

London, 22nd November 2017

Mission Report

Giulio Verdini

2nd International Conference on 'Future Education. Effective learning in an age of increasing speed, complexity and uncertainty'

Rome, 16-18 November 2017.

Organisers: Roma 3, WAAS, WUC.

A. CONFERENCE AIM AND OBJECTIVES

This conference is designed to serve as an open, active platform for participants to share, collaborate and co-create new ideas, approaches, methodologies and best practices. The multi-stakeholder approach and structure of the conference will make it possible for participants to organize or participate in special sessions dedicated to in-depth exploration of specific topics ranging from subject content, pedagogy and learning technologies to social and economic impact on issues such as employment, skills development, business development, innovation, social power, citizenship, cultural diversity, personal development and individuality.

THE OBJECTIVES:

- Implement student-centered, person-centered, active, participative learning pedagogies;
- Harness the potential of emerging learning technologies and delivery systems;
- Foster synthetic, integrated modes of thinking;
- Make conscious and explicit the central role of values in human development;
- Shift toward multi- and trans-disciplinary approaches to knowledge;
- Develop mental capacities for independent thinking, creativity, entrepreneurship & leadership;
- Extend the scope of learning outcomes from information and mental skills to encompass development of social capabilities, personality, values and individuality.

B. PAPER PRESENTED

Paper presented at the session: **Transition to a New Paradigm in Education** (Friday 17th Nov).

Universities and Knowledge for Sustainable Urban Futures: as if inter and trans - disciplinarity mattered

Giulio Verdini & Olivia Bina

Abstract

The aim of this presentation is to show the results of the 'London Workshop', held in March 2017 and supported by the EU COST Action 'INTREPID'

<http://www.intrepid-cost.eu/about-intrepid/>, which was meant to advance the agenda of “Universities and Knowledge for Sustainable Urban Futures: as if ID and TD mattered”. Academics and practitioners have discussed in a world café format how to characterise the 'Status quo' of University today, identifying its 'Drivers of/for change', 'Values to guide change' and 'Uncertainties, obstacles, opportunities'. The idea of the Future-of-U (Future of Universities) have been introduced during the final joint discussion alongside the identification of a range of themes tentatively categorised under ethos, purpose and qualities. Two possible ways forward have been also discussed.

C. FEEDBACK

The presentation has addressed directly the objective to ‘Shift toward multi- and trans-disciplinary approaches to knowledge’ and, in part to ‘Implement student-centered, person-centered, active, participative learning pedagogies’.

Particularly appreciated has been the effort done within INTREPID to define inter and trans disciplinary in knowledge production and the commitment to develop further research on the Future-of-U.

Expression of interest arose particularly for the series of training schools scheduled for 2018 and the workshop on urban cv development. Potential synergies for the final conference with WAAS and WUC have been envisioned.

D. NETWORK

The conference has allowed to consolidate an existing network particularly with:

- Gerry Jacobs, WAAS
- Roberto Poli, University Trento

And to expand the network to the following persons, which might be worth including in the INTREPID newsletter:

- Prof. Heitor Gurgulino de Souza, President of WAAS, Former Rector of the UN University, hgurgulino@aol.com
- Dr. Dino Karabeg, Associate Professor University of Oslo, Knowledge Federation, dino@ifi.uio.no
- Mila Popovich, Associate Fellow WAAS – no email provided
- Julene Siddique, Composer, Researcher (Philosophy of science), therapist, jsiddique@gmail.com
- Natalia Pogozheva, Entrepreneur at Ducatt, Ukraine, png25066@gmail.com
- Prof. Lennart Levi, Emeritus Professor of Psychosocial Medicine, Former Member of the Swedish Parliament, lennart.levi@eurostress.se