

Recognition of Prior Learning

'Assessment & Accreditation, Quality Assurance and Implementation of Procedures'

BOLOGNA-SEMINAR – AMSTERDAM - THE NETHERLANDS

11-12 December 2008

Newsletter 4 - November 2008

The Bologna Seminar on Recognition of Prior Learning, Quality Assurance and the Implementation of Procedures (in Higher Education) will be held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, December 11 and 12, 2008. This seminar will be hosted by the Dutch Government and is organised in cooperation with the BFUG Coordination Group for LLL, EURASHE, EUA and ESU.

The five themes are:

1. The role of a government in promoting RPL, in cooperation with other stakeholders like the employers' organisations, the (organisations of) Higher Education Institutions and other networks . and to make an inventory of the most relevant and effective instruments.
2. RPL and quality assurance, and the role of the stakeholders in Higher Education.
3. The way HEIs and other organisations in higher education are dealing with RPL and are implementing effective procedures.
4. Quality Codes (and principles) for RPL procedures, including the European context of RPL and QA.
5. RPL and costs and benefits for all stakeholders.

In this fourth Newsletter more about:

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Seminar Slogan

The students who are involved in the organisation of the seminar, proposed us to use a special slogan for the seminar . and we accepted their suggestion.

The slogan is: ***Learning Everywhere.***

You will find this slogan on the sweaters of the students, the conference material et cetera.

Registration

Registration for the seminar is not possible any more, because we have reached our maximum capacity. Those who are on the waiting list, will also receive after the seminar the final reports about the outcomes of the seminar . and the invitations for other seminars in the next period (2009-2010) about RPL and the five themes which are on the agenda for 11 and 12 December.

List of participants

The most actual list of participants can be found on the seminar website:

www.dashe.nl/events/bologna/rpl.html

In case your name, organisation and/or other details are not mentioned correctly in the list, please send us an email about this.

Next week we will also publish a list with the workshops and themes for every participant.

Programme

The programme is complete. Of course it can happen that we have to change some items and speakers; in such a case we will publish as quickly as possible an updated version on the seminar website (www.dashe.nl/events/bologna/rpl.html).

Thursday 11 December

09.00 . 09.45	Registration
09.45 . 10.40	Opening Ceremony
	Welcome addresses and introduction to the themes Stefan Delplace, secretary-general of EURASE (chair) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geert Dales, INHolland, President (Chairman of the Executive Board) of Hogeschool INHolland• Hélène Clark, Director Lifelong Learning (policy and programme), DG Employment• Maarten Camps, Director-General Employment, Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment
10.40 . 11.00	Patrick Leushuis, Project Directorate Learning and Working <i>The Dutch Government: RPL and QA</i>
11.00 . 11.20	Erik Kaemingk, Manager, Dutch Knowledge Centre for RPL, Utrecht <i>RPL and a Quality Code: how to use...</i>
11.20 . 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 . 13.00	Workshops Theme 1: Chair: Patrick Leushuis (Project Directorate Learning and Working Theme 2: Chair: Lucie te Lintelo (University of Applied Sciences, Amsterdam) Theme 3: Chair: Marja van der Dungen (CINOP) Theme 4: Chair: Erik Kaemingk (Dutch Knowledge Centre for RPL) Theme 5: Chair: Margriet Snellen (Dutch Knowledge Centre for RPL)
13.00 . 14.00	Lunch
Afternoon session:	Chaired by Michal Karpisek, Vice-president, EURASHE
14.00 . 14.20	<i>Anne Murphy, RPL Policy Officer Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland, on behalf of the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (NQAI)</i> %Development of NQAI Principles and Operational Guidelines for Recognition of Prior Learning in Further and Higher Education (2005)+
14.20 . 14.40	<i>Barbara Light, Institute for Work Based Learning, Middlesex University, England</i> %Work Based Learning and RPL+
14.40 . 15.00	<i>Jean-Marie Filoque, President of the French UCE Network, and Vice-Rector for LLL of the University of Brest</i> %RPL and French Universities : a long maturation process and a very clear law+
15.00 . 15.15	Coffee break

15.15 . 16.30	<p>Workshops</p> <p>Theme 1:</p> <p>Chair: Patrick Leushuis (Project Direction Work & Study)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Els Barbe, Flemish government, Department for Higher Education</i> - <i>Liesbeth Hens, Flemish government, Department for Higher Education</i> <p>Theme 2:</p> <p>Chair: Lucie te Lintelo (University of Applied Sciences Amsterdam)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Walburga Katharina Freitag, HIS (Higher Information Services) Research Unit, Hannover, Germany</i> Quality Assurance for APL: dimensions, actors, and processes - reflections based on an APL-initiative in Germany+ - <i>Karine Janssens, Ghent University, APL coordinator, Belgium</i> Quality Kit for RPL + <p>Theme 3:</p> <p>Chair: Marja van der Dungen (CINOP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ruth Whittaker, Depute Director of the Centre for Research in Lifelong Learning (CRLL), Scotland</i> RPL in the Scottish university sector: current practice and the way forward+ - <i>Anne Murphy, RPL Policy Officer Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland</i> DIT strategy for implementing national RPL Principles and Operational Guidelines <p>Theme 4:</p> <p>Chair: Erik Kaemingk (Dutch Knowledge Centre for RPL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Barbara Light, Institute for Work Based Learning, Middlesex University, England</i> RPL claim. Identify level and amount of creditsq - <i>Emmi Helle, Finland, secretary-general ENQA</i> RPL and Accreditation+ <p>Theme 5:</p> <p>Chair: Margriet Snellen (Dutch Knowledge Centre for RPL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Jean-Marie Filoque, President of the French UCE Network, and Vice-Rector for LLL of the University of Brest</i> RPL procedures: costs and benefits for French Universities+ - <i>Sylvie Bonichon, LAPRO, France</i> RPL and the private sector in HE+
16.30 . 17.00	Plenary session: Reports of the workshops
19.30 . 22.00	Candlelight dinner (on boats through the canals of Amsterdam) Starting point in front of the Amsterdam Central Station (Rederij Loversq)

Friday 12 December

Chaired by Lars Lynge-Nielsen, President, EURASHE

09.15 . 09.35	<i>Michael Hörig, Project Officer, EUA</i> Charter of LLL of the EUA . and the focus on RPL, QA and the Implementation of Procedures in Universities
09.35 . 09.55	<i>Michal Karpisek, Vice-President, EURASHE</i> LLL and RPL in Higher Professional Education Institutions and in Colleges
09.55 . 10.15	<i>Representative of ESU</i> The studentsqpinionō on RPL and LLL
10.15 . 10.40	<i>Jenneke Lokhoff, NUFFIC (Dutch ENIC/NARIC)</i> Study on formal recognition of non-formal and informal learning+

10.40 . 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 . 11.50	<i>Forum: What is in common?</i> What about a common Quality Code, in the future? International common principles and guidelines? What will and can be the role of the governments . and European organisations . looking at RPL, QA and IoP? What can be the role of National Qualifications Frameworks in the discussions about RPL and QA? How about the connection between RPL-procedures and Quality Assurance or Accreditation? Will RPL be crucial for LLL-processes?
11.50 . 12.10	<i>Micheline Scheys, Flemish government, Belgium</i> Report from the General Rapporteur
12.10 . 12.15	Closing of the morning session
12.30 . 13.45	Lunch
13.45 . 14.40	<i>Plenary session: Heineken and RPL</i> <i>Corrie Scholman, Heineken</i> How RPL can be used as an instrument in HRM - presentation - plenary discussion
14.40 . 14.45	Closing of the Seminar
14.45 . 15.30	Transfer to the Heineken Experience
15.30 . 17.00	Visit to the Heineken Experience (Beer Museum, movies, shows)

Documents

On the seminar website www.dashe.nl/events/bologna/rpl.html you will find new documents about the theme of the seminar. One of them is the final draft of a document with European Common Guidelines for Validation on Non-Formal and Informal Learning, in Vocational Education and Training.

Practical Information

We hope the following practical information will be of help during the Conference and make your stay in Amsterdam more enjoyable.

1 Arrival in the Netherlands and transport

From Schiphol Airport:

Infostop

Schiphol Airport has various Infostops. Infostops are information pillars offering a user-friendly way of finding how to get to your destination in your own language. Follow the instructions on the display and the machine will print a free handy map showing your route and giving you other useful information.

Trains

The train is the best and quickest way to get from Schiphol airport to Amsterdam Central Station. There are four direct trains an hour and the journey takes about 50 minutes. The station entrance is in the airport arrival hall. Look for the Nederlandse Spoorwegen (NS). There are ticket machines in the hall. Buy an *enkele reis* . one way ticket to Amsterdam Centraal.

How to reach your hotel

The best way to reach your hotel is to take the tram or the metro. A taxi is very expensive in Amsterdam, so we would not recommend taking one.

The IBIS Hotel Centre is close to the railway station.

The Eden Hotels can be reached by metro.

Walk in the main hall of Amsterdam Central Station (CS) in the direction of Amsterdam Centre (Centrum). At the end of the hall, don't go outside, but walk inside to the left. After 100 meters go to the right (look at the signs for 'metro', through the automatic doors and take the stairs to the metro and go underground to the right. There you will find an office where you can buy tickets for the metro (and also the tram). There are also ticket machines. See also 'strippenkaart'(below).

You can take every metro line (53, 54 or 51) to Waterlooplein (second stop). Walk on the platform in the direction 'Waterlooplein / Blauwbrug etc.'(it is opposite to the direction the metro is riding). Take the stairs or escalator and then to the left. Take again the stairs or escalator. Then you are behind the Opera House of Amsterdam. Go straight ahead to the bridge. Cross this bridge to the centre. At the other side to your right and after 120 meters you will find the Eden Hotel at your left hand side.

For the Eden Rembrandt: after the bridge straight ahead and you will find the hotel at your right hand side after 100 meters.

'Strippenkaart'

There is one standard ticket for all public transport (buses, trams and metro) except trains. This ticket is called a 'strippenkaart' (strip card) and comes with 2, 3, 8, 15 or 45 strips.

We can buy a 'strippenkaart' with 15 strips. The trip from Amsterdam CS to Station Waterlooplein takes 2 strips, from Waterlooplein to Station Diemen-Zuid, near the venue (and back) 3 strips.

You need your card anyway for the next trips:

- From CS to Station Waterlooplein (if you are staying in one of the Eden Hotels): 2 strips
- On Thursday: from Station Waterlooplein to Diemen-Zuid: 3 strips
- On Thursday: back to the hotel: 3 strips
- On Thursday: from Waterlooplein to Central Station (for the dinner): 2 strips
- On Friday: from Waterlooplein to Diemen-Zuid: 3 strips
- For travelling back home – from Waterlooplein to Central Station: 2 strips

We will use busses for the transfer from the venue to the Heineken Experience. From the Heineken Experience you can walk back to the hotel (about 15 minutes) or you can take the tram.

For more information, please visit www.amsterdam.info/transport/strippenkaart/. And ask the staff in the metro stations for 'how to use your strippenkaart'(you have to fold your card and then stamp it using one of the machines before entering the platforms).

Metro line

The venue is not far from the Metro Station Diemen Zuid. This is also a Railway Station, by the way.

Station Diemen-Zuid can be reached by taking the metro line 53, to Gaasterplas.

On the seminar website you can find a pdf-file with a map and the walking route from the station to the venue. But there will be also special signs for the participants in the seminar.

Pick up at Thursday Morning in the Eden Hotel

We will guide you on Thursday morning, from the Eden Hotel to the venue –

There will be students of Hogeschool Inholland who will accompany the groups with participants.

Of course you can go by yourself, if you know the way in Amsterdam.

The groups will leave the hotel on the following points of time:

- 08.15 h.
- 08.25 h.
- 08.35 h.
- 08.45 h.

The meeting place is the lobby of the hotel. The students are wearing their sweaters with the seminar logo: *Learning Everywhere*.

Other hotels

Almost all the participants are staying in one of the Eden Hotels. We recommend the other participants, staying in one of the other hotels, to ask the hotel staff how to reach one of the metro stations.

Back home

If you are flying back home on Friday, after the seminar and you are not visiting the Heineken Experience, you can take a direct train from Station Diemen-Zuid to Station Schiphol Airport, four times an hour.

If you are travelling on Friday evening, you can leave your luggage in the hotel and pick it up after the visit to the Heineken Experience.

2 Conference Venue

Venue

The venue for the seminar is in Diemen-Zuid, in one of the buildings of the Hogeschool Inholland (Inholland University of Applied Sciences).

Look at: <http://www.inholland.nl/NR/rdonlyres/487346BB-21A6-4276-B5CE-DF77274BF555/0/KleurrkDiemen.pdf>)

Registration desk and Auditorium

The registration desk can be found in the main hall of the building. The auditorium for the seminar is near the main hall.

Map

On the seminar website you can download a pdf-file with a (simple) map of Diemen, Station Diemen-Zuid and the venue.

3 Candlelight Dinner

On Thursday Evening we will have a candlelight dinner on boats through the canals of Amsterdam. We will use boats, explored by Rederij Lovers. The tour starts 19.30 hours. The boats can be found in opposite of the Amsterdam Central Station, near the Amstel, at the side of the centre of Amsterdam.

The details of Lovers are:

Rederij Lovers bv
Prins Hendrikkade 25
0031 20 5305412

Map to find 'Lovers'

You can find a map with the starting point of the boats on this website:

www.lovers.nl/information/info.asp?articleID=4

From the Eden Hotel to 'Lovers'

There will be students of Inholland in the Eden Hotel to guide the participants to the starting place. It takes a small walk to Station Waterlooplein and then by metro to Amsterdam CS.

The groups are leaving the hotel at the following points of time:

18.40 h.
18.45 h
18.50 h
19.00 h.

From the other hotels to 'Lovers'

Ask the staff of your hotel how to travel by tram or metro to Amsterdam CS.

Dress code

The dress code for the Candlelight Dinner is just smart casual.

Vegetarian

If you would have a vegetarian dinner, please send us an email about this.

4 Currency and banking

The currency of the Netherlands, as in most of the European Union, is the euro (€). The vast majority of shops, restaurants, museums, etc. accept credit cards as well as cash.

5 Emergency telephone numbers

The general emergency number in the Netherlands for ambulance, police and the fire service is 112. The internal General Security Services number is 81100, which can be reached from every phone in the building. From your mobile phone the number is (0031) 10-4081100.

6 Language

Dutch is spoken in the Netherlands but in towns and tourist areas almost everyone speaks English. The official language of the conference is English.

7 Time

The time zone of the Netherlands is Central European Time.

8 List of participants

You will receive a printed copy of the most actual list of participants when you register, together with a list of participants for the work groups.

Requests:

We have (still) a few requests for (some of) the participants in the seminar. Please send your answers to info@leido.nl, if you have not yet done so.

1. Please let us know in which hotel you are staying. If you have not booked a room in the Hotel Eden, it is important for us to know where we can find you
2. If you want vegetarian meals, we can take care of that.
3. Just for the participants from outside the Netherlands: let us know in which of the themes you are interested. We can use this information for arranging the workshops.

Next Newsletter

The next (and last) newsletter will be published at the beginning of December, a week before the seminar.

See you in Amsterdam!