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Edelnet E-Library News

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Editorial



Once again UNED was the meeting place for 15 teachers from FERN UNI, OU and UNED. The reason was the second edition, middle of May, of the seminar “Students Oriented Teaching” that had already taken place in its first edition in Heerlen in February 2017.

Personally I was a participant in that first edition and I really enjoyed seeing and rehearsing the new techniques that are used in the classroom of the Faculties in Law and that serve to develop the potential of the student and his strength. Among other colleagues I have to stress the role of Michiel van Oosterzee and Theo Bastiaens.

Dutch, Spanish and German colleagues shared their science and experience all together: 14 Lecturers – February 2017; and 15 Lecturers – May 2018, from the EDELNet Network.

Although I was not a participant in this edition of Madrid and just greeted the participants to welcome them and, later, we share the table and some drinks with them at the very nice “farewell diner”, I am sure that the Madrid edition was even more interesting than Heerlen’s. Here is a short story about this beautiful collective experience. Enjoy it!

Prof. Dr. Pablo de Diego
Associate Professor UNED Faculty of Law.
Vicedean of the Faculty.

SOT Madrid 2018

May 16th-18th



First training day: Wednesday, 16.05.2018, welcome and start

After arrival of attendees in the main lobby of the Law School of the UNED, the working group was accompanied by university staff to room provided for the even.

Then, Michiel van Oosterzee (OU) welcomed all the attendees of the event, presenting the script for the three training days. In addition, the program of activities was given to attendees to present the event program.

The participants to the event in Madrid come from the three-member universities within the framework EDELNet; that is, the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED), the Open Universiteit (OU) and the FernUniversität in Hagen (FUH). The training sessions took place in the Law School of the UNED during the three scheduled days.

List of attendees:

Mr. Juan-Cruz Alli Turrillas (UNED).
 Mr. Fernando Val Garijo (UNED).
 Ms. Eva María Domínguez Pérez (UNED).
 Ms. María Acracia Núñez Martínez (UNED).
 Mr. Antonio Martínez Raya (UNED).
 Ms. Marta Lora-Tamayo Vallvé (UNED).
 Mr. Jasper Ebbing (OU).
 Ms. Astrid Jordaans (OU).
 Ms. Wendy Guns (OU).
 Mr. Michiel van Oosterzee (OU).
 Ms. Marelle Attinger (OU).
 Mr. Ronald Janse (OU).
 Mr. Martin von Hadel (FUH).
 Mr. Martin Otto (FUH).
 Ms. Ulrike Schellberg (FUH).
 Mr. Denis Hadzalic (FUH).
 Mrs. Ulrike Schellberg (FUH).
 Mr. Denis Hadzalic (FUH).



The first activity was the mutual presentation in groups of two people within the set of attendees. Then, each assistant happened to present his/her interlocutor to the rest of the attendees.

The second activity was a presentation named “theory about learning” that was carried out by Martin von Hadel. The topic was structured in two different parts.

In the first block of the presentation aspects related to the learning process were treated, such as:

- “Punishment makes people to avoid it”. Education of kids.
- Behaviorist learning theories. Operant conditioning.
- Cognitive-Information processing theories.
- Multi Store Model – Atkinson & Shiffrin (1968).
- Cognitivism – Albert Bandura (1977).
- Social Learning Theory. Broken windows theory in criminology.
- Role of the instructor. Role of the learner.
- Design of the learning tasks & materials.
- Cognitive-Constructivism: Key Assumptions.
- Learning is an active process.

In the second part of the presentation, some key aspects of the learning process were discussed, such as:

- Cognitive-Constructivism: connectivism
- Instructional design: face to face driver; rotation; flex; labs; self-blend; online driver.
- Blended Learning.

- Bloom’s taxonomy.
- Instructional design. It was also cited some topics related to supportive information, procedural information, part-task practice, etc.

Regarding type of learner, it is classified as Visual learner, Auditory learner, Physical learner, Social learner. But all of them are “busted”.

After the informal lunchtime meeting, there were also a series of smaller presentations on modern e-teaching methodologies from each one of the three universities within the EDELNet network. An order of appearance was established as follows:

1) **Ulrike Schellberg** (FUH) presented some particularities of the mentioned German university in relation to the provision of human resources available which allows for the successful development of academic courses.

2) **Jasper Ebbing** (OU) emphasized the curricula in Law that is offered by the mentioned Dutch university.

3) **Juan-Cruz Alli Turrillas** (UNED) presented some fundamental outlines that, in terms of administrative organization and academic offer, define the uniqueness of the mentioned Spanish university.

Each time a presentation was led, there was room to make questions that made mutual understanding among the attendees in terms of learning methodologies. Their own experiences were also shared on those topics discussed in the presentations.



Second training day: Thursday, 17.05.2018

In an introductory way, the day commenced with an overview, which was carried out by Michiel van Oosterzee, of those matters dealt from the day before. This served to jointly discuss possible issues that had not been satisfactorily resolved in the previous session.

Next, there was an interesting discussion about the best practices for distance education in university studies of a legal nature. The debate was chaired by the moderator of the event, Michiel van Oosterzee, where attendees had the opportunity to make their views, putting on the table some reflection elements in relation to those aspects concerning the matter.

Next, there was a presentation on those tasks carried out in two subjects, which were considered as examples of academic organization (contents, exams, and so on) in distance learning. Presentations were carried out by two academic lectures in two legal matters:

1) **Astrid Jordaans** (OU), who discussed some issues to those of her subjects in the field of Criminal and Public Law.

2) **Fernando Val Garijo** (UNED), who commented some aspects related to those of his subjects in the field of International Law.

After both presentations, there was a debate in order to exchange some theoretical points of view that, in terms of continuous improvement, which could be useful for gathering work methods in each of the three participating universities within the EDELNet network.

Then, attendees were divided into four groups, composed of at least one member from each of the three participating universities, to share practical aspects for promoting methodologies by improving the distance education. This enabled a common view to share recommendations with the rest of the group.

After lunch, the working group was divided into three subgroups to carry out an outdoor activity that consisted of choosing a subject to analyze and describe its structure and organization. Thus, each group had the chance to propose some improvement actions aimed at deepening the methodology of distance learning in that area.

Finally, the three subgroups returned to the room to present the conclusions obtained in the previous activity. With this task, the intense day ended.



Third training day: Friday, 18.05.2018, conclusion and working day

On the last day started, a summary of the previous day was arranged by Michiel van Oosterzee for reference purposes.

Next, Martin von Hadel took the witness to the presentation in order to present a video entitled „A brief history of John Baldessari“. This was followed by an explanation of the relevant fields in the video content, in relation to the topics contained in the previous discussions. In addition, there was considerable debate on the matters in the scoping of the topic.

The previous activity served as a link with the following task, which consisted of an enriching debate on some of the challenges facing distance learning in each of the three universities of the EDELNet network.

There was also a particular emphasis on educational methodologies and existing organizational structures in some of the most populous subjects taught subjects in Law studies at these three universities, UNED, OU and FUH. Given that the UNED has significantly more students than others, some of its aspects were analyzed in terms of academic management.

Then, attendees had a turn to discuss briefly the most noteworthy aspects from their own teaching experiences in distance learning. This will allow them to debate more openly the topic. The topics discussed included some methodologies using best practices in evaluating Master or Bachelor thesis, as well as in the marking criteria for examinations and the academic support service for distance learning.





After the lunch break, the working group was invited to a guided visit to the central library of the UNED in order to show the facility, its history and activity to support students, as well as teaching, academics and researchers. The visit started with an introductory presentation in the entrance lobby by staff member, and then passing by building interiors to share their opinions on the training, expressing both those tasks that have aroused more interest and those that should be improved.

Likewise, the library staff was kind enough to show attendees some old books in the historical archive, including some incunabula, codices and parchments. To close the visit, the group of visitors went to the cafeteria to enjoy some magnificent views of the city of Madrid. This incomparable framework served as place to close the last day of training activities, but not without dedicating a few minutes to do brainstorming, all together, in order to determine new projects that could be developed in subsequent seminars within the educational framework, EDELNet, on future occasions.

In the evening, the last one on the schedule of the day, a working dinner took place, where participants had the opportunity to taste some delicious traditional dishes of the rich Spanish cuisine. After the end of the dinner, attendees wished affectionately farewell, and they looked forward to cooperating closely on upcoming occasions within the educational framework, named EDELNet.

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Imprint

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Photo in page 2 by Riccardo Annandale, @pavement_special on unsplash.com

Other photos in this issue, courtesy of Antonio Martínez Raya (amartinez@cee.uned.es)

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