



In the period 23rd- 27th February, 2014, representatives of the ECBAC consortium, *Dejan Blagojević* and *Aleksandra Boričić* from the College of Applied Technical Sciences in Niš presented part of the project results at 20th International Symposium „Development potentials in higher education” DEVELOPMENT TRENDS 2014, which was held on Kopaonik. The symposium was organized by the Faculty of Technical Sciences in Novi Sad and it took place under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, Provincial Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Fund for the Open Society from Belgrade, IEEE of Serbia and Montenegro as well as the Engineering Chamber of Serbia. <http://www.trend.uns.ac.rs/index.html>

The aim of the symposium among the rest was the analysis of the current problems in higher education in Serbia. The prospects for the following decade were presented through papers of the leading professors from the universities in Serbia. A version of education for new economic experts of the 21st century was also presented. The symposium analyzed the prospects for universities of Central and Southern-Eastern Europe in the market competition for students, equipment and attractive EU projects. It was also discussed how to make bonds between universities and their market fields in the sense of know-how transfer into the world of economy, as well as how to influence social community. Special attention was paid to the processes of university internationalization, student and teacher mobility through Erasmus, Erasmus Mundus and other projects. Quality of the teaching process and other processes in the light of international accreditation was also discussed. The novelty was the topic related to the application of the state of the art digital technologies in teaching, as well as the topics on distance learning and educational processes as a whole. Cooperation of universities and economy through the use of smart technology and “green” energy with emphasis on energy efficiency was investigated on the examples of the Faculties of the University of Novi Sad which have been applying them. This gave a special emphasis to the symposium in an attractive argument which was continued further on in the domain of life-long learning.

Bearing in mind the significance of this symposium, as well as its long tradition, it was concluded that it was of great importance to take part in it and present the results of the work done so far on the project.

Representatives of the ECBAC consortium presented themselves with the following three papers:

1. PROSPECTS FOR STAFF AND STUDENT MOBILITY AT COLLEGES OF VOCATIONAL STUDIES IN SOUTHERN SERBIA by the authors: Sanja Kovačević from the College of Professional Studies for Pre-school Teachers in Pirot, Aleksandra Boričić from the College of Applied Technical Sciences in Niš and Mladen Nikolić from the College of Chemical Technology in Kruševac, Serbia.
2. DEFINING THE QUALITY FRAMEWORK FOR ESTABLISHING THE FIRST ACADEMY OF VOCATIONAL STUDIES IN SERBIA, by the authors: Nebojša Arsić, Marijana Gavrilović, Vesna Milovanović and Bojan Milosavljević from the College of Chemical Technology in Kruševac, and Dejan Blagojević and Aleksandra Boričić from the College of Applied Technical Sciences in Niš, Serbia.



3. AN OVERVIEW OF IMPORTANT SEGMENTS OF HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN HIGHER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION by the authors: Dejan Blagojević, Aleksandra Boričić, Danica Milošević, Radomir Cekić from the College of Applied Technical Sciences in Niš and Nikola Stolic from the College of Agriculture and Food Technology in Prokuplje.

The presented papers emphasized the importance of the results that have been achieved so far concerning the comparative analysis of the system of higher education between Serbia and the EU with the focus on the operative solutions which were envisaged by the objective and specific goals of the ECBAC 517200 project. Special attention was given to the importance of the integrative areas in the fields of quality assurance, international cooperation and the development of the student services.

In addition, the opportunity was used to ask for the support in project implementation from the rectors of the Universities of Novi Sad and Niš with whom direct contacts had been established.

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