Career Centre Katowice, March 10th, 2015

University of Silesia in Katowice

Poland

**Report on monitoring within Work Package 3 “Cooperation Within Academic Community”**

The monitoring meeting on WP 3 “Cooperation Within Academic Community” was held at University of Belgrade on 3rd March 2015. The main objective was to inform Partners about the tasks accomplished and progress of activities in the aspect of implementing plans of cooperation with representatives of academic community.

The representative of University of Singidunum presented overall report on realisation of tasks. The next stage was discussion moderated by representatives of University of Silesia. The discussion related to the tasks that had been already accomplished by particular Partners, what they considered the most effective, what was not effective and what problems did they meet.

According to information gathered during the discussion, most of the partners acted according to their plans and most of the tasks had been already executed. Especially the promotion of career centres was evaluated very well. Certainly some problems occurred during the realisation of the WP 3 and it mainly concerned motivating academic staff to cooperate with career centres. A few ideas were suggested in respect to that fact:

1. It is useful to build up the relations with academic staff for a longer time by frequent contacts and by integrating with this group of staff. According to the experience of Career Centre from University of Silesia, the most effective relations are those based not only on strict official contacts, but first of all on face to face meetings, actual cooperating in events directed to students. So the best suited academic staff representatives are not deans but those employees who have frequent contact with students and have enough time to be engaged in activities other than their own, in the Faculty.
2. Taking into consideration the idea of employability and the need to adjust study programmes to the needs of the economy and the labour market it is or it will be inevitable for academic staff to contact with career centres to obtain the latest knowledge about the expectations of employers, perspectives on the labour market, etc. Career centres should be not only well prepared to that but also should look for possibilities to engage themselves in the processes of establishing new specializations and of incorporating changes within the study programmes. It is also useful to carry out periodic monitoring of graduates’ careers – this knowledge may be important not only to career centres but also (or first of all) to deans, directors and professors who deal with implementing changes in the study programmes.

During the discussion it turned out that the idea of monitoring graduates’ careers was particularly interesting for the Partners and the representatives of University of Silesia agreed to prepare the translation of graduates’ questionnaire and those fragments of Polish legal acts that deal with employability, careers monitoring and learning outcomes.