



Consortium Meeting Completes a Busy Year

BUCUM

To round off what was a busy year for the BUCUM project, the project's partners, including university Presidents, Vice Presidents, the Ministry of Higher Education in Lebanon and the Secretary General of Association of Arab Universities (AArU) met in Alexandria, Egypt on 15th and 16th December 2014 for a consortium meeting to discuss the progress so far and to plan activities for the final year.



The audience assembled in AAST's grand hall for the welcome addresses and an overview of the Tempus pro-

Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AAST) hosted delegates from Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon, Italy, Spain, Greece and the UK at their Abu Kir campus. Delegates were welcomed by Project Coordinator and Pro Vice Chancellor (International) of Cardiff Metropolitan University, Professor Mohamed Loutfi, Professor Ismail Abdel Ghafar, President of AAST, and Professor Sultan Abu Orabi, Secretary General of AArU.

In his welcome address, Professor Mohamed Loutfi underlined the aims of the project in supporting the ever growing demand for effective leaders within higher education. He went on to thank the partners for their continued support in making the activities of the project such a success.

Following the welcome addresses, Professor Alfredo Moscardini, Project Manager, presented an overview of the project to an audience of staff and students from AAST, Alexandria University and Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology.

The consortium then met at a closed meeting on campus to discuss the activities of BUCUM. With so many different components to the project, it was an opportunity for partners to discuss and share progress in person. By the end of the two days the consortium left with a strong plan for the final year.



The BUCUM Consortium

2015 will see the delivery of the short courses, which will begin in February, and the MOOCs will commence in September. They will be supported by the Governance Centres, which will open in Spring 2015.

Further coverage of the meeting can be found in the following articles: www.a5baralex.com and on www.albawabhnews.com.



Activities progressed in 2015, with the short course on Internationalisation being hosted by Alexandria University on 4th and 5th February. The team, led by Professor Maria Sticchi Damiani of Sapienza University of Rome, included Professor Mohamed Ismail Ibrahim of Alexandria University, Dr Omar Dessouki of Suez Canal University and Dr Azza El Sharabassy of AAST, and all were in attendance.

Participants of the course included Dr Abulkasem Dowda of University of Zawia, Dr Latiifa Attieh of MUBS and Professor Mohamed Tahiri of University Hassan II Casablanca. After completing the course, they will now deliver it to colleagues in their home universities and other universities in their respective countries.

Given the home location, a number of delegates attended from the Egyptian partner universities, including Dr Ateya Aref and Dr Ibrahim Farris of Suez Canal University, Dr Mohamed Nabil El Shaib and Dr Sahr El Barky of AAST and Dr Boshra Salem, Dr Ehab Ibrahim Abdou and Dr Hebatalla Farouk Abouelfadl of Alexandria University.

Following a welcome by Acting President of Alexandria University, Professor Roushdy Zahran, the course addressed the internationalisation of HEIs and looked at issues including motives and obstacles, strategies, implementation and funding. At the end of the course, participants were asked to create an internationalisation plan for their home universities.



Delegates of the short course on Internationalisation, hosted by Alexandria University, 4th-5th February 2015



Acting President of Alexandria University, Professor Roushdy Zahran and Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research, Professor Seddik Abdelsalam welcoming delegates.

Future Activities

Following the short course on Internationalisation will be the short course on Research Strategies, which is being led by Professor Luciano Saso, Deputy Rector for the Development of the UNICA network, at Sapienza University of Rome. Delivery of this is due on 26th and 25th February. The courses on Quality Assurance and Soft Skills will follow in March. The courses will be hosted by Alexandria University, MUBS and Cadi Ayyad University respectively and will be completed by April 2015. Following these initial deliveries, the courses will be repeated in each partner institution and then expanded to universities within the partner countries.

For further information and updates on the project, please visit

<http://bucum.eu/>

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