

**20th September 2019, 9:00 - 13:15 - IRCs Meeting pre-conference activity**

**Pre-Conference Seminar III  
Joint and Double Degree Programmes: a powerful tool for the internationalization of  
higher education**

chaired by Mirko Varano, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm

9:00 - 9:15 Registration  
9:15 - 10:45 Joint programme development  
10:45 - 11:15 Networking with Refreshments  
11:15 - 12:15 Joint programme management  
12:15 - 13:15 Networking Lunch

**Description**

For the past two decades, joint and double degree programmes have been high on the agenda as instruments for building strategic partnerships, creating new competences among graduates, increasing the attractiveness of the HEI and enhancing cooperation between partner HEIs with complementing research strengths.

The seminar will present international joint programmes as an instrument for internationalization and provide an insight into the rationale behind developing joint programmes and their added value from the point of view of the HEI, the programme developers, the staff, the students and the employers. It will outline important features to be taken into consideration throughout the process from the need analysis to the identification of the partnership, development of the structure and contents, management of the programme and sustainability. Good practice, useful tools and relevant funding sources available will be presented. Interactivity will be ensured through peer-discussion and pre-defined questions addressed to the audience.

The scope of the seminar is to underline the pros and cons of joint programmes by tackling all the aspects related to their development and management relevant to both academics and administrators. The seminar will cover all the crucial phases of the rationale behind joint programmes: their development, management and consolidation.

When is the right time to start developing a joint programme and why? What useful tools, information sources, funding sources, best practices are available to support the different phases of the process? The four sessions of this workshop will try to give an answer to all these questions and all related aspects from different points of view.

The first part of the seminar will answer to the question “why should a joint programmes be developed?” and will include topics like background and rationale, different approaches, definitions, rationale and trends.

The second part will cover all the aspects related to the development phase of joint programmes and will answer the question “how do you develop the most appropriate Joint Programme to your needs, strategy and priorities?”. This section will cover subtopics like structure and contents, definition of the partnership, curricular and extracurricular activities, involvement of companies, legal issues, learning outcomes, nature of the programme, etc.

The final session will cover the management related aspects and will answer the question “Once the Joint Programme has been developed, how do you ensure its effectiveness and efficiency?” This section will cover the more practical aspects related to the delivery of the programme, the governance and management structures, financial management practices, joint student recruitment (selection, registration, information), credit accumulation and transfer, monitoring progress, student support services (visas, insurance, welcoming & mobility, housing, language support, counselling, social integration, etc.), marketing, templates and tools and related useful resources including available funding.

**Speaker**

Mirko Varano is a senior advisor for international projects at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Stockholm, Sweden) and has been active in the field of Internationalization of Higher Education since the early '90s. Mirko has covered different positions of responsibility at the Technical University of Turin (Italy) and has served as Coordinator of the CLUSTER network between 2018 and 2010. He has been involved in the development of a number of bilateral Joint Programmes and in the development and management of the first generation of Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees. He is member of the Erasmus+ reference group of the Swedish National Agency and has recently coordinated the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership REDEEM project that investigated the impact of Joint Programmes on the employability of the graduates. Since September 2018, he is the chairperson of the EAIE (European Association for International Education) Network on Joint Programmes.

**Cost:** 50 euro (including lunch)

**Application:** please click on the relevant box of the IRCs Meeting 2019 registration form at [www.aec-music.eu](http://www.aec-music.eu)