

EPICS Stakeholder meetings organised in Brussels en Madrid

EADTU is leading a process of stimulating student mobility in Europe. We are in a consortium of eleven institutions and networks exploring the possibilities, the experiences, the barriers and opportunities of increasing student mobility by the establishment of a Virtual Erasmus scheme next to the Physical Erasmus scheme. Already we have established a full procedural approach for universities to organize and be part of these new mobility schemes. Also a first version of the European portal called EPICS (European Portal for International Courses and Services) is established to support this academic cooperation model.

At this stage of the project it is important to get input from external stakeholders to learn and fine-tune the outcomes so far and work towards the final version that will be presented at the EADTU Annual Conference in Zermatt (September 27-29 2010). For EPICS we have organized two stakeholder meetings. The first was in Brussels on the 30th of March with involvement of main related European organizations based in Brussels like the EU, the EUA as well as the EADTU Student Council . We had good feedback that was further processed before the second stakeholder meeting in Madrid on May 20th. That meeting at UNED was focused on potential partners and users of EPICS - Virtual Erasmus with involvement of interested conventional and distance teaching universities, the Erasmus Student Network and La Asociación Iberoamericana de Educación Superior a Distancia (AIESAD).

From both meetings we can conclude that virtual mobility clearly has the potential of supplementing physical mobility and increase the numbers and target groups of mobile students. The coming months, the EPICS consortium will finalize the concept based on received feedback and expand the number of universities involved. If you are interested in joining, please read more on www.eadtu.eu/epics/ or contact **EADTU** directly.

Photo's Brussels:





Photo's Madrid:

