



Dear NICE Network members,

Your participation in the

**30<sup>th</sup> NICE Network Annual Meeting**  
**“THE NICE NETWORK - INCLUSION THROUGH DIGITALISATION”**

digitally hosted by

**Hogeschool Windesheim, Zwolle, the Netherlands**  
**on June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

in cooperation with the NICE Network Steering Committee, is much appreciated!

Please find enclosed the agenda with the MS Teams links to all plenary sessions and workshops.

We look forward to meeting you soon online.

*Your steering committee*

*Roelijn Kok, Hogeschool Windesheim, The Netherlands*

*Joanna Bednarz, Uniwersytet Gdański, Poland*

*Regina Parzer, IMC Fachhochschule Krems, Austria*

*Gordana Nikolić, PAR Rijeka, Croatia*

*Griet Naeyaert, Arteveldehogeschool, Gent, Belgium*

*Thomas Hoffmann, Hochschule Nordhausen, Germany*



## 30<sup>th</sup> NICE Network Annual Meeting Online via Microsoft Teams

**Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup> 2021**

09:30 – 10:15      **Plenary 1: Opening Plenary**  
**WISE 2.0: How to boost intercultural competence development abroad,  
at home and online**  
*Chair: Roelijn Kok (NL)*

[Plenary programme: Opening Plenary](#)

10:15 – 10:30      **Break**

10:30 – 11:30      **Workshop Session 1**

- **Workshop 1.1: Virtual Mobility / Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)**  
*Input: Eddie Scully (IE)*  
*Chair: Thomas Hoffmann (DE)*

[Workshop 1.1: Virtual Mobility / Collaborative Online International Learning \(COIL\)](#)

- **Workshop 1.2: Internationalisation @ home through experiential learning in a 3<sup>rd</sup> environment**  
*Input: Michiel Steemann, Windesheim University of Applied Sciences (NL)*  
*Chair: Roelijn Kok (NL)*

[Workshop 1.2: Internationalisation @ home through experiential learning in a 3<sup>rd</sup> environment](#)

- **Workshop 1.3: Metacognition: power for managing thinking for success**

*Input: Karine Oganisjana (LV)*

*Chair: Joanna Bednarz (PL)*

[Workshop 1.3: Metacognition: power for managing thinking for success](#)

11:30 – 12:00      **Break**

12:00 – 12:45      **Plenary 2: Erasmus without Paper (EWP) – The Erasmus Dashboard and the Online Learning Agreement (OLA)**

*Input: Rafael de Paz (ES)*

*Chair: Thomas Hoffmann (DE)*

[Plenary programme: Erasmus without Paper \(EWP\)](#)

18:00 – 20:00      **Online Social Event – “Meet & Greet”**

[Online Social Event – “Meet & Greet”](#)

## **Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> 2021**

09:30 – 10:00      **Plenary 3: Quo Vadis Internationalisation?**

*Input: Eva Werner (AT)*

*Chair: Ewa Oziewicz (PL)*

[Plenary programme: Quo Vadis Internationalisation?](#)

10:00 – 10:30      **Plenary 4: Gender Equality**

*Input: Meltem Kolday, Dokuz Eylul University (TR)*

*Chair: Banu Durukan (TR)*

[Plenary programme: Gender Equality](#)

10:30 – 11:00      **Break**

11:00 – 12:00      **Workshop Session 2**

- **Workshop 2.1: How do our institutions deal with inclusion and diversity?**

*Input: Heiner Schulze (DE) & Max Schachner (AT)*

*Chair: Thomas Hoffmann (DE)*

[Workshop 2.1: How do our institutions deal with inclusion and diversity?](#)

- **Workshop 2.2: Virtual Classroom Experiences**

*Input: Andrea Meyenburg (DE) & Susanne Wilpers (DE)*

*Chair: Griet Naeyaert (BE)*

[Workshop 2.2: Virtual Classroom Experiences](#)

- **Workshop 2.3: Developing Global Skills through Virtual Exchange**

*Input: Karin Pfister (CH) & Esther Giger Robinson (CH)*

*Chair: Joanna Bednarz (PL)*

[Workshop 2.3: Developing Global Skills through Virtual Exchange](#)

12:00 – 12:15      **Break**

12:15 – 13:00      **Plenary 5: Final Plenary**

*Chair: Thomas Hoffmann (DE)*

- **Workshop Reports (Padlets)**

*Input: Roelijn Kok (NL)*

- **Decisions**

*Input: Thomas Hoffmann (DE)*

[Plenary programme: Final Plenary](#)

## → WORKSHOPS AND PLENARIES - DESCRIPTIONS

### Plenary 1: Opening Plenary

#### **WISE 2.0: How to boost intercultural competence development abroad, at home and online**

The Windesheim Intercultural Skills Explorer has proven to be a useful approach during a pandemic, both to intensify coaching for outgoing students as well as for facilitating internationalisation@home initiatives. In the various COILS, virtual projects and hopefully soon to be developed Blended Intensive Projects, WISE offers a valuable basis to start from. This plenary will highlight the various applications of WISE and will also offer food for thought when it comes to the challenges we currently face ourselves in our role as international educators and facilitators.

*Chair: Roelijn Kok (NL)*

#### **Workshop 1.1: Virtual Mobility / Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)**

COIL or Collaborative Online International Learning also commonly referred to as 'virtual mobility' or 'virtual Erasmus' connects accredited courses, linking the classrooms of two or more higher education institutions, each located in a different country or cultural setting. Through co-developed and co-taught modules, COIL/virtual exchange supports the development of 21st-century workforce skills and provides opportunities for applied learning experiences.

Even prior to COVID 19 there was growing international interest in COIL/VE. That interest has grown enormously since the pandemic began, partially because traditional exchange is going to be a much diminished activity in the coming year at a minimum but also the migration to online academic delivery (albeit out of necessity) is changing mind-sets and opening up more possibilities too.

COIL/VE holds enormous promise as an activity in its own right, especially for HEIs where the barriers to traditional physical mobility inhibit all but marginal engagement. International best practice show that to function properly it need to be integrated into the academic programme and have as its focus the achievement of at least some of the current (or possibly adapted) learning outcomes. It need not necessarily be the sole focus of an entire module but can be more limited in its scope, at least initially.

There's more resources on VE here - <http://coil.suny.edu/> & <https://evolve-erasmus.eu/about-evolve/what-is-virtual-exchange/>

*Input: Eddie Scully (IE)*

*Chair: Thomas Hoffmann (DE)*

#### **Workshop 1.2: Internationalisation @ home through experiential learning in a 3<sup>D</sup> environment**

Sharing our experience with the virtual exchange program that we set up initially with universities from 7 different countries in 2020. The Virtual Exchange is a 7-week program centered around the world's first circular business simulation game, The Blue Connection. In teams of four, students compete against their peers. They negotiate, make trade-offs, and implement new strategies in a virtual environment. The challenge is to not only make the

company profitable, but also circular. Additionally, they enjoy a series of teambuilding activities, workshops exciting topics related to the circular economy, and get a real sense of the importance of cross-cultural experiences

*Input: Michiel Steeman, Windesheim University of Applied Sciences (NL)*

*Chair: Roelijn Kok (NL)*

### **Workshop 1.3: Metacognition: power for managing thinking for success**

The matter of metacognition and its interconnection with eight pillars of thinking. How metacognitive skills control, manage and enable thinking to succeed. Metacognition for enhancing awareness, directing thought and increasing mindfulness & responsibility.

*Input: Karine Oganisjana (LV)*

*Chair: Joanna Bednarz (PL)*

### **Plenary 2: Erasmus without Paper (EWP) – the Erasmus Dashboard and the Online Learning Agreement (OLA)**

ECHE holders 2021-2027 have committed to deploy all efforts in making the Erasmus Without Paper initiative a reality. New tools such as the Erasmus APP, the Erasmus Dashboard and the Online Learning Agreement have been deployed and should be of current use by Erasmus actors. The workshop proposes a hands-on process of testing the Erasmus APP, the Erasmus Dashboard and drafting a mock Learning Agreement over the OLA tool, so the partners can understand the process and help their home institutions in the process of adapting to this process that is soon to become mandatory to all institutions.

*Input: Rafael de Paz (ES)*

*Chair: Thomas Hoffmann (DE)*

### **Evening programme: Online Social Event – “Meet & Greet”**

For the Evening programme on Monday, we would like to spend time on both socializing as well as a professional exchange and so we kindly ask you to prepare the following:

#### *NICE@home*

Bring an object, photo, product, dish or anything else that you can think of that symbolizes the town/village where you live and be ready to share a short anecdote or impression of what is typical for the place you are joining from. This part of the programme was inspired by the fact that all of us were staying at home a lot in the past year and this seems a great opportunity to learn about each other’s familiar surroundings! We will split up in smaller groups in order to allow for actual conversation.

#### *Blended Intensive programmes*

The new Erasmus+ programme comes with new opportunities for collaboration in the form of Blended Intensive Programmes. During the evening session, we would like to make room for explorations among partners to meet each other and pair up in order to encourage the formation of alliances. Therefore, we would like to ask you to prepare the following:

\*If you are not yet hosting a BIP but actively looking for BIP opportunities for your students, make yourself known by wearing something **RED**

\*If you are still blank on this topic but eager to learn more about BIP with the help of those colleagues who are actively involved, please wear something **WHITE** so we can identify you.  
\*If you are hosting a BIP and have room for partners to join or like to inspire others by sharing ideas, please prepare a 5 minute pitch (with the help of a few slides perhaps) to share with us. Please wear something **BLUE** to make yourself known to others.

### **Plenary 3: Quo Vadis Internationalisation?**

Higher Education Institutions must equip students with those skills and competences that will enable them to work in a globalized world. Internationalisation has always been a driver in this context yet changing circumstances and global challenges seem to put internationalisation at stake. Must we rethink our internationalisation strategies? The presentation will provide food for thought and input for a comprehensive approach and understanding of internationalisation.

*Input: Eva Werner (AT)*

*Chair: Ewa Oziewicz (PL)*

### **Plenary 4: Gender Equality**

- "Women in Business Life" course design; encouraging students through inspirational stories of successful businesswomen
- Projects run by Platform up volunteer students and UN Agencies like "Orange Week", opening and mentoring High School Gender Equality Clubs etc...

*Input: Meltem Kolday, Dokuz Eylul Univeristy (TR)*

*Chair: Banu Durukan (TR)*

### **Workshop 2.1: How do our institutions deal with inclusion and diversity?**

Inclusion and non-discrimination are important strategic elements of all EU programmes. In their application for the European Charter of Higher Education, all participating institutions in the Erasmus+ programme had to show how they integrate these principles into their strategies and how they apply them to their Erasmus activities.

Heiner Schulze, Diversity Officer at Hochschule Nordhausen in Germany, will give us a short introduction into the concepts of diversity and inclusion and their local legal context. Thereafter, he will shortly present how HS Nordhausen tries to integrate inclusion and diversity into its institutional strategy.

In the second part of the workshop, Max Schachner will share experiences and challenges IMC FH Krems has been facing with implementing "diversity and inclusion" principles and processes. The institution-specific focuses will be stressed.

In the final part, all workshop participants will discuss future prospects for inclusion in international HEI co-operation in the context of the COVID-19 crisis.

*Input: Heiner Schulze (DE) & Max Schachner (AT)*

*Chair: Thomas Hoffmann (DE)*

### **Workshop 2.2: Virtual Classroom Experiences**

The Covid pandemic has resulted in the virtual classroom being realized faster than ever

dreamed of. We can now look back on almost 3 semesters of virtual teaching. In this workshop we want to talk about the virtual classroom experiences with international students and recommendations to enhance the Collaborative International Learning. We want to show as well the challenges of the administration, especially the International Offices.

*Input: Andrea Meyenburg (DE) & Susanne Wilpers (DE)*

*Chair: Griet Naeyaert (BE)*

### **Workshop 2.3: Developing Global Skills through Virtual Exchange**

In all areas of education, there is an increasing focus on global skills such as communication and collaboration, intercultural competence, or digital literacy. While study abroad programmes can help foster some of these skills, still only a small percentage of students benefits from them. HEs are therefore looking for more inclusive ways of developing students' global skills, and virtual exchange projects could make an important contribution in this context. However, VE is often misinterpreted. This workshop, therefore, aims to show what virtual exchange is (and what it isn't), how it can be used to foster global citizenship skills, and what the criteria are for a successful implementation of VE projects. We will present examples of successful projects but will also leave room for participants to share their experiences and discuss solutions to common obstacles.

*Input: Karin Pfister (CH) & Esther Giger Robinson (CH)*

*Chair: Joanna Bednarz (PL)*

### **Plenary 5: Final Plenary**

- **Workshop Reports (Padlets)**

Due to the online format of this conference, participants will prepare workshop reports on a padlet. Roelijn Kok will guide us through the results of our work.

- **Decisions**

The principles and values of the Nice Network will be brought to mind and reflected in the topical context of current affairs. The venue and date for the 2022 conference should be confirmed (proposal: Rijeka, HR 13/14 June 2022) and the venue for 2023 (proposal: Nordhausen, DE) decided. Furthermore, the members of the Steering Committee should be confirmed

Finally, the venue of the 2022 conference (Rijeka) will be presented.

*Input: Thomas Hoffmann (DE) & Gordana Nikolic (HR)*

*Chair: Roelijn Kok (NL)*