

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.

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D 2.7 Program Outline Feel at home program

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Document History

Version	Date	Author	Partner	Summary of main changes
1	17/06/2021	Britta Moormann (UDUS)	AnnaCarin Larsson (LTU), Sylvain St.Amand (Uni.Lu); Pawel Swierk (AGH), Marion Demay (UFT)	Adding different services offered by the universities, adjusting the name from “feel at home” to “join the crew”.
2	27/08/2021	Nicole Dittrich (UDUS)	AnnaCarin Larsson (LTU), Sylvain St.Amand (Uni.Lu); Pawel Swierk (AGH),	Final Version

PROGRAM OUTLINE

FEEL AT HOME PROGRAM

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I. Idea of the “Feel at Home” Program

All members of UNIVERSEH have sound experiences in mobility activities and offering supporting services in order to facilitate students’ participation in exchanges abroad. It is clear that addressing the needs of incoming students particularly during the first weeks of their stay abroad is crucial to a successful mobility. The first weeks abroad turn out to be the most challenging ones with rather high dropout ratios. Hence, cooperatively developing a harmonised program offering modules enabling students to feel at home at another university is essential to successful student mobility. The modules offered to incoming students address particular challenges of mobile European students, provide relevant information and contact opportunities at involved international offices or additional service bodies. At the same time, the outline supports networking activities with local student associations and clubs enabling the students to connect locally and build strong relationships. Taking into account the various forms of mobility, the creation and strengthening of a certain community sense is of utmost importance.

To build a bridge between mobility opportunities and services of UNIVERSEH, working group 2 continuously works on developing a global and harmonised offer of support services across the alliance. Concerning prospective mobile students, the goal is to advance existing support services to fit the needs of incoming intra-alliance students. In order to assure social and educational integration of future students in the short and long term, the services offered are not only harmonised but also envisioned as linked to local associations, clubs and activities, hereby building sustainable networks. The aforementioned process of harmonisation of support services promotes cohesiveness in the alliance offering future persons participating in UNIVERSEH-mobility comparable services in all locations.

All working group representatives and the Steering Committee approved the suggestion brought forward by the mobility coordinator at UDUS to dismiss the name « Feel at Home Program » and establish henceforth the name « Join the Crew Program ». This renaming of the program serves the goal of A) creating a sense of community and group belonging, B) strengthen the association with the unique space environment of UNIVERSEH and C) provide a sense of uniqueness. The working group agrees to the name Join the Crew (JTC) Program.

II. Portfolio of services

The efforts of the working group mobility and multilingualism resulted in the successful set-up of two outputs 1) the mobility platform « [MOPLAT](#) » and, 2) the brochure « [Universeh Space](#) »

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[Guide](#) ». Those earlier deliverables offer an openly accessible and digitally retrievable overview of service offers and characteristics of the UNIVERSEH alliance. The information available on the mobility platform (MOPLAT) responds specifically to the needs of the different target groups of mobility (student, staff and researchers) by gathering respective service offers and contact opportunities in a coherent and clear manner (see [Mobility - Moplat - UNIVERSEH - new space science in Europe](#)).

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. By picking one of the five destinations, the student can start planning the mission and receives all the necessary information before the planned mobility (« starting your mission »), related to arrival and first days at the university (« ready to take off ») and to the new city and surroundings (« exploring new universes »). All content provided in the different sections takes into account current web-optimisation requirements (SEO, responsiveness, accessibility and inclusiveness).

Taking into consideration the fact that academic calendars vary intra-alliance, two scenarios are envisioned with regards to time coordination and scheduling of activities foreseen by the JTC program. The first scenario imagines UNIVERSEH students to start simultaneously to all other students. In this case, service is offered to all incoming students cooperatively at the receiving institution. This first scenario enables future UNIVERSEH students to immediately dive into the local study environment and start building relationships with local students right away. In the second scenario, UNIVERSEH students start their academic term apart from other incoming students. In this case, specific welcome days are offered to ease the first weeks abroad and make UNIVERSEH students feel part of the crew irrespective of their location. In both cases, the priority is to make support services accessible to all future students, staff and

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researchers participating in UNIVERSEH. Respective information is integrated into the mobility platform MOPLAT. In the near future, this might also include a timetable of academic activity.

III. Offers of the Join the Crew Program

As aforementioned, similar offers within the alliance exist and will be used as blueprint for the JTC Programm. This includes the following activities among others:

- Welcome week at the beginning of the semester
- Welcome package with local goodies and guidance brochure
- Advice, guidance and psychological support by student service
- Student tandem/buddy matching and activities
- Language cafés to improve linguistic skillset
- Activities by local student associations throughout the mobility term
- Academic orientation and workshops at faculty level
- Support in finding accommodation
- Support in qualification processes
- Specific support offers for students with specific needs or limited mobility

The outlined activities are the core of the tailor-suited JTC program and have been developed cooperatively by all UNIVERSEH-partners to assure coherence and a common understanding of the service portfolio. As the aim is to respond to the needs of the students, it is emphasised, that regular revision and evaluation of the JTC is essential to assuring the quality and success of the activities.

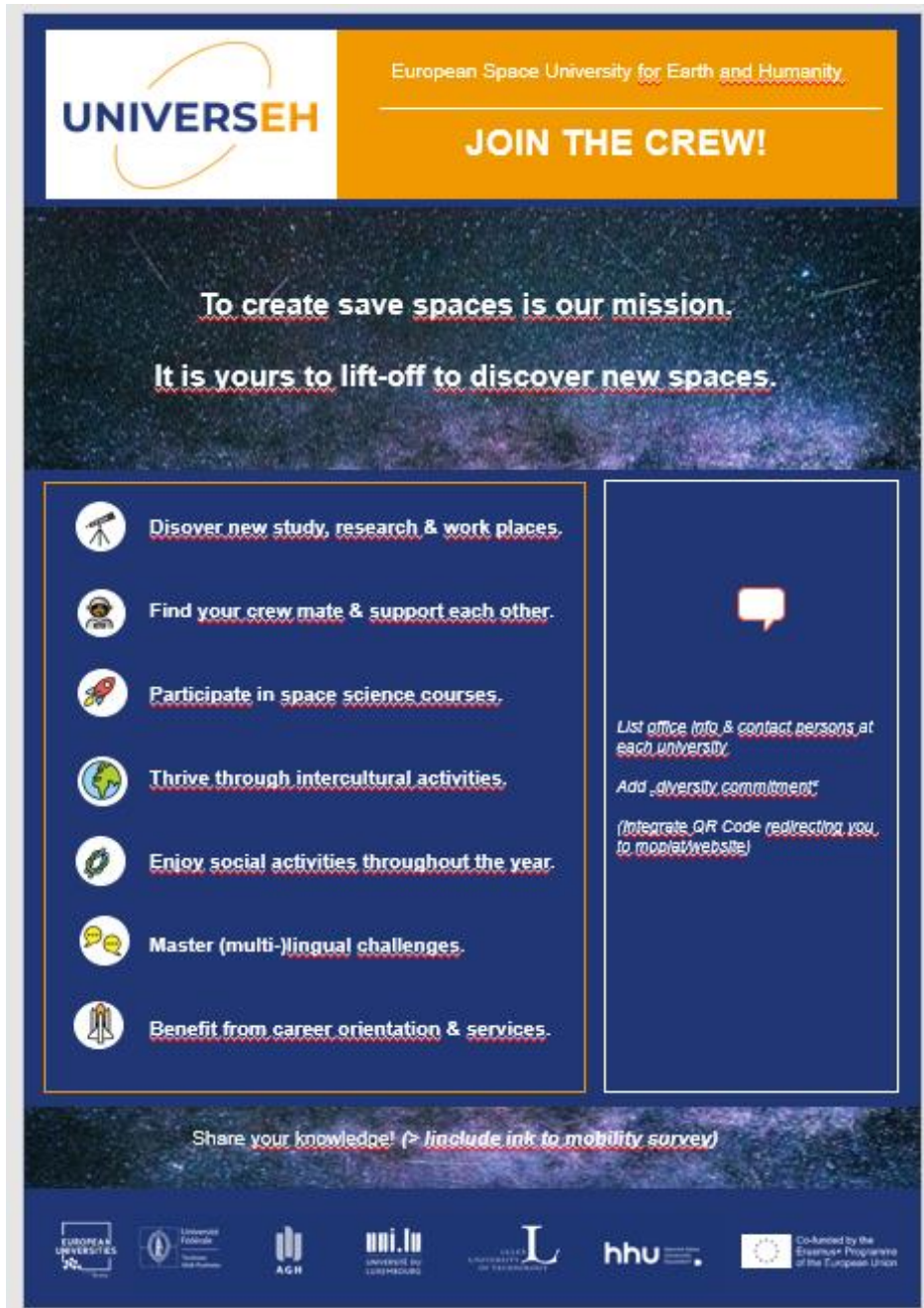
IV. Outreach Join the Crew Program

To promote the program and attract the interest of the specific target group, a provisional 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.

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Appendix: Join the Crew Poster (draft)



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