

NEWSLETTER 6

The European project Educational Senior Network has provided information about learning possibilities for older persons by gathering data and by exchanging knowledge

The EduSenNet project focused on the specific needs of learners aged over 50 and the conditions under which they can learn. The project examined the extent of possible innovation, how it may be undertaken and for whom. Researchers from 6 countries in 7 European universities have been working together to find the best possible ways of helping older people fulfil their learning needs in the later years of their working lives and during retirement.

The fifth project transnational meeting took place in Chemnitz, Germany, 8 – 10 June 2017



The Partnership:

1. Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, ČDV UK – UTV Bratislava, Slovakia
2. Technische Universität Chemnitz Seniorenkolleg Chemnitz, Germany
3. Universidad Permanente de la Universidad de Alicante, UPUA, Alicante, Spain
4. Senioren Academie Groningen-Friesland-Drenthe Groningen, Netherlands
5. Vysoké učení technické v Brně, Brno, Czech Republic
6. Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg Studieren ab 50, Magdeburg, Germany
7. Uppsala Senioruniversitet, Uppsala, Sweden

Other participating institution:

1. Dresdner Seniorenakademie Wissenschaft und Kunst, Dresden, Germany
2. U3A Bytom, Poland
3. Uniwersytet Wrocław, UTW, Poland

The sixth transnational project meeting took place in Groningen, the Netherlands, 12 – 14 October 2017 in cooperation with EFOS had in its agenda:

- Project meeting with Brainstorming session
- Research project “European Values” - findings
- Symposium “Innovations in Education for Older People brought into practice”
- Presentation of Best practices of EduSenNet
- Project Evaluation, final results

Cultural Programme: visit of Budaard (windmill, museum), Holwerd (walk through the village, presentation of local project “Holwerd aan Zee”)

From surveys we come to the following conclusions:

1. There are considerable differences between the different U3As in terms of organization, economy, history, age of students etc.;
2. There are many situations which are similar where U3As can learn from each other;
3. We will highlight problems and situations which have to be dealt with by politicians and decision makers throughout Europe;
4. There is a considerable potential of seniors who would like to go on learning but have not (yet) attended courses for various reasons;
5. Learning at higher age is good for wellbeing and engagement in society;
6. Most heard hindrances: costs, distance and public transport to course venue, health problems;
7. Seniors in remote areas prefer to get courses in their vicinity. The course should be brought nearer to the people by decentralising course venues to regional centres, housing organisations;



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<http://edusennet.efos-europa.eu/>