



Rethinking Education: DDLUB Case Study

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Abstract

The acronym DDLUB will be used to identify the Department for Distance Learning of the University of Bucharest, Romania. This paper is aiming to present how evolved our department over the past 14 years and how we are preparing to change the education within our institution.

DDLUB was established in 1999 in order to promote distance learning, continuing education and professional conversion. The past achievements were reported during the workshop "Best practices and case studies of Distance Learning", organized within "The 9th eLearning and Software for Education Conference, eLSE 2013, April 25th - 26th, 2013, [1].

This paper, was written having in mind the very recent CE's initiative [2], with the title "Rethinking Education: Investing in skills for better socio-economic outcomes", Strasbourg, 20.11.2012, COM(2012) 669(final). During her speech [3], Mrs. Androulla VASSILIOU (Member of the European Commission in charge of Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth) has suggested that the Member States have to focus their reforms in three areas: quality, accessibility, and funding. The University of Bucharest, one of the most important HE institution in Romania and our department DDLUB particularly, are already working in the areas of quality and accessibility.

In Chapter 1. We will present, in brief, the actual context for higher education in EU and in Romania. The document [4] underlines some weaknesses we have: at 18.1 % in 2010, Romania still has the lowest tertiary attainment in the E Furthermore, high youth unemployment among tertiary graduates reveals wide gaps in the quality of tertiary education and mismatches between tertiary offers and labour market needs, which will create a major bottleneck once economic growth resumes".

The Chapter 2 will present how we intend to develop online courses based on best practices in distance learning we have been implemented during the last 14 years.

The Chapter 3 will present the DDLUB running pilot test concerning use of modern digital technologies in education (including virtual learning environments, eLearning resources etc.)

The Chapter 4 will include information concerning entrepreneurial education promoted by DDLUB.

The Chapter 5 is devoted to the lifelong learning initiatives and successful implementation of the public-private-partnership.

References

- [1] <http://elseconference.eu/papers/view>
- [2] http://ec.europa.eu/education/news/rethinking/com669_en.pdf
- [3] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-12-847_en.htm
- [4] "2012 Joint Report of the Council and the Commission on the implementation of the Strategic, Framework for European cooperation in education and training"