Creative approaches to promoting social change through curriculum development and innovation

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Today I would like to...

- Share a journey we have been travelling for the last two years focusing on a curriculum development around employability
- Talk about our project: how it came about and what we hope to achieve through this
- Look at some of what we have learned, the curriculum developments that have taken place and use of technology.

The EEE4all Journey so far...



The starting point

- Employability: challenges facing occupationally disadvantaged groups
- Priorities of the European Social Agenda (prosperity and solidarity)
- The need for united action: using Bologna and TUNING as vehicles to build a future workforce

The travellers



Our destination

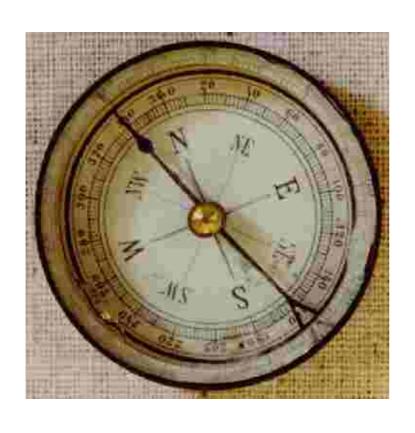
Social change: creating real opportunities for people furthest removed from the labour market on account of disability, age, ethnicity/migrational bacground, gender

The vehicle

A multilateral Curriculum Development Project designed by occupational therapists in the context of the EU Lifelong Learning Program



Navigation aids



- Individuals using services
- Policy
- Colleagues from within OT and across different professions
- Employers
- TUNING

Our mission





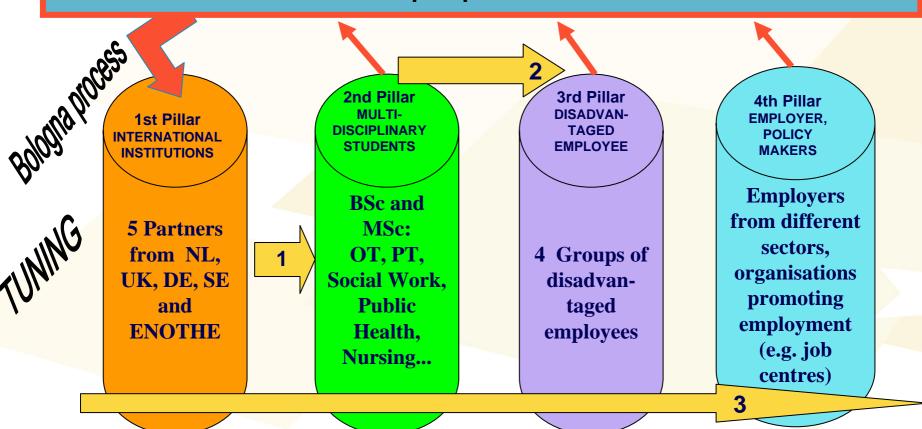
Get a job!!

Sometimes the process is complex...



ERASMUS - Curriculum Development Project: Euro-Education: Employability for All (EEE4all)

Input into curriculum from employer, employee, student, expert and teacher perspectives



Innovative teaching methods; e-learning, intensive face to face component

"Advertisement" for best practice of employers employing disadvantaged individuals

4 International Modules

- Module 1: Enabling Employability for all: focus on disability (Heerlen)
- Module 2: Enabling Employability for all: focus on gender (Linkoping)
- Module 3: Enabling Employability for all: focus on age (Sheffield)
- Module 4: Enabling Employability for all: focus on ethnicity/migrational background (Berlin)

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Aim

By the end of the module the student will be able to design and implement strategies that will enable employability of groups disadvantaged through age, disability, ethnicity-migration and/or gender.

Characteristics

- > All modules focus on employability
- Have an international focus (i.e. students from NL, SE, DE and UK)
- Have an interdisciplinary focus (OT, PT, Social Work, Nursing, Public Health)
- All modules will enable students to work with different stakeholders (educators, experts, employers, disadvantaged unemployed and other users)

Structure

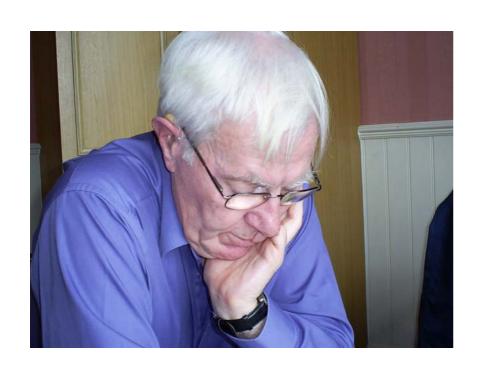
- Modules have an identical structure of 10 weeks full time
 - >8 weeks e-learning
 - ► last 2 weeks face to face
- they are worth 15 ECTS
- > all are competence-based
- > all modules are recognised by all institutions
- they will start their pilot on

5th April – 11th of June 2010

Developing the module: the UK experience

- •Focus of the module has very much been about engagement
- Working in partnership with older people listening to what will be of benefit
- Working with older people in developing the materials: partnership
- Positioning individuals as 'experts'

Impact on the person

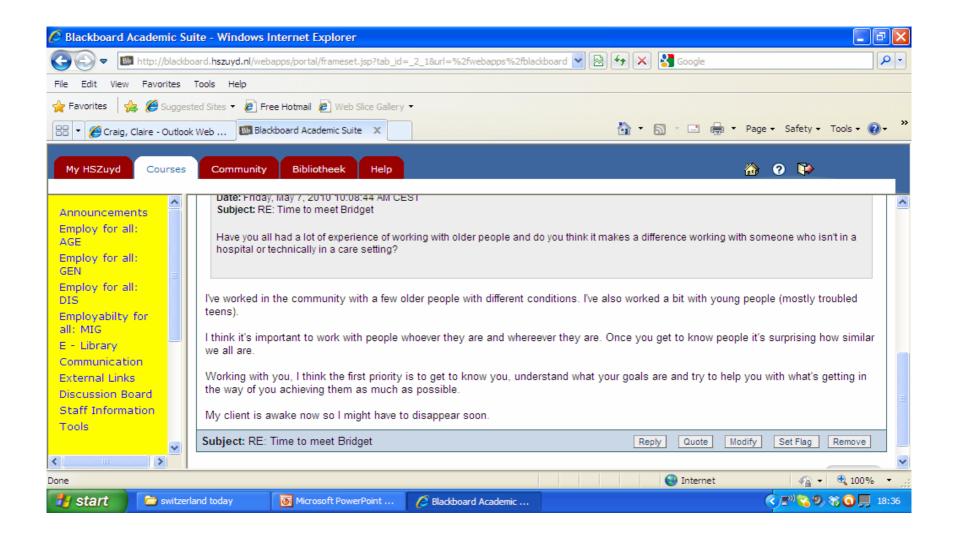


'This has certainly given me food for thought. It has helped me to understand and to think about what work offers in a way that I didn't realise before'

Impact on the person

Being involved in developing the module has given me a new lease of life. I wish that I had been given this opportunity five years ago. I think that opportunities like this should be open to all older workers.

Involving older people in e-role play,



Impact on the older person

It's early and a cup of tea beckons - if you want to post any questions at all on the discussion board - I'll use this thread and I'll keep looking. I'll have a stab at those other questions and get back to you. It's really nice to think that we're sitting in different places all thinking about the same thing - what a lovely experience that has been so thank you. My day looks better already

Communicating together

No worries, it would be really nice to speak to you on the phone or meet, whatever suits you, we will accommodate what is best for you.

To answer your question about the module - we work in a small group of four international students participating on this pilot project - it is very exciting, there are lots of new elements in it, lots of new ways how we learn. I have chosen the module following my placement in a voluntary sector (Agewell) where I became interested in the phenomenon of age, person's undiscovered potential and expertise. I am not sure how have you been introduced to what we do in this module, so any questions you can think of - please ask, Zuzana

A bigger picture....

- Working with policy makers (DWP)
- Working with national organisations (TUC)
- Consultant occupational therapist: advisor on the project

Working with employees and employers

- Working with employees
- Working with employers: a large multinational company

How does learning take place?

Weekly activities mapped to TUNING competencies

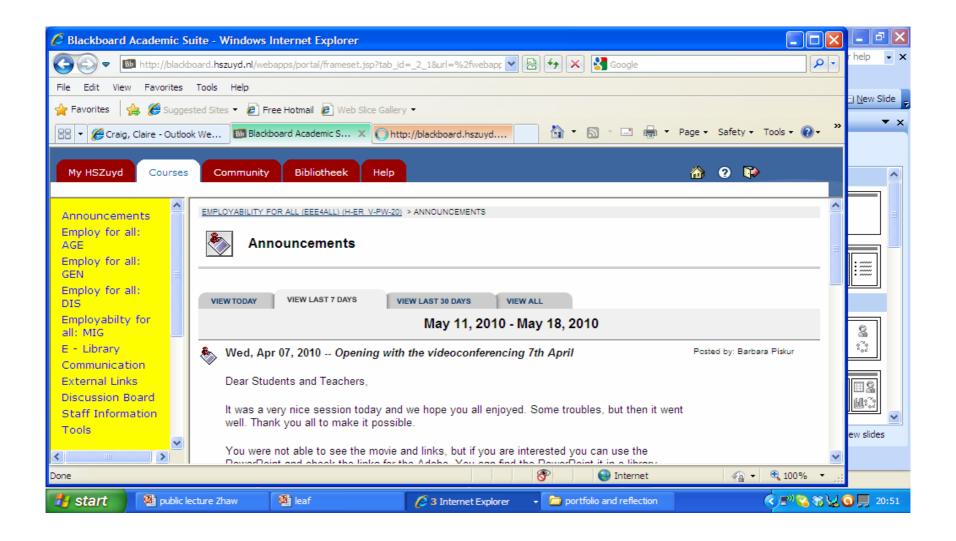
Example

- Spend today exploring what the literature says about the relationship between work and well-being in relation to older people
- Group task
- Arrange a time when you can work together with group members from the same country to create an 8 slide e-lecture about what the literature says is the relationship between work and health in your respective countries. Please send a copy of this to me when it is completed at <u>c.craig@shu.ac.uk</u> I will then post this on the Blackboard site.

Context based

- Students will work together to develop an intervention aimed at promoting workplace wellbeing for older people
- Intervention will be used by the company we are working with

Vehicles for learning



Use of technology

- E-lectures and video conferencing
- Animation

E-portfolio

Use of animation

- As a teaching tool
- As a way to demonstrate learning
- http://www.xtranormal.com/watch/6442065
- http://www.xtranormal.com/profile/2372655/
- As a tool for reflection
- http://www.xtranormal.com/watch/6430291/



Challenges

- Technology
- Communication

- Different ways of working
- Managing demands on staff and students

Benefits

 The value of offering students an opportunity to affect actual change through the module

Contextualisation of learning

Reflections on learning (Rachel Colley)

 On a whole I found the experience refreshing to see such a hardworking, considerate team and there definitely is scope for occupational therapy to work with groups/individuals. I think what struck me most is how occupational therapists could explore the reasons why people choose not to engage with activities on a deeper level and intervene appropriately

It was good to talk to X although I didn't want to overload him with questions :S! Y raised important issues especially around barriers to inclusion but she also stated that 1st generation migrants would not gain work unless their English was at a sufficient level. Therefore, the visit enabled me to see the value of working with an interpreter service for migrants when they initially arrive to the Berlin.

The use of a community translator will provide migrants with understandable options of what is available (for example English classes), share experiences with a fellow migrant for belonging and has the potential to place them on a more inclusive pathway to work.

I am now in agreement with the students in Berlin that such a community interpretation service should be advertised to the job centres to promote inclusion in the workplace for migrants

Working with stakeholders: building opportunities for future employment



What next?

- Two week placement with the employer
- Qualitative study exploring the experiences of students
- Measuring impact of the intervention and its potential for future development
- A holiday

For further details

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