, but should make use of additional communication channels and design more concrete external communication activities. Throughout the past months, cooperation between WP2 coordinator and ESN Dusseldorf representative resulted in the development of logos, designs and catchphrases for the JtC

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Program under the premise of focusing on the needs and appeals of prospective students. Moreover, to promote the program and attract the interest of the specific target group, a provisional poster draft presenting the opportunities and benefits from joining the JTC program has been developed by the mobility coordinator from UDUS. This draft functions as template open for editing and adjustments once the timeline of activities is defined more clearly and concrete contact persons have been defined. The poster also includes a QR code redirecting to next activities as well as a link to a mobility survey to continuously evaluate student experiences.

III. Upcoming activities and events

Quartal	Action	Aim
Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build a network across Europe involving all ESN sections equally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enable personal, academic, cultural student “growth”
04/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language café cooperation to recruit members from ESN community as crew mates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build a personal multilingual student-to-student network
04/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital event bringing together students from all ESN chapters - Ideas: Christmas carols singing across Europe, digital scavenger hunt, escape room game 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support people involved in UNIVERSEH to build a local, cross-European network
01/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome week activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involve UNIVERSEH students across disciplines
01/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Events during Winter School in Kiruna - Set-up local crew mate network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involve student perspective in set-up of an engaging, delightful, student-centred range of events - Trial case for JtC program outreach activities
03/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperate in welcome week activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involve UNIVERSEH students across disciplines

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