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RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

Seminar

“Academy – industry. Knowledge mobility”

19 December 2005, Sofia

The seminar “Academy – industry. Knowledge mobility” took place on 19 December 2005 at the Conference room of the Center for intellectual property, University of national and world economy (UNWE), Sofia. It was organised within the BulRMCNet project by the Center for intellectual property at UNWE, which is also a regional Research Mobility Center (RMC) for South-West Bulgaria and Center for Intersectorial Mobility. At the seminar participated over 40 representatives of the academic and business community (Annex 1).

The seminar was opened by the Rector of UNWE Prof. Dr. Borislav Borissov, who made an analysis of the relations and connections between the academic community and the business in Bulgaria and pointed out their unsatisfactory level and the necessity of their intensification. As a basic reason for the current unfavourable state of these relations Prof. Borissov determined the level of development of the business in the country, which is occupied basically with trade and other activities with low level of science implementation. He also shared his own negative observations as a rector about the business interest to the system of science and education.

The program of the seminar was structured in two sessions:

- Mobility
- Relations “Academy – industry”.

The first session was chaired by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Violeta Tzakova, director of RMC-Sofia. The first report “Researchers’ mobility – opportunities and instruments” was presented by Dr. Eng. Elissaveta Gourova, RMC - Sofia University. She addressed few issues – the European mobility context, the reasons for mobility and its impact on the accepting and sending country, the instruments for support of mobility at European and national level (the European and national networks of RMC and RMPs) and the basic aspects of the intersectorial research mobility.

The second topic “Lecturers’ mobility under Socrat/Erasmus program – opportunities and problems” was presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr Vera Pirimova, coordinator of the program for UNWE. She focused briefly on the Socrat/Erasmus program and UNWE’s participation in it, the advantages of mobility, the conditions for participation of the lecturers in it and the problems, preventing this mobility. According to the reporter, the lecturers’ mobility under this program is insufficient. This is a result from the inadequate mobility opportunities, in connection with which in 2005 are signed contracts with new partners, some contracts are renewed, some contracts are re-negotiated under better conditions, and negotiations with new potential partners are lead. From the other side, as hindering the mobility were pointed out the low level of information about the program, the insufficient financing and the restricted number of languages, supporting this mobility. The opportunities for solving these problems were also discussed.

The third topic “Opportunities for activation of the students’ mobility in UNWE” was presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Margarita Atanassova, Vice Rector for education. She depicted the benefits of the students’ mobility, the opportunities for its realization to and out of the country and the problems hindering the active use of these opportunities. As obstacles in front of the students’ mobility were pointed out the inequality of the offered places in the different

scientific areas and specialties, the lack of synchrony between the educational plans of the different institutions, the low level of correspondence of the offered mobility opportunities to the conditions of the separate education institutions (which creates additional difficulties to the students after their return), the low level of knowledge of the program and the inadequate financial conditions. For the students coming in the country was pointed out the necessity of improving their living and culture attendance. The report also presented the measures adopted for the elimination or restriction of the obstacles, as well as the measures, which are urgent for implementation in order to stimulate the mobility of students.

The second session started with the report on “The business – science relations and the stimulation of public-private partnership” presented by Mrs. Albena Vutzova, Director of section “Scientific research” at the Ministry of education and science. She shared her embarrassment by the low level of cooperation between the two sectors and the inessential growth of the scientific research and innovations. The reasons for these she finds in the policy for stimulation of the applied research and implementation of innovations, which is not targeted enough, as well as in the lack of resources. Overcoming these deficiencies can be achieved through the execution of different schemes for stimulation, incl. tax ones. Other measures, pointed out as target, were the necessity of balance between the financing of fundamental and applied research, the institutional and program financing, as well as the foundation of structures in the scientific and research institutions, which will be directly engaged with the realization of the results of their activity.

The last topic “Characteristics of the relations between the insurance business and science” was presented by Mrs. Tatiana Bolashakova, branch manager in the insurance company “Lev Ins”. She shared her conception about the relation between the science and business, in which the science creates products, transformed by the business into offers appropriate for the market, realized there afterwards. The reporter emphasized the science intensity of the insurance, which needs the achievements and help of many sciences, especially in the last 10 – 15 years. Such fields of knowledge are: mathematics and statistics (concerning the risk valuation and price policy foundation), sociology and psychology (concerning the consumers’ opinion research and personnel training), marketing, economics, medicine (especially in the life insurance), etc. The conclusion of the reporter was that the insurance business could be successful only if it offers innovative products, which turn their connections with the science into critical and key ones. In this context, an intensification and symmetry in these relations is necessary.

The two sessions of the seminar enjoyed a high level of interest by the participants. In the time, provided for discussions, many questions were raised. They concerned both the presented topics, and other aspects of the relations academy – industry and the research mobility. Interesting proposals for cooperation in the fields were addressed. The discussion continued during the closing cocktail.

List of participants

Ivelina Lachezarova Chakarova	Student	University of national and world economy
Rima Tamam Al Zelraui	Student	University of national and world economy
Maria Dikova		Sofia university, RMC
Adriana Georgieva Dimitrova	Student	University of national and world economy
Maria Markova	Assistant Profesor	University of national and world economy
Dessislava Manolova	Student	University of national and world economy
Albena Vutzova	Director, "Scientific Research" Department	Ministry of education and science
Evgenia Delcheva	Associate Professor	University of national and world economy
Vesselina Delcheva	Student	University of national and world economy
Marina Vedar	Insurance agent	Insurance company "Lev-ins", Sofia
Margarita Atanassova	Vice rector, Education	University of national and world economy
Elissaveta Gourova	Researcher	Sofia university, CIST
Denitza Todorova	Student	University of national and world economy
Albena Uzunova	Expert, "Science" Department	University of national and world economy
Angel Marchev	Phd candidate	University of national and world economy
Gergana Krassimirova Stoitianova	Expert, Center for intellectual property	University of national and world economy
Tatiana Mihailova Bolashakova	Manager	Insurance company "Lev-ins", Sofia
Elena Dimitrova Dimitrova	Expert, Center for intellectual property	University of national and world economy
Petia Dimitrova Bisheva	Expert, Center for intellectual property	University of national and world economy
Olga Angelova Ivanova	Expert, Center for intellectual property	University of national and world economy
Elitsa Atanassova Mihailova	Director	Insurance company "Lev-ins", Sofia
Stefka Tancheva	Student	University of national and world economy
Deyan Valchev	Phd candidate	University of national and world economy
Alina Borissova		Taxi "S-Express", Sofia
Violeta Tzakova	Director, Regional research mobility center	University of national and world economy
Borislav Borissov	Rector	University of national and world economy
Diana Gachevcvska		Taxi "S-Express", Sofia
Vladia Borissova	Assistant Profesor	University of national and world economy
Rositza Marinova	Phd candidate	University of national and world economy
Vesselin Savov	Associate Professor	University of national and world economy
Ivaylo Petkova		"SIH" company, Sofia
Vera Pirimova	Associate Professor, coordinator "Socrat/Erasmus"	University of national and world economy
Antonia Yakmadjieva	Phd candidate	University of national and world economy
Liubomir Karadjov		"SIH" company, Sofia
Martin Krassimirov Stefanov	Students' Council chairman	University of national and world economy
Georgi Nikolov	Rector	High school for insurance and finance, Sofia
Yordanka Vassileva	Expert	Insurance company "Lev-ins", Sofia
Nikolai Gochev	Student	University of national and world economy
Marieta Mircheva		University of national and world economy

Daniela Dimitrova	Phd candidate	University of national and world economy
Tzvetan Kolev	Associate Professor	University of national and world economy
Nikolai Varelov		Taxi "S-Express", Sofia
Nadia Mironova		University of national and world economy
Tzvetka Stoencheva	Associate Professor	University of national and world economy
Lena Russenova	Associate Professor	High school for insurance and finance, Sofia
Roumen Kochev	Associate Professor	University of national and world economy
Bistra Boeva	Professor	University of national and world economy
Anna Nenova	Assistant Profesor	University of national and world economy
Miglena Molhova	Assistant Profesor	University of national and world economy
Fanny Koleva	Assistant Profesor	University of national and world economy