UNITE! University Network for Innovation, Technology and Engineering

TU Darmstadt, Germany (coordinator)
Aalto University, Finland
INP Grenoble, France
KTH, Sweden
Polito, Italy
ULisboa, Portugal
UPC Barcelona, Spain

WEBINAARI 11.6.2020 /FINLAND
EU-OHJELMIEN VÄLISET SYNERGIAT: ERASMUS+ JA HORIZONNTTI EUROOPPA – WEBINAARI

WEBINAR 11.6.2020 /FINLAND
SYNERGIES BETWEEN EU – PROGRAMS: ERASMUS+ AND HORIZON EUROPE – WEBINAR

UNITE! European University Alliance

Katrina Nordström, professor
Aalto University
Key Liaison Officer for UNITE!
katrina.nordstrom@aalto.fi

Johanna Kaila, M.A.
Aalto University
Planning officer for UNITE!
johanna.kaila@aalto.fi
Implementation of UNITE!

**Governance**
Framework to involve all levels of the UNITE! members

- **Mobility4All**
  - Physical and virtual mobility on all levels
  - Interdisciplinary study projects, summer schools, joint programmes, staff weeks

- **Virtual Campus**
  - Online curricula
  - Joint virtual courses, virtual classrooms, digital mobility platform

- **Teaching and Learning Academy**
  - Joint development of teaching
  - Challenge based learning; pedagogical training

- **European Doctoral School**
  - Piloting a joint doctoral school
  - Pipeline concept, motivational summer schools, common PhD framework

- **Regional Involvement and Innovation**
  - Strengthening knowledge transfer and innovation
  - Joint activities in entrepreneurship, lifelong learning, open innovation, sustainability and ethics

**Support Services**
Linking services for mobility, students engagement, language and career development
UNITE! Kick Off at TU Darmstadt, 4-6 Nov 2019
1st UNITE! Dialogue 11-14 Feb 2020
Venue: Aalto University

- 160 participants from 7 partner universities
  - Staff, faculty, administrators, service personnel, pedagogical experts, IT services, Leadership support, students ...

- 22 Meetings over 4 days, 9 Task Forces, Management team, Governing Board

- 20 Presidents/rectors and Vice presidents/vice rectors
Current and ongoing in UNITE!

- All 10 Task Forces have been actively working all spring 2020
- **Summer student projects started** (themes: European Student Card, Virtual Credit Mobility – students views – joint programs etc.)
- **UNITE! Webinars on online learning and teaching and online – exams** (more than 95 participants from all partners)
- **Boot Camp (TF 4 – Virtual Campus and TF 5 Teaching and Learning Academy)**
  - Online Tools and survey to all UNITE! Students
  - Mini-pilot on Virtual Credit Mobility (Energy)
  - Good Practices in teaching and learning, pedagogical training and support for teachers – consolidation and development together
  - Flexible Study paths and Launching Joint programs
Special targeted call for (2019) European University Alliances (17 ongoing) – 2 M total budget

Deadline 18.6.2020

Proposal (H2020) built to integrate research that supports the actions of UNITE!

- Sharing Research Infrastructures
- Technology Transfer
- Gender balance, inclusiveness
- Open Science (this WP lead by Aalto and is connected to Aalto Open Science Policy)
- Societal involvement of citizens and society
- Networking with other Alliances
- Innovation
1) Launching calls such as the targeted H2020 for the Alliances

Minuses

• The 2020 call came too suddenly with a very short deadline - more information should be provided earlier about the content and timeline
• The level of research emphasis is unclear – one can not generate a research agenda in 4 weeks
• Is it fair towards non-European Alliances?

Plusses

• Great to get more funding (very low hanging fruit)
• Great to be able to deepen some areas of the original proposal

2) Synergies with Erasmus plus (UNITE!) original application

• Difficult to understand if the H2020 should promote research in education development, or research in other scientific fields – if so not much in-depth research can be done within 2 M
• Budgeting is a headache! Always different formats, and different ways of calculating – why does the Commission not spell this out clearly??
• When every partner has to be involved in every Work Package, the amount of person months is ridiculously low for each partner – and does not really promote true commitment to the work – we tend to end up with “negative budgets”
UNITE!
University Network for Innovation, Technology and Engineering