



**Enhancing Quality of Technology-Enhanced Learning
at Jordanian Universities**

EQTel

544491-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-ES-TEMPUS-SMGR

Università degli Studi Guglielmo Marconi

Rome, Italy

Study Tour

03-05 October 2016

Minutes of Meeting

Participants

Christine Appel	Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Monica Fasciani	Università degli Studi “Guglielmo Marconi”
Arturo Lavalle	Università degli Studi “Guglielmo Marconi”
Ilaria Reggiani	Università degli Studi “Guglielmo Marconi”
Anais Gourdin	ENQA
Tero Keva	University of Turku
Albert Basart	AQU
Ahmad Khasawneh	Hashemite University
Alaa Eddien Abdullah	Hashemite University
Ayoub Alsarhan	Hashemite University
Adnan Atoum	Yarmouk University
Amal Nusir	Yarmouk University
Ziad Al-Saad	Yarmouk University
Mamoun Dmour	University of Jordan
Faris Al smadi	University of Jordan
Majed Abu Jaber	University of Jordan
Nayed Al Sharah	University of Jordan
Renad Abbadi	Al-Hussein Bin Talal University
Bassam Abu Karaki	Al-Hussein Bin Talal University
Lubna Al-Jazi	Princess Sumaya University for Technology
Jarir Alnsour	Princess Sumaya University for Technology
Hussein Almajali	Princess Sumaya University for Technology
Ayam Yasin	Princess Sumaya University for Technology
Abdallah Al-Zoubi	Princess Sumaya University for Technology
Ezzalden AlIssa	Princess Sumaya University for Technology
Mohammad Al Zboon	MoHe
Munira Oweemer	MoHe
Muhammad Rafat	AARU
Sultan Abu Orabi	AARU

Participants in the meeting were initially welcomed by Arturo Lavalle, Head of the R&D Department at Marconi University (USGM). The welcome was followed by remarks made by Professor Abdallah Al-Zoubi, project coordinator, on the status of the project and progress made so far. He also presented



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a brief on the project and the main deliverables that need to be tackled. Discussions on the project progress were then given as follows:

1. Discussion on the situation of Yarmouk University that has decided to provide the English language course online for all the sections after the promising results of the successful pilots of the first phase of the online course experimentation.
2. Professor Al-Zoubi stressed the importance of the website for the project results dissemination. The website contains a description of the project background and activities and it is continuously updated with news on project progress and events organised. News on the partners can be found on the website together with a page of access to the online courses.
3. Professor Al-Zoubi highlighted the importance of the final report delivery phase. Each partner needs to provide its contribution to this activity especially related to its role on the project. The final report needs to be delivered by the 31 July 2017 (2 months after the end of the project). PSUT will produce a first draft and will circulate it at the beginning of 2017 in order to collect information from each partner.
4. The final conference will be held in Amman on the 8-9 May 2017. The topic of the conference will be related to the topic of the project i.e. quality in technology enhanced learning. Each partner is invited to indicate a speaker who can contribute talking about the partner experience, however most of the focus needs to be put on the project achievement on the relevant topic. PSUT can provide a draft agenda indicating specifically the topic of the conference while the partners need to send the following information:

- Name of presenter
- Photo of presenter
- Short bio of presenter
- Title of talk
- Abstract of talk

3 keynote speakers need to be identified. Professor Al-Zoubi suggest Professor Josep Deuart for the EU partners while the project manager will represent the Jordanians partners.

5. Anais Gourdin from ENQA will send out an evaluation survey after the meeting as was done for previous meetings. Each partner needs to respond (the options are that each participants responds for himself /herself or 1 participants responds for its own institution.

04 October 2016

The second day the meeting was held at USGM premises as the first day.

1. The morning session started with the presentation of Professor Adnan Atoum about a report on piloting and delivering the 3 pilot courses. The English language course online has been implemented by Yarmouk University, PSUT and Hashemite University. The course on renewable energy was implemented by Hashemite, Yarmouk and University of Jordan and PSUT while the communication lab has not yet been implemented due to technical problems that have already been solved by PSUT. The communication lab is scheduled to be held during the autumn semester.

2. The results from the pilot course implementation during the spring semester were shown indicating quite promising prospects even if the implementation was challenging for some aspects. The involved universities submitted a survey to the participants during the summer in order to explore the effectiveness of the e-learning courses in comparison to traditional courses. The survey included also an evaluation of the e-learning courses by the students. As mentioned, the results were quite good even if there were some differences between the involved universities. One of the reasons might be the different level of involvement of instructional designer and teaching staff in the production of the e-learning courses. Some of the partners ask for a focus on the training of instructors and teaching staff and not only of accreditation personnel.

The morning session went on with a further presentation by Professor Adnan Atoum on planning of the delivery of 3 pilot courses next fall semester.



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1. All the 5 Jordanian universities involved in the piloting activities are going to offer the English language course during the fall semester. Professor Adnan Atoum suggests to use a standardised format for a survey to be submitted to the participants for all the 5 universities in order to have a standardised evaluation of the implemented activities.

2. Pilot coordinators and courses implemented:

University	Coordinator	English Course	Renewable Energy Course	Communication Lab
Yarmouk University	Adnan Atoum	X	X	
University of Jordan	Mamoun Dmour		X	X
Hashemite University	Ahmad Khasawneh	X	X	
PSUT	Ayman Yasin	X	X	
Hussein bin Talal University	Bassam Abu Karaki	X		

In the afternoon session, 3 presentations were given:

1. Professor Majed Abu Jaber, UoJ, presented procedures followed by the “Degree Equivalence and Programme Recognition” Department at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Jordan on recognising online and distance education degrees and granting equivalence certificates to applicant graduated from universities abroad. A full report on “Liaison with MoHE for Joint ENQA-MoHE Manual” will be produced and ratified by the consortium during the next meeting in OUC.
2. Dr Ahmad Khasawneh, Hashemite University, presented the proposed capacity building plan For the Higher Education Accreditation Commission (HEAC) staff and QA reviewers on topics related to QA of TeL courses and programmes to enhance the expertise of HEIs in Jordan and provide overall support to HEAC staff. The levels of capacity building activities included capacity building of the HEAC staff, the quality assurance division in particular, and capacity building of 6 Jordanian HEIs, in addition to raining of QA reviewers. A full detailed report on the capacity building plan will be produced and ratified by the consortium during the next meeting in OUC.
3. Professor Muhammad Rafat AARU, recited several cases of best practices on online and distance learning in Arab countries. A full report on “Best Practices Manual for Jordan TEL” will be produced and ratified by the consortium during the next meeting in OUC.

Activities to be Implemented

The following reports need be prepared by 31 October 2016 to be ratified during the UOC meeting in Barcelona in the period 12-14 December 2016 as follows:

- Capacity Building Programme-to be prepared by HU and HEAC in consultation with UTU.
- Liaison with MoHE for Joint ENQA-MoHE Manual- to be prepared by UoJ and MoHE in consultation with ENQA.
- Best Practice Manual- to be prepared by AARU in consultation with USGM.

Future Events

- UTU Leadership meeting 02-04/11/2016
- Best practice workshop in UOC 11-15/12/2016.
- Jordanian staff training, Amman 20-21/02/2016
- Completion of study tour to ENQA, to be set by ENQA.
- Final conference, Amman 08-09/05/2016.



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05 October 2016

A group of participants attended the visit to Marconi University Multimedia Department. After a briefing meeting with the Coordinator of the Multimedia department the involved participants had a tour of each of the office involved in the material production. A representative of each office explained its role and daily work related to the production phase.



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