





Proiect cofinanțat din Fondul Social European, prin Programul Operațional "Dezvoltarea Capacității Administrative", în perioada 2007-2013

Outline Workshop 2A: Student participation

Time: 14.00- 15.30 Room: Eliade B

Policy documents state that students are key partners in promoting a 'quality culture'. As such, student participation has become recognised as being both necessary and desirable. This poses some difficulties for universities. The first question is what the role of students really is? Students play many roles in the university: learner, citizen, customer, input, process and the 'end product'. But which roles would the students like to fulfil? And are students really involved in the internal quality assurance activities and generally in university life?

Our research indicates that students seem to be mostly treated as a 'provider of information', without being encouraged to identify new quality criteria. Much less do Romanian universities adapt to students' expectations from and anxieties about the university and later life. Students' involvement also faces certain barriers: lack of information, lack of clear strategy at institutional level, reluctance of some teaching staff and also a lack of motivation. This workshop aims to identify the possibilities to increase the student involvement in quality assurance activities in Romanian higher education institutions, trying to answer at following questions:

- 1. Who is afraid of the real student involvement?
- 2. How are students involved and how are they not involved?
- 3. How can students be encouraged to look beyond improving only their own education?

The session will be conducted as follows:

The chair (Oana Sarbu) will introduce the session.

The speaker (Viorel Proteasa) will make a presentation of maximum 15 minutes to the session.

The *respondents* (Seila Abdulamit, Mihai Dragos and Bogdan Glavan) will take 5-10 minutes to respond critically to the presentation and to provoke a discussion among the audience.

The *chair* (Oana Sarbu) will then guide the discussion of the session.

The *rapporteur* (Daniela Alexe) will prepare a short report (1 page) with the main points of the discussion and recommendations for future policy in this area.

The session will be conducted in Romanian.

