

A CHAIN5 CONFERENCE

WORK-BASED LEARNING Theory, Practice & Strategy

Thursday 9 / Friday 10 November 2017

Venue: University of Bedfordshire, Luton, UK

THIS IS WHY YOU HAVE TO SAVE THE DATES

Work-Based Learning (WBL) is one of the issues that has a lot of attention, whether it is about having more opportunities for flexible learning pathways, connecting Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Higher (Professional) Education or to involve the world of work in (formal) education. It is about a way of integrating work in a study programme and using education and training in combination with a workplace – or another ‘mix’ of work and study, depending of the stakeholders and possibilities to give shape to the study route.

This kind of practical learning is a global area of interest as universities, colleges and other providers attempt to improve students’ work-related knowledge and skills and provide ‘work ready’ graduates for complex and changing labour markets.

At the same time it can be seen in several European countries that (higher) apprenticeship and VET systems are modernized and actualised, some to create greater transferability for learners between the ‘sectors’ for professional (and academic) education and Higher VET. Other countries have or are introducing EQF-5 qualifications as a bridge between these different sectors or as a demand-led route to the labour market – also using forms of work-based learning or study-based working.

This means that WBL can be seen as a concept that has many meanings – noticing of course that there are also several (country-based) types of WBL.

This conference will bring together experts and practitioners from across the world to discuss these and related developments, at the University of Bedfordshire's campus in Luton – close to the Luton Airport. Of course there will be representatives of the world of work, to share their experiences, suggestions and innovative ideas with the participants.

The conference will be opened by the University's Vice Chancellor, Bill Rammell, previously British Minister of State for Higher Education.

THE ORGANISERS

The conference is a co-production of CHAIN5 (the international community of practice for level 5) and the TANDEM-project (see for more information at: <http://www.tandem-project.com/> - having as partners: EVBB, eucen, Leido, EWF, Prysmian Group and Cámara de Comercio de Oviedo) - and it will be hosted by the University of Bedfordshire in the UK.

ALREADY SOME RELEVANT INFORMATION

In the next newsletter we will give you more information about the programme, the workshops, the panel discussions and the possibilities for networking with colleagues from other countries and other sectors. Then we will give you also information about the fees for the conference and the dinner and about the room rates for a group of hotels in Luton. But here is already a first list of relevant data:

- The conference will start on Thursday 9 November, at 12:00 (lunch), having at 13:00 the opening session.
- We will finish the conference on Friday 10 November, at 14:00 (after lunch).
- The venue is the campus of the University of Bedfordshire, in the center of Luton.
- Luton International Airport is nearby, having connections with a lot of cities, all over Europe. Low-cost carriers flying to Luton include EasyJet, Ryanair and WizzAir. There are also convenient connections by train or airport bus available from all the major London airports, London Gatwick, London Heathrow and London Stansted, as well as the Eurostar terminal at St Pancras Station.
- We have already made agreements with a group of hotels in Luton, in walking distance from the venue, having lower rate for our participants.
- The conference dinner will be on Thursday evening, at the conference centre of the University of Bedfordshire, just outside Luton (transport will be arranged from the hotels). Take already a look at <https://www.beds.ac.uk/putteridgebury>.
- In the next newsletter about the conference you will get information about the registration procedure, the fees for different groups and the participation in the dinner.



QUESTIONS

If you have questions about this conference, please send an e-mail to info@leido.nl. We are trying to give the answers a.s.a.p. And of course suggestions are more than welcome.