



European Digital Learning Network Annual Conference
Brussels 19th October, 2017
Liaison Agency Flanders-Europe
Avenue de Cortenbergh, 71
Schuman Quarter - 1000 Brussel

What's next in education? Opportunities and developments in the fast growing digital era

- 8:45 – 9:15 Registration of participants
- 9:15 – 9:45 Welcome speech by **Gianluca Coppola** – President of **European Digital Learning Network**
Presentation of Dlearn and of the results achieved through the research “What do you think about the future of digital Education and Training in EU?”
- 9:45 – 10:15 **Joao Santos** - Deputy Head of Unit Vocational training, Apprenticeships and Adult learning - DG Employment (E.3) - **Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion**
Future policies in vocational training to match the digital skill gap and increase employability
Rapid innovation in ICT and its adoption throughout the economy is having a massive impact on the jobs available and skills needed in the economy. It is changing the structure of employment. It is leading also to increased numbers of skilled ICT professionals in all sectors. Ultimately in terms of work, digital skills are needed for implementing innovations and modern business practices, without which there can be no growth or increased employment effect from ICT.
- 10:15 – 10:45 **Lucilla Sioli**- Head of Unit Digital Economy and Skills (F.4) – **DG Communications Networks, Content, Technology**
The initiative of Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition
By 2020, the Coalition hopes to train 1 million young unemployed people for vacant digital jobs; support the upskilling and retraining of the workforce; modernize education and training; reorient and make use of available funding to support digital skills and carry out awareness-raising about the importance of digital skills for employability, competitiveness and participation in society.



- 10:45 – 11:15 **Gregory Makrides** – President of EAEC European Association of Erasmus Coordinators
Presentation of the results of the research from a Higher Education perspective
- 11:15 – 11:45 Coffee break & networking
- 11:45 – 12:15 **Brikena Xhomaqi** – Director of LLP Platform
Presentation of the results of the research from Vocation Training and Adult education perspective
- 12:15 – 12:45 **Ferre Windey** – Board Member of OBESSU Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions
Presentation of the results of the research from School perspective
- 12:45 – 13:15 Q&A
- 13:30 – 14:30 Buffet Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

Practical workshops to share best practices, experiences and tools to empower education through ICT

Augmented and Virtual realities are becoming more and more popular as complementary methods for education and trainings, as well as digital competencies. These are key drivers to live and succeed in the present time. In this session we want to present success stories and lessons learnt from different sectors.

- 15:00 – 15:30 **Dr. Ifigeneia Metaxa** –Atlantis Engineering
Best practices for use of AR tools in vocational and on-the-job training
- 15:30 – 16:00 **Prof. Tomaz Amon** – Bioanim
Learn in the (virtual) nature with the help of virtual, augmented reality and 3D printing
- 16:00 – 16:30 **Prof. Anestis Papadopoulos** – Platon School
The Digital Competence Framework for Consumers – Overview and challenges



Speakers

João Santos



João Santos is Deputy Head of Unit in the Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs, and Inclusion at the European Commission in Brussels. The Unit is responsible for Vocational Training, apprenticeships and Adult education, as well as for the policy orientation of the Erasmus+ programme in these fields. From 2009 to 2013 he was posted at the EU Delegation to China and Mongolia as a diplomatic Counsellor dealing with bilateral trade and investment issues. He had previously worked at the Directorate general for Employment and Social Affairs. As the coordinator of a geographical desk, he was involved in the negotiations on the EU structural policies supported by the European Social Fund. His responsibilities included the Employment chapter of the Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs, and the Strategy on Social Protection and Social Inclusion. In the same DG he worked on international relations covering the employment and social affairs dimension of the EU bilateral cooperation with China, the USA, and Canada, as well as on multilateral cooperation within the United Nations framework, on issues related to the Social Dimension of Globalization and the Decent Work Agenda.

Lucilla Sioli



Lucilla Sioli is the Head of the "Digital economy and skills" unit within Directorate-General CONNECT. Her unit monitors trends and performance in the digital economy, is responsible for country monitoring in digital in the context of the European Semester, for the publication of the Digital Economy and Society Index and of the Digital Scoreboard. The unit also manages the oversight of the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition which addresses the impact of ICT on labour markets. She holds a PhD in economics from the University of Southampton and one from the Catholic University of Milan and has been a civil servant with the European Commission since 1997.

Gregory Makrides



Dr Gregory Makrides holds a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from the IIT in Chicago, USA. He taught mathematics from 1986 until 2006. He worked as a teacher trainer at the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute (1995-2000), as the Dean of Enrolment Management at the University of Nicosia (2000-2006) and since 2006 is the Director of Research and International Relations at the University of Cyprus and in parallel President of the European Association of Erasmus Coordinators and of the European Association of Career Guidance.



Brikena Xhomaqi



Brikena Xhomaqi is the Director of the Lifelong Learning Platform (LLL) since July 2016. She graduated in Innovative Project Management at the Polytechnic University of Nice Sophia Antipolis and holds a professional Master Degree in Corporate Strategy and International Development and bachelor in Political Sciences. Originally from Albania, she has studied and lived in Italy, France and currently Belgium for the last ten years. She is the former Head of Office of the European Students' Union (ESU) and Director of the Erasmus Student Network (ESN). Passionate about education, institutional cooperation, civil society and mobility.

Ferre Windey



Ferre Windey is board member at Obessu where it deals with European Parliament; Finance and funding; Pedagogical innovation; Global cooperation; Membership services. He represents the Vlaamse Scholierenkoepel vzw (VSK) (Belgium). The Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions (OBESSU) is the platform for cooperation between the national school student unions active in general secondary and secondary vocational education in Europe. It was founded in April 1975 in Dublin, Ireland and brings together Member, Candidate and Affiliate Organisations from all over Europe. All Member Organisations are independent, national, representative and democratic school student organisations.

Gianluca Coppola



Gianluca Coppola is the founder and the president of Dlearn. He is an entrepreneur, partner and general manager at Eurocrea Merchant, expert in education and training policies, funds and actions at European level. As Chartered Accountant and chartered auditor he has gained a wide experience in innovation and entrepreneurship as well as in the Knowledge triangle integration experience, in particular promoting research-academia-business cooperation. He is external evaluator for the European Commission, and national Agencies. He is Member of the Board at EBN the international network of more than 150 quality- certified EU|BICs (business and innovation centres) and 100 other organisations that support the development and growth of innovative entrepreneurs, start-ups and SMEs. Within EBN he is Chair of the European's Education&Entrepreneurship Strategic Interest Group.



Dr. Ifigenia Metaxa, Dipl. Chemical Engineer, MSc in Quality Assurance, PhD in Chemical Engineering. She has more than 10 years of experience in quality assurance, project management, R&D, eLearning, corporate training and safety consulting. Dr. Metaxa has been actively involved in research and commercial projects in various domains, including H2020, Eurostars, Leonardo, Erasmus+, Greece-China collaboration. Experienced in Vocational Education, she has taught to Greek technical universities.



Anestis Papadopoulos has a background in Physics, acquired in the University of Thessaloniki and post graduate studies in "New technologies in Science education". Coordinator and participant in many in European projects Socrates, LLP, FP6 and Erasmus+. He is experienced in Design, Development, Curriculum, Development learning and teaching activities, Monitor and evaluation school process. He is the Director of the Platon School. He also participates as speaker in conferences and congresses, CERN HST2002 and fellow worker of European Schoolnet in the following projects: GreenWeek, Futurenergia, Earth and Space, Xperimania.



Tomaz Amon has a Ph.D. in electrophysiology and he have been designing and producing educational software for 20 years now. He combines his bio-medical expertise with computer expertise. His specialty is the production of educational material in 3D virtual reality. In the last time he is especially proud of virtual reality apps for iPad and Android devices.