

Idealistic Report

Technische Universiteit Delft, Delft UT
Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen, RWTH Aachen
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich, ETH Zürich
Institut des sciences et technologies, ParisTech

Participants :

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Workshops

Workshop 1: Presentation

Short welcome by Mr. Niedermann, the ETH responsible for IDEALeague
Presentation of the student associations
Latest projects of the student associations

Workshop 2: Student`s attitude towards studying and university

Workshop 3: trend in higher education

Is there a trend back to diploma?
MOOC`s
TOC`s

Workshop 4: formation of opinion of student association`s representatives

How do the different student associations gain their knowledge about the students opinions

Workshop 5: student exchange between IDEALeague universities

How is it now (introduction by Barbara Schori)
Is there a need to improve it?
How could it be improved?

Workshop 6: structure of IDEALiStiC past

Workshop 7: structure of IDEALiStiC future

Workshop 8: University politics communication to the students

How are the current discussions in the university politics communicated to the students

Final discussion: presentation of the results of the workshops

Results

Workshop 1: Presentation

All participants were warmly welcomed by Christoph Niedermann, Responsible for IDEALeague besides of ETH Zurich.

This Workshop shouldn't be on the agenda next time instead there should be an information sheet about the different study associations and how they work.

Workshop 2: Students attitude

There are different boundary conditions for all the students from the different schools. But we got the feeling that all the boundary conditions are changing in a way that they will be meeting in the middle. The voluntary work is more encouraged at TU Delft than at the other universities.

Workshop 3: Trend in higher education

The discussion was about diploma vs. bachelor/master system. There are several study areas where a nearly bachelor master system in 5 years were in the thought by some responsible people.

The topic of the MOOCs is present in all universities. TU Delft has a big open MOOC Angebot. ETH Zurich and RWTH Aachen have more restricted platforms where the MOOCs are available only for their students. All the participants agreed that the MOOCs shouldn't replace the normal lectures but support them instead. In Delft the idea is to give some of the gained value out of the public money back to the public. Also it was mentioned that the restricted platforms should be opened for collaboration with the IDEALeague universities. This would enhance the benefits of this systems and would give an added value to IDEALeague.

The discussion turned into an discussion about adding value to the IDEALeague network because we think that the exchange of ideas and between students and professors of the different unions could enhance the education for all of us. New steps have to be made to bring the collaboration on a new level.

Workshop 4: Formation of opinion of students

This workshop was exchange of the current opinion gaining methods of the different student unions. TBD

One of the conclusion is that using a fully equipped homepage and the social media pointing to this page and informing on an easy level is that method mostly used and includes a big group of students but reaching all students might be difficult and is probably not possible.

Workshop 5: Student exchange between IDEALeague universities

The student exchange between the IDEALeague universities is mostly based on the erasmus network and only some research exchange is funded by IDEALeague itselfs. The numbers of accepted students between these universities is higher compared to the other universities in the erasmus network. The student representatives agreed on that the exchange between IDEALeague universities should be much easier. The formalities should be less that the exchange numbers and the sense of community increase. The acceptance of credits should be easier and the access to information about the different lectures should be facilitated. The selection of courses should be possible later when the new lecture plans are available. Another problem is the overlapping of the exam period and the lecture period at the partner universities.

The universities should provide information about strength of the other IDEALeague partner universities and encourage the professors and tutors to send their students abroad to these partners.

Cooperation: In its simplest form it involves things working in harmony

Cooperation within the idea league is worthless as long as harmony ,in and between, the universities is not in place. There are still existing unnessesary high boarders (ECTS accaption, planification) that

scares potential students to use the mobility options that IDEA League could provide if well used and adapted.

Workshop 6&7: Structure of IDEALiStiC in past and future

In the old protocols we found out that there was an IDEALiStiC board in the past which had video conferences and meetings on a regular basis. We agreed that the old structure was no ideal. The focus should be only on education and activities. The technology enhanced the last years and that's why we want to reinstall an IDEALiStiC board and at the end of the Conference the members will be elected always at the Conference but replacements due to personal changes can be done by the student unions themselves. The positions will be: Chair, Secretary, Public Relations and Treasurer. The board will consist of one member of each student union. The first VC will be before July 5. The board should prepare some statutes for the next Conference to make it a little bit more official.

Otto Schullian is elected unanimously as Chair of the board.

Marco Braunen is elected unanimously as board member for Public Relations.

Workshop 8: University politics communication to the students

VSETH has got a problem that a lot of students do not know what VSETH is doing. They only know it from the party organisation

and not for their political work. One point is that VSETH doesn't have a campaign where the candidates are presenting themselves, their political plans and the student union. One of the ideas was that the board introduces the student union in the lectures of the first and second year in the first week of the autumn semester.

Another point is, that the board members from TU Delft are all working full-time for the board. They are most of the time recognizable as member of their party.

Topics for the next conference:

High Dropout-Percentage. Should we try to decrease the dropout numbers and how?

Which instruments do the universities use to support the students to not drop out.