

SUT ISTW 12-16 June 2023 Programme

Monday, 12 June

Theme: Collaboration problem solving

- 8.30 – 9.00 **Registration**
- 9.00 – 9.15 **Greetings by Rector of SUT**
- 9.15 – 9.45 **Silesian University of Technology - Research, educational offer and cooperation opportunities.**
Grzegorz Kłapyta, Head of the International Relations Office, SUT
- 9.45 – 10.15 **Presentation of the programme and getting to know each other**
Grażyna Duda, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT,
Gosia Kurek, Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa
- 10.15 – 10.45 Coffee break
- 10.45 – 11.30 **Handling challenges and pitfalls of collaboration**
Gosia Kurek, Jan Długosz University, Częstochowa, Poland

Intercultural collaborative contexts such as Virtual Exchange and COIL are commonly acknowledged as growth-based learning environments and, as such, are gaining popularity in tertiary education. While the benefits of team learning are already well established, less attention is given to how academic teachers and project facilitators can recognize and handle inevitable pitfalls and challenges resulting from students' different goals and expectations, varying levels of engagement or cultural differences. In the talk I will address various types of challenge emerging in Virtual Exchange projects and will share tips for pedagogical interventions that can make a positive difference in intercultural collaborative learning. They will be illustrated with real-life examples. I hope you will find them inspiring.

- 11.30 - 12.15 **Creating quality opportunities for students to develop competences for a sustainable future**
Melanie Ellis, Faculty of Organization and Management, Department of Applied Linguistics, SUT, Poland

The world is facing unprecedented challenges from climate change and damage caused by human activity. To ensure a sustainable future for humankind, action for change in all walks of life is needed across all societies and from every one of us, starting right now. Quality education is seen as a key Sustainable Development Goal (UN, SDG 4, 2015) needed to help students build the range of competences for this Green Transition.

Drawing on the frameworks LifEcomp (2020) and GreenComp (2022) I will outline how collaborative project-based learning can provide opportunities for students to focus on the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to cope in the 21st century. We will consider the roles of goals, tasks, and assessment in project work, looking at how to shift the focus and make these inclusive and learner-centred. You will work in groups, working with competences from LifEComp and GreenComp, to start framing possible problems as the focus for inter-disciplinary cooperative projects. This may be the first step on your path to international collaboration!

- 12.15 – 13.00 Receiving grants
- 13.00 – 13.30 Lunch
- 14.30 – ? **Tour of the Region and dinner sponsored by SUT in Koszęcin** <http://zespolslask.pl/us>

Tuesday, 13 June

Themes: Promoting various forms of interaction in online education. Connected Learning

9.00 – 10.30 **Building connectedness and networks through information literacy.**

*Kay Oddone, Charles Sturt University, Australia,
Alastair Creelman, ex-Linnaeus University, Sweden*

Professional learning and growth has always depended upon an individual's capacity to build connectedness and to network effectively with others. Advances in technologies have allowed people to broaden their networks to engage with information and people all over the world; however the culture of openness and sharing that social technologies once nurtured has been impacted by mis- and dis- information, the Covid infodemic and most recently the advent of generative artificial intelligence (GAI).

What capabilities must students develop today in order to navigate a digital world that is awash with information of unverified provenance? How do educators design pedagogies that encourage students to develop connectedness capabilities and social networking skills when platforms are engineered to maximize profit at any cost?

This presentation examines the concept of learning as a connected professional. It offers the theoretical underpinning of networks, communities and personal learning networks, and situates these within our contemporary information ecosystem. We will discuss how information and digital literacies are vital skills within the professional's networking repertoire, and consider strategies that support students to develop capabilities which may in turn enhance graduate outcomes and inspire contemporary learning initiatives.

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 13.15 **Telecollaborative and CLIL projects at SUT FLC**

11.00 – 11.30 **Mechanical Dolls - the challenges of sharing expertise.**

*Iwona Seta-Dąbrowska, Foreign Languages Centre SUT,
Daniela Caluianu, Otaru University of Commerce, Japan*

Sharing knowledge is one of the essential characteristics of collaborative projects. If collaboration involves different majors, such as technology and commerce, the tasks are usually planned in such a way that the participants can share the expertise in their professional field. As is frequently the case with Virtual Exchange projects, even apparent failure has its benefits. In the presentation we will talk about our last Japanese-Polish project on mechanical dolls which was designed in a similar way but it had some unexpected outcomes.

11.30 - 12.00 **Developing teaching and learning strategies using online collaboration**

*Ildiko Dosa, Budapest Business School,
Grażyna Duda, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT,
Students of SUT*

In our modern world we need more than ever to collaborate globally to find sustainable solutions to the challenges we face. It is the role of us teachers to prepare our students for working and living in this fast changing world. In our presentation we will show how traditional ESP classroom practices can be extended into a virtual exchange innovative and motivating learning environment, where students are engaged in task-based interaction and collaboration. We will share our experience in planning and developing interdisciplinary cross-border projects carried out by the engineering and business students of universities in France, Hungary and Poland who were working together on the tasks which were related to their study area, and at the same time were developing intercultural competence and foreign language skills.

12.00 – 12.45 **"IT Challenges" Project**

*Grażyna Duda, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT & Students of Applied Mathematics
and Informatics Faculty, SUT*

In our presentation we will show how the CLIL approach provides reasons for learning and improving the foreign language level through adding of subject content. It gives learning meaning and is very motivating for students. It also shifts the focus from the teacher and makes the class more learner-centred. The students of Applied Mathematics and Informatics Faculty of SUT will present outcomes of their recent project called "Informatics Challenges" which was carried out during the English language classes and resulted in designing and making two websites, computer game and a prototype of containerisation application.

12.45 – 13.15 Pillars and practical aspects of CLIL projects in architectural education in German

*Gabriela Szewiola, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT,
Krzysztof Kafka, Faculty of Architecture, SUT*

Learning activities in the form of a CLIL project are based on several pillars. An important value is the autonomy of the project participants. Analyses and concepts are developed in the subject classes and implemented in the foreign language classes. The participants make their own choices and determine the focus of their research. One of the pillars is also the professional and practical dimension of the developed content. The students' work is or can be used by the cities and municipalities for the new development of specific areas. Cities and municipalities are the third actor in the project and can influence the direction of the project with their guidelines. This is another benefit that also affects the participants - it gives them a sense of real influence on reality.

13.15 – 14.30 Lunch

17.00 – 20.00 **Networking Party sponsored by SUT, Mrowisko (Mrowisko Club, Pszczyńska 85 street, Gliwice)**

Wednesday, 14 June

Themes: Education for sustainable development – the relevance of VE

8.45 – 10.30 Virtual Exchange to Tackle Wicked Problems: The Case of the VAMOS Project

Leonie Paul, LUT University, Finland

Within VAMOS, Virtual Exchange (VE) courses are developed as bottom-up initiatives by an international group of educators around the world. The aim is to facilitate joint learning experiences between students and teachers in Europe and Latin America on wicked problems through an international, multicultural and multidisciplinary exchange. Climate change is an issue without borders, yet the impacts vary locally. To address this inherent paradox - the need for enhanced global cooperation and various restrictions on global mobility - universities are urged to develop more innovative and sustainable forms of internationalization. In this session, we want to share our experience of collaborating around wicked problems and working with students as agents of change through VE. We will look at the challenges, lessons learned, and future implications of the VAMOS project as well as its translation into similar contexts. Let's disenchant VE in a world full of wicked problems!

10.30 – 11.00 "Call to Tender" Project – building student's awareness of sustainability issues

*Grażyna Duda, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT
Colette Mosset-Keane, Icam School of Engineering, Nantes, France*

The aim of our project was to help students to engage with sustainability issues and initiatives in the community and to facilitate greater understanding of their perception and awareness of sustainability issues. Students were assigned to attend a 30-minute city council meeting and decide about the installation of a controversial amenity which will involve major disruption in a small rural area. In addition they had to complete ready-made scenarios of the meeting and appoint roles of its participants. Moreover, the students were wrestling with appropriate data for themselves, making use of their content knowledge or seeking help from their content teachers and other sources, therefore examining environmental issues with greater insight. The project was carried out by the students of SUT and ICAM University in Nantes in France, which gave the participating students the opportunity to learn about environmental protection situation in both countries and possibilities of cooperation in this field.

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 12.15 **Open Badges: Where will they take you?**

Teresa MacKinnon, ex-Warwick University, Great Britain

In last year's presentation on virtual exchange and the badge ecosystem developed during the Erasmus Plus initiative I offered opportunities for engaging with open badges as recognition of participation. For many, this was the first encounter with this form of digital recognition and so I left you with resources to return to such as this Remixer for further experimentation. In this presentation I would like to illustrate the importance of using your badges to find new opportunities and gather evidence of your digital experiences. Such evidence can then be used in many ways such as:

- to help connect the badge earner to new communities of practice,
- to locate new opportunities for learning
- to enhance an application for a new professional role.

Use of the open badge infrastructure can support heutagogic (self-directed) approaches to learning whether you are an issuer or a badge awardee. At the heart of badge earning is the agency of the badge owner, the more one actively curates and intentionally makes use of one's badges the more one takes control of one's digital presence and learning. Activity is a vital part of the process. As Nardi put it (1996): "you are what you do." Seen through the lens of Activity Theory as Vygotsky interpreted it, the use and construction of artefacts are part of human development: the mind is developed through activity (Vygotsky, 1978). Intentionally collecting, curating and contextualising one's badges online supports double loop learning and is particularly suited to online and distance education as explained by Blaschke (2012)

12.15 – 13.00 **Sustainable collaboration is the way forward, albeit with some challenges**

Reka Polak-Weldon, Budapest Business School, Hungary

Collaboration makes the world go round, it helps us solve problems, it allows us to learn from each other, it brings us all together, it boosts morale and of course it makes us more efficient in our jobs. But it also feels demanding sometimes "to work together" with people we've never even met and possibly never will. I miss face-to-face interactions despite understanding very clearly that online collaboration is the way forward. In my talk I will focus on a sustainable collaboration project I was part of and some of the challenges our collaborators face in such projects. I also would like to find ways to place sustainable collaboration into the wider social context of today's changing world.

13.30 – 18.00 **International Grill Party – Refreshments and opportunity to meet with counterparts from SUT, Klub Pracowników PŚ (SUT Employees' Club, Banacha 3 street, Gliwice)**

Thursday, 15 June

Themes: Project development strategies;

English for scientific research and business communication

9.00 – 9.30 **CLIL as part of a syllabus**

*Iwona Seta-Dąbrowska, Janusz Sroka, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT,
Małgorzata Gołaszewska, Faculty of Civil Engineering, SUT*

Content and Language Integrated learning (CLIL) aims at combining language practice and specific content delivery. This task-based and active learning approach is gaining more importance in an academic environment. In our presentation we will talk about implementing CLIL method at the Faculty of Civil Engineering. We will share our experience of cooperation between language and content teachers resulting in a regular two-semester CLIL programme extending students' knowledge about concrete and construction processes, as well as providing our students with hands-on experience in concrete making. Some emphasis will also be put on the tailor-made teaching materials that we have devised to make our CLIL programme even more unique and attractive to its participants.

9.30 – 9.45 **Towards sustainable language education – bilingual projects at FLC SUT**
Renata Pelka, Bożena Stefanowicz, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT

Sustainable development- as Wikipedia suggests- is an organizing principle for meeting human development goals while also sustaining the ability of natural systems to provide the natural resources and ecosystem services on which the economy and society depend. In our presentation, we would like to discuss why sustainable development is essential and what it means in a language context.

Identifying sustainable development principles is a vital element of foreign language education in the modern world. Hence, our presentation discusses how to implement sustainable thinking into language classes at the university. We would like to share our experience of implementing the idea of sustainability in the form of telecollaborative, bilingual, interdisciplinary, and cross-cultural projects.

9.45 – 10.00 **Dealing with stress – effects and solutions based on Polish-Ukrainian collaborative projects**
Bożena Stefanowicz, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT
OlhaTsubova, LvivPolitechnic, Ukraine

The 5th Polish-Ukrainian telecollaborative project was carried out under unusual circumstances. The war in Ukraine started on February 24, 2022, shaking the lives of all of us apart. Just a year ago, our students were preparing Time capsules in which they hid their greatest dreams among which Peace and Freedom were highly valued. Those notions are even more cherished, looked for, and desired nowadays.

Our idea for this project was not to complain or cry. We wanted to show that collaboration is possible in all circumstances and it can bring positive feelings/outcomes for students in both partner groups. By doing things together and being engaged in joint activities, students learned how to deal with stressful everyday situations. We hope they could release some stress caused by the difficult situation both in Ukraine and Poland.

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee break

10.30 – 11.15 **English for research and scientific communication – Workshop**
Anna Gazda, Małgorzata Zyk, Iwona Terlecka-Żabińska, Janusz Sroka, Iwona Roczniak - Foreign Languages Centre, SUT

Join the workshop to sample bits and pieces of our course “English for research and scientific communication”, a program we use to work with PhD students at the Silesian University of Technology. Check our toolkit, try some of the tasks, give us feedback!

Workshop program:

- Effective communication skills in cross-cultural context,
- English in Academic Settings and Scientific writing,
- Skills for Presentations.

See you there!

11.15 – 12.00 **European Universities Initiative – case study of EURECA-PRO Consortium**
Lisa Pichler, Project Management Lead EURECA-PRO European Universities Initiative

Idea and assumptions of the European Universities Initiative will be presented as well as the case of EURECA-PRO alliance on Responsible Consumption and Protection.

12.00 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 15.30 **Tour of the University**

Afternoon/evening – Free time

Friday, 16 June

9.00 – 9.30 **"International Professional Networking: How to Make it Work For You?"**
Marcin Witkowski Polish National Agency for the Erasmus + Programs and the European Solidarity Corps

In times when communication is key to international strategies of both aspiring and established HEIs, one of its often-neglected building blocks is networking. A supposedly easy to understand concept, professional networking goes far beyond small talk during a coffee break. What are the fundamental elements of a successful networking event, how to use them to your advantage and how to involve yourself in networks to boost your professional capacities - these are today's take aways and questions we will help you find the answers to.

9.30 – 9.45 **Activity areas at SUT Foreign Languages Centre**
Iwona Roczniak, Foreign Languages Centre, SUT

Presentation of the different activity areas in the fields of research and teaching at the Foreign Languages Centre, SUT.

9.45 – 10.00 **International Mobility Office – Team, Cooperation, Activities at SUT**
Ludwina Żukowska, Mobility Office, SUT

International cooperation and exchange are very important aspects of academic activity. Today, it is difficult to imagine a university without international students and staff, without programmes in foreign languages, international projects and research.

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee break

10.30 – 12.00 **Discussion panel: What have we learned? Evaluation of the week and plans of action for the future**

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch

Thank you for being with us this week !