

COST TD1408 INTREPID – London Meeting (cross WG)

Imperial Hotel 9:00-17:00, 9th January 2018

Attendees:

Dobson, Stephen (UK) Local Organiser

Ged, Francoise (FR)

Nedelkovski, Igor (MK)

Niksic, Matej (SL)

Skarzauskiene, Aelita (LT)

Alasdair Jones (UK)

Summary

The purpose of the meeting is to collaborate in the creation of a strategic road map (with the incorporation of cross-cutting team of members) on how universities might engage with wider public on urban issues to support skills, inclusion and active participation in governance. This would include innovation in existing practices, pedagogy and curriculum design that are currently being practiced by COST participants. The contributors to the meeting will discuss how their work can move forward HEI thinking on interdisciplinarity in education programmes in the urban domain.

As a result of the joint work conducted in working group 3 within the INTREPID network, common interest has been identified in “spatialities of future universities to foster inclusive citizenship through new urban curricula” with a focus on university engagement in informal learning spaces to foster social innovation between local communities and the academy.

The goals will be to blur the boundaries of the academy and explore new spaces/ locations/ opportunities and frameworks to increase universities’ social impact and relevance to ordinary people (with a focus on inclusivity and supporting traditionally marginalised or disadvantaged communities thus helping ‘raise their voices’ in the urban agenda).

The key deliverable will be a roadmap which other HEIs might follow in order to replicate some of the project ideas and innovative teaching practices. It is expected that the roadmap document will be available as a webpage and pdf for circulation from the INTREPID website.

The meeting will close with discussion on next steps after the production of the roadmap including the potential to foster collaboration on curriculum design and delivery where appropriate.

Schedule:

9am: Kick off – introduction of the workshop programme
9:30am: Identification of existing practices
10:30am: Joint working to explore collaboration on identified themes
12:00pm: Presentations of the group work
1:30pm: Lunch
2:30pm: Definition of key roadmap elements
4 pm: Division of responsibilities and time schedule for further steps
5:30pm: End of the workshop

The output of the workshop will be a roadmap report which will be completed by the end of January.

MEETING NOTES

Matej (Slovinia) – Works with both the urban planning institute / dept of urban planning. Each has different agendas and have traditionally separated teaching and research. There has been some collaboration between the institute and the dept – especially concerning urban public spaces – ‘Human Cities’. <http://humancities.eu/> A great deal of expertise and experience has been gained from this project: Designing urban spaces with people taking into account their perception and interaction with the city scales. Re-inventing the urban territories.

‘Humanising cities’ is a key theme to emerge here – **Stephen** shared experiences of presenting at a Chinese Mega-cities event held recently in Xiamen, China. The themes of human-scale in mega urban projects encourage much greater interdisciplinary collaboration in China and illustrated the importance.

Matej described that in Slovinia there is push for participatory planning – government agenda to support people engaging with planning process. They had considered that physical structure at the University should change to become more welcoming, to encourage more public involvement with universities to aid collaboration and participation which could support the engagement of people in participatory planning processes.

They have experimented with many things – best approach working with schools – A few workshops already taken place. This was seen as a big success, also students of urban planning involved in these approaches. But the curriculum still needs to change to better reflect new participatory planning.

Another project on the humanisation of cities was “photo-story of my neighbourhood”

Francoise - Cité de l’architecture & du patrimoine. Already have worked with partnerships – especially working with NGO in China – encouraging people to be involved. Photography also described as an important way of humanising the city and seeing again with fresh eyes. Its also a good way of fostering cross-cultural collaboration as it doesn’t require language – festivals of mega cities – humanising mega cities. Already have project with China. Heritage project in China. Links with school of architecture.

Francoise spoke about blended experience - sharing image and text

Aelita and Stephen – refer at this point to the way that soft systems ‘Rich Picture’ approaches could help formulate the teaching experience from these kinds of projects and foster new learning opportunities and outcomes

BREAK

Aelita – Head of social technology – social and computer sciences – ‘tools for society’. ICT tools for building collective intelligence – building a cocreation ecosystem, - introducing methods and approaches – creating more inclusive and responsive cities. **Aelita** spoke about their international project – ICT for increasing the attractiveness of public open space – coming out of the book Learning in Cyber Parks and how elements of this project were around best practice in terms of creative use of space for teaching. For example:

<http://cyberparks.amu.edu.pl/book/>

Outdoor education

Outdoor learning concept

Outdoor learning from the perspective of recent studies

Smart education – towards learning in CyberParks

The CyberParks concept

Learning in CyberParks

Learning in CyberParks from the perspective of recent studies

Learning in CyberParks and the dual-task cost

Cocreation should move toward collective decision-making and turning into social value – ICT tools for additional value. Here we all discussed the need to move beyond collaborative opportunity and the value of the roadmap is to help suggest collaborative actions

Igor (Macedonia) – ICT faculty and research oriented. Foundation for new technology in knowledge transfer – partnering project funded by creative Europe ‘Peoples smart sculpture’

Aim to initiate interaction between artists and citizens to jointly develop solution to public spaces – social art in European public spaces. Role was to develop different ICT tools which are useful – working on AR tools for onsite exploration – to display and allow uploads to be shared about urban site relating to plans. Integrating social media for collaborative urban planning (especially facebook) – ‘collective urban proposals’ – integrating urban platforms. Local people and citizens post.

Another project ‘Visualising the past’ for architects and citizens.

Also organised a competition with young people (schools) and teachers around participatory culture ‘Minecraft my neighbourhood’ – develop Minecraft models of their villages.

Outcome greater engagement? “they are the best architects of their environment”

Alisdair London School of Economics ‘Young scientists programme’ young people from disadvantaged schools and supervised them to do their own research. Get a sense of what universities are involved – conceptualising things as a problem – being less didactic –

Configurability – Case study on the South Bank – Long Live South Bank – use of academic data and support for the space.

LUNCH

Stephen Coventry University – spoke about community/public facing teaching with Virtual Incubators -Developing the social innovation eco-system (entrepreneurial ecosystem)

The entrepreneurship ecosystem is described in the literature as consisting a set of interconnected institutional elements deemed necessary for a vibrant business start-up and growth environment. The stages which we work with participants

- I. Start up
- II. the success or expansion stage, and;
- III. The take-off or mature stage.

Example projects:

Entrepreneurial development through incubators

Establishing an educational model 'through' entrepreneurship involves direct engagement with experiential learning. ELT underlines the necessary oscillation between internal and external dimensions of learning development and therefore the process of entrepreneurship becomes a central bridge for the learner to connect these. Business incubators are important vehicles to support this practice-based learning through experience.

Developing a roadmap

After presentations we decided it would important to provide a roadmap of practice on both formal and non-formal programmes to help HEIs to think about participatory urban environment and learning – **Igor** suggested that when people want to engage, its often too late- people need to engage upstream strategically. (critical strategic thinking – proactive) – rich picture-strategic thinking – supported to use information),

SO the road map should help HEIs who wish to go down this path and create impact in their cities. Integrated scientific approach

Actions:

Francoise, Aelita, Igor, Matej, Alasdair – to share materials, reports on the projects described and write a one page summary of the presentations they developed in the workshop by **16 Jan**

Steve – compile presentation developed in the workshop, summarise notes and also incorporate the practice examples from those COST Action members who expressed an interest but were unable to join **16 Jan**

Steve – circulate a draft compiled road map report for consideration **23 Jan**

Steve, Francoise, Aelita, Igor, Matej, Alasdair – complete report for COST office and Intrepid group – they may then be added to the website and disseminated to universities. It aims to be a brief and highly visual strategic document to help HEIs plan greater inter and transdisciplinary in urban curricula and pedagogy.

10 Jan 2018