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THE REPORT

ON REGIONAL SEMINARS “THE ADAPTATION OF PRINCIPAL PARAMETERS OF THE BOLOGNA PROCESS IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS OF KAZAKHSTAN” IN THE NORTH KAZAKHSTAN KOZYBAEV STATE UNIVERSITY AND WEST KAZAKHSTAN OSPANOV STATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

Within the period of **October, 22-24, 2013** in **Petropavlovsk** National Tempus Office in Kazakhstan together with the North Kazakhstan Kozybaev State University held the regional seminar “**The Adaptation of Principal Parameters of the Bologna Process in Higher Education Institutions of Kazakhstan**”. This event, like previous ones, was held with the technical and financial support of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EASEA) and with the participation of members of National Team of Experts on Higher Education Reform in Kazakhstan (HEREs). More information about the team could be found at [www.tempuskaz.kz](http://www.tempuskaz.kz).

Teams were established in 2007 with the support of the Executive Agency in consultation with the Ministries of Education in the partner countries.

The missions of HEREs team are as follows:

- active participation in policy development and assistance in promoting the processes and strategies of reforming and modernizing the higher education;
- capacity building and promoting the use of domestic and international experience for modernization of higher education in respective countries, including academic programmes’ developing, improving the management of higher education at the national and institutional levels, strengthening the links between higher education institutions and society.
- participation in training and improving the qualifications of the experts in their own country, and, if necessary, beyond.

The seminar was attended by the Coordinator of the National Tempus Office in Kazakhstan **Ms. Sh. Tasbulatova**, HEREs: **Prof. S. Omirbaev**, the rector of Toraigyrov Pavlodar State University; **prof. R. Sagieva**, the Director of the Centre for Economic Research of



Al- Farabi Kazakh National University; **docent M. Skiba** – the Head of Strategic Management and Quality Control Department of Ryskulov Kazakh University of Economics.

The seminar was attended by academic and administrative staff of the North Kazakhstan Kozybayev State University – in total 70 people.

In accordance with the Programme the rector of North Kazakhstan Kozybayev State University **Prof. Ashimov** opened the seminar by his welcome speech. He emphasized that he is honoured to welcome representatives of the Tempus HEREs Team and expects not only fruitful work within the seminar, but also further cooperation and active participation of the University in Tempus projects.

The Coordinator of the National Tempus Office in Kazakhstan **Ms. Tasbulatova** went on with the presentation “The Status and Prospects of the Tempus Programme in Kazakhstan”. She informed about the objectives of the Tempus programme, the participation of Kazakh universities.



Particular emphasis was made to the points to which the EACEA pays attention while taking decision on funding projects.

The Tempus Programme will be replaced by new EU programme Erasmus+ on December, 31, 2013. Ms. Tasbulatova drew attention to the continuity of these programmes, informed about the innovations introduced in the Erasmus+, answered questions from the audience.

The next presentation "The Modular Academic Programmes: Principles and Approaches. The Development of Modular Academic Programme: the Theory and Practical Application" was done by the rector of Toraigyrov Pavlodar State University Prof. **S. Omirbaev**. Prof. Omirbayev in the theoretical part of his presentation drew attention to the conceptual features and advantages of the modular training, which in modern terms should be focused on the development of general and specific competencies of future specialists. He proposed a new "architecture" of building the curriculum in a modular manner, when the competences of the graduates are determined by the labour market. The speaker stressed the fundamentally different approach to the definition of disciplines, formation of teachers' workload. Planning of the academic staff, in speaker's opinion, should depend on the students' body.



In the practical part of his presentation Prof. Omirbayev told about the specific steps in the construction of the modular education and its direct relationship with certain competencies. His speech caused a lively discussion. In particular, the following issues were discussed:

- What is the dimension of one module in credits?
- What competencies, except professional, the modern specialist should demonstrate?

- How to define "unprofitable" discipline which should be derived from the curricula?

Summing up the first day of the seminar, Rector of the North Kazakhstan Kozybayev State University Prof. **Ashimov** emphasized the importance of such dialogue and debates in the transition to a new format of training, and expressed the hope that they will continue and will be reflected in new projects within the framework of the Erasmus+.

On the second day of the seminar HEREs members Prof. **Sagieva**, the Director of CER of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University and Docent **Skiba**, the Head of Strategic Management and Quality Control Department of Ryskulov Kazakh University of Economics made their presentations.



The presentation on "The Study of the Tempus Programme on the Human Resource Management and the Results of the Survey of Kazakh HEIs" was done by Prof. **Sagieva**. In the theoretical part she addressed:

- topical issues of human resource management;
- results of research within Tempus Programme;
- results of the survey of Kazakh HEIs;
- the analysis of the main trends of development of human resources in Kazakh universities.

In the second part Prof. Sagiyeva conducted training to develop proposals to improve HR policy in Kazakh universities. The practical training within the groups generated the interest of the audience. Participants were offered a number of tasks to develop criteria and questionnaires for assessing the quality of applicants for academic and administrative staff.

Further, the seminar was continued by Ms. **Skiba**, Head of Strategic Management and Quality Control Department of Ryskulov Kazakh University of Economics, Ph.D, docent. The subject of her presentation was "The Quality Oriented Management. Strategic Directions of the HEI's Internal Management. Developing and Monitoring of the University Strategy: Theoretical Background and Practical Aspects".

In her speech she developed detailed questions related to different aspects of strategic management and quality-oriented university management. The issues of HEI's internal management with examples of Kazakh and foreign universities aroused active discussions among participants. Ms. Skiba conducted an interactive game for the development of strategic thinking with the participants of the seminar.

The group work included developing and monitoring of the university strategy, considering its practical aspects. Participants developed model universities' strategies, their visions, directions, objectives and targets.

During the third day of the seminar **Ms. Skiba** conducted the training "Classification of University Strategic Documents and a Workshop on the University and its Units' Evaluation". Participants were delivered a practical experience in the analysis of real strategic documents on different levels.

In conclusion, in accordance with the programme the results have been summed up. The seminar participants and the university top management expressed their gratitude to the NTO and speakers, appreciated all the activities that took place.

In the second half of October, 24<sup>th</sup> in the NKSU the meeting with the target group of university staff directly involved in the development of quality assurance system (15 persons) were held. The NKSU's strategies, along with the specifics of the implementation of Bachelor-Master-Doctorate academic programmes in Kazakhstan, prospects of management modernization and construction of

the internal quality assessment system were discussed in a question-answer format.

The similar seminar was welcomed by the **West Kazakhstan Ospanov State Medical University on November, 11-12 in Aktobe**. It was attended by 46 people - representatives of five universities in two regions of Kazakhstan.



It was attended by the coordinator of the National Tempus Office in Kazakhstan Ms. **Sh.Tasbulatova**, the rector of Ryskulov Kazakh University of Economics (KazEU), HERE, Prof. **S.Svyatov** and the Head of KazEU Strategic Management and Quality Control Department Ms. **M.Skiba**.

The seminar was opened by the Vice-rector for Research and Clinical Activities Prof. **T. Dzharkenov**. Prof. Dzharkenov stressed that he is happy to accept his colleagues from different regions of the country, briefed the participants with information about the University, proposed a visit to the museum of the University, and wished a successful work.

**Ms. Tasbulatova** in turn thanked the board and staff of WKSMU for initiative to organize the seminar, to invite colleagues from the universities of the western region, for the interest to the Tempus Programme. She familiarised with the history of the National Team of Experts, its mission and activities. In conclusion, she expressed the hope that the seminar will be continued in new projects, wished fruitful work to the seminar participants.

In accordance with the programme, the first day of the seminar was devoted to discussing the possibility of participation of western region universities in the Tempus programme, which unfortunately is poorly represented in the programme so far. After the welcome part Ms. Tasbulatova made a presentation "The Status and Prospects of the Tempus Programme in

Kazakhstan". She especially emphasized that Tempus programme ends on 31 of December 2013. However, its philosophy and principles with some developments will continue in new Erasmus+ programme.

After the break, consultations and practical training on the development of competitive project proposals within the framework of the Tempus programme on the basis of the LFM were conducted. Given that the logic of the project proposal is substantially similar to the logic of the organization of any activity, the process of developing a proposal can be used more widely – for day-to-day activities as well as within the academic process.

On the second day **Ms. Skiba** presented her report "Trends of Kazakh Universities Development in the context of the Bologna Process". Her speech contained logically structured description of the dynamics of the Bologna process, relevant recommendations for Kazakh universities aimed at improving the performance and implementation of the principles of the Bologna process. Clearly defined relationship between the principles of the Bologna process, the State Programme for the Development of Education in the Republic of Kazakhstan and the universities' strategies shaped an idea of the main directions and prospects for the development of universities.

Further, the seminar was continued by Prof. **Svyatov**. The subject of his session was "The University Development Strategies: Theoretical Background and Practical Aspects".



In his presentation he explained in details questions related to the theoretical and practical aspects of strategic management: the formulation of the mission and the vision, directions and goals, algorithms and stages of the strategy development process. He used examples of changes of the logic of strategic planning in KazEU.

In the afternoon, the practical work on the university strategy development was continued by Ms. Skiba. The formulation of the mission and the vision in examples of Kazakh and foreign universities, as well as evaluation criteria aroused active discussions. The interactive game for the development of strategic thinking was conducted.

The group work included developing and monitoring of the university strategy, considering its practical aspects. Participants developed model universities' missions and visions, directions; defined logical relationship and balance among objectives, indicators and events.

During the second day the discussion of Kazakh universities' strategies, along with the specifics of the implementation of Bologna process, prospective directions of Kazakh universities' development were conducted in a question-answer format.



At the end of the seminar its results were summarized. Participants and the university management expressed their gratitude for organizing the seminar, highly appreciating the seminar's practical orientation. Prof. **Dzharkenov** on behalf of the Rector of the WKSMU gave the Letters of Appreciation to the speakers.

In order to explore the strengths and weaknesses of the seminars' content and organization the survey (questionnaire) was carried out among participants. The seminar in Petropavlovsk was attended by 64 persons, the seminar in Aktobe – by 44 persons. Results of the survey showed that the vast majority of participants appreciated the level of the seminar and interactive practical sessions, as well as the competence of lecturers. Participants also noted the practical usefulness of presentations that can be used in their daily work without any changes or require minor modifications depending on the profile of a specialty.



## PROJECTS MONITORING

According to the projects monitoring plan in the second half of 2013 by the National Tempus Office was carried out monitoring of the following projects:



**I-WEB** "Integrating Water cycle management: building capability, capacity and impact in Education and Business – I-WEB", Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, 25<sup>th</sup> September;

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**"Quality of Engineering Education in Central Asia" (QUEECA)**, East Kazakhstan State Technical University named after D.Serikbayev, 2<sup>nd</sup> October;

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**"Towards a Central Asian Higher Education Area: Tuning Structures and Building Quality Culture – TuCAHEA"**, Namangan State University, Uzbekistan, 10-11<sup>th</sup> October; M. Auezov South-Kazakhstan State University, 19<sup>th</sup> October;

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**"Central Asian Network for Education, Research and Innovation in Environmental Health" (CANERIE)**, Asfendiyarov Kazakh National Medical University, 20<sup>th</sup> November;

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**"Establishment of the Supra-Regional Network of the National Centers in Medical Education, focused on Problem-Based Learning and Virtual Patients"**, Karaganda State Medical University, 27<sup>th</sup> November;

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**"Master programmes on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Buildings in Central Asia and Russia"**, International educational corporation (campus KazGASA), 5<sup>th</sup> December.

## ERASMUS+

The Tempus programme will come to an end on 31/12/2013. The ongoing projects will continue their activities until the end of their grant agreement.

As of 2014, Tempus-like activities, namely capacity building activities, will be part of a new cooperation programme named Erasmus+. These activities will concern existing Tempus countries plus Latin America, Asia and African, Caribbean and Pacific countries.

**Erasmus+** is the new EU programme for education, training, youth and sport proposed by the European Commission on 23 November 2011. The proposal is now under discussion by the Council of the European Union (28 Member States) and the European Parliament, who will take the final decision on the programme by the end of 2013.

Erasmus+ will bring together all the current EU and international schemes for education, training, youth and sport (including Tempus), replacing all existing programmes with one. This will increase efficiency, make it easier to apply for grants, as well as reducing duplication and fragmentation. Erasmus+ is due to start in 2014.

- *Additional information:* [http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-plus/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm)
- *Information about the programme Erasmus+ in the Facebook page :* <https://www.facebook.com/EUErasmusPlusProgramme>
- *Press release of the programme Erasmus +:* [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-13-1110\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-1110_en.htm)

## USEFUL LINKS

- Information portal on study in Europe options – <http://www.studyportals.eu/>



- Information portal on Scholarships, co-funded by the EC and developed together with ACA – <http://www.scholarshipportal.eu/>



- Europe's leading information portal on high quality online and distance education offers, co-funded by the EC and developed with EADTU – <http://www.distancelearningportal.com/>



- Information on EU Immigration Portal [http://ec.europa.eu/immigration/tabHome.do;jsessionid=7xLfSy7H08tg9Hbvt9tNbvZxqCBb5YfW2kxJCragQRc4DmGvMxvm!912221965!1382611719367?intCountryId=&intStartvar=0&lang=7&subSec=&language=7\\$en&country=&profile=&subProfile=&subSubProfile=](http://ec.europa.eu/immigration/tabHome.do;jsessionid=7xLfSy7H08tg9Hbvt9tNbvZxqCBb5YfW2kxJCragQRc4DmGvMxvm!912221965!1382611719367?intCountryId=&intStartvar=0&lang=7&subSec=&language=7$en&country=&profile=&subProfile=&subSubProfile=)
- The conclusions of the Tempus regional seminars on the Management of Human Resources in Public Higher Education in the Tempus Partner Countries (Sarajevo June 2012, Tashkent October 2012, Chisinau April 2013 and Nicosia June 2013) have been published (A Tempus Study, No 17) and are available on the following website: [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus/tools/publications\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus/tools/publications_en.php)

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