After Mobility – Keeping in Touch
- from Erasmus Programme
Perspective

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Erasmus Programme

- EU Education Programme since 1987
- Student Mobility (Studies and Placements), Staff Mobility (Teaching Assignments and Staff Training), Intensive Programmes, Multilateral Projects and Networks
- Key Players:
  - European Commission
  - National Agencies (31 European countries)
  - Higher Education Institutions (>3000)
  - Participants
Erasmus Student Mobility

• Targets for Student Mobility
  • Better Quality of Higher Education
  • 3 Million Erasmus Students by 2013
  • Quality of Mobility: e.g. support services, language and cultural preparation, recognition of studies
  • Additional value for students e.g. employability
  • New activity: placements

• Volume of Student Mobility (2006-07): 160,000 mobile students per year (in Finland 3800 outgoings and 6100 incomings)
  -> a lot of potential!
Erasmus Alumni

• Who are Erasmus Alumni? Incoming and/or outgoing Erasmus students?
• Activities for Erasmus Alumni could take place at several levels: European, national, institutional
• So far, not much attention to Erasmus Alumni
• “European Erasmus Alumni Association”? (cf. Erasmus Mundus Alumni Association)
• Existing Erasmus Alumni activities mainly take place at HEI level
• Erasmus Student Network
• Is there a need for additional activities at European or national level?
• What do students expect?
Why Erasmus Alumni Activities?

• Programme perspective:
  • Need to increase participation – marketing of the programme (student ambassadors)
  • Need to improve quality – collection of feedback, dissemination of good experience
  • Need to increase number of placements available (alumni are potential employers)

• National Level Perspective (in addition to the above):
  • Need to contact Alumni later on in order to conduct surveys, distribute information etc.
  • Mobility of workers, doctoral students, researchers – alumni (incoming students) are potential candidates.
What kind of activities?
Some national level examples 1

- Hungary - Tempus Public Foundation: Alumni for Europe Network (AfE)
  - Interactive network of former participants of several mobility programmes
  - Free membership
  - Aims: networking, integration in Hungary, contacts between incoming and local/outgoing students
  - Contacts via e-mail, website, newsletter
  - Common events for international and Hungarian alumni
What kind of activities?
Some national level examples 2

- Italy - Caffe Erasmus “la community degli studenti Erasmus“ http://erasmus.indire.it/
- Online student reporting systems:
  IRIS - Integrated Reporting for International Students (Norway) http://www.iris.siu.no/
  Stars – Study Abroad Reporting System (Sweden)
- Poland - GISE (Gielda Informacji Studentow Erasmus): database of information provided by former Erasmus students to future Erasmus students
Thank you for your attention!