

Preface

Proceedings of the International Conference “Delivering impact in higher education learning and teaching: Enhancing cross-boarder collaborations”

Dear Colleagues

It is a great privilege for us to present the proceedings of the International Conference 2021 to the authors and delegates of the event. We hope that you will find it useful, exciting and inspiring.

The collection of proceedings contains the papers submitted to the International Conference **Delivering impact in higher education learning and teaching: Enhancing cross-boarder collaborations** which was held in Ural State University of Economics in Ekaterinburg, Russia, during April 6-9, 2021. The Conference was part of an international conference series within the framework of the ERASMUS+ Capacity Building Project: **Enhancing Teaching Practice in Higher Education in Russia and China (ENTEP)**. There was a significant international representation, with participants coming from universities of Europe, China and Russia.

The Conference aims to provide a platform for discussing the issues, challenges, opportunities and findings of research on higher education teaching and learning practice. Hopefully, it will also spark innovative ideas, foster research relations or partnership between the various institutions.

The improvement of higher education quality becomes an increasingly important issue. One of the most important contributions resides in what and how we learn through the improvement of educational processes. Our International Conference seeks to provide some answers and explore the processes, actions, challenges and outcomes of learning, teaching and human development. Our goal is to offer a worldwide connection between teachers, students, researchers and lecturers, from a wide range of academic fields, interested in exploring and giving their contribution in educational issues.

This Conference addressed different categories inside the Higher Education area and papers are expected to fit broadly into one of the four main broad-ranging categories:

- Russia and Bologna process: perspectives, problems, convergence process;
- China and Bologna process: perspectives, problems, convergence process;
- Ways to adopt European experience of providing higher education in Russia and China (ENTEP Project realisation);
- Providing high-quality higher education in Europe, Russia and China: problems and solutions.

The year 2020 and the COVID pandemic brought a changed context for higher education all over of the world. One notable change in the educational landscape

occurred during the past year: transition from traditional in-class lessons to online versions. So it is hardly surprising that in their research the majority of our contributors focus on the impact of the COVID crisis on teachers' perceptions regarding their online teaching expectations.

The editors hope that this publication will provide the reader a broad overview of the latest teaching practices, and that it will be a valuable reference source for further research.

We are optimistic and full of hope about getting the proceedings of the Conference covered by Web of Science in due course.

The editors would like to express their sincere appreciations and thanks to all the authors for their contributions to this publication.

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for all of the reviewers for their constructive comments on the papers.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the members of the organizing team for their hard work.

And we are looking forward to further cooperation and future meetings at the Ural State University of Economics in Ekaterinburg.

ENTEP coordinator Professor Holger Kusse