

UK Team of Bologna Experts meet with German counterparts:

On Thursday 7 January 2010 six members of the UK Team of Bologna Experts attended a joint seminar with members of the Germany Team of Bologna Experts in Bonn to discuss aspects of the Bologna Process and how they impact in the two countries.

Marina Steinmann, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) welcomed delegates to the seminar and expressed her hope for a fruitful discussion based on a mutual exchange of ideas and knowledge.

The full day commenced with a presentation from Dr Birger Hendriks, Representative of the German Lander on the “Trends and Challenges of National Higher Education and Transnational Mobility” in which he looked at increasing worldwide competition, national developments in Europe and trends in Germany. This was followed by an in-depth discussion of the differences and similarities and the actions taken to tackle some of the issues in both of the countries.

Other sessions with presenters from both teams looked in depth at the Three Cycle System, Quality Assurance and Aspects of Curriculum Development (learning outcomes orientation, usage of ECTS, integration of mobility and standards). There was also a brief session on the organisation of the teams and the projects each is developing.

The final session looked at “Promotion of the Bologna Process (tools and target groups)”. Experts were asked to consider how the two countries could further work together to encourage a greater number of joint programmes between our HEI’s and further promote student and staff mobility between the two countries via the Erasmus programme.

Members of the UK Team commented as follows;

"I found the seminar a great opportunity for networking and for sharing practices between HE across the UK and Germany. Events like this allow us all to understand the challenges of creating a mobile academic community and world-leading quality across Europe, and help to enliven the Bologna process."

“The meeting was extremely valuable and gave me a clearer picture of the Bologna process developments within Germany. Sharing ideas and experiences with other Bologna Experts from a different country over a whole day was one of the best training experiences I have ever had as a Bologna Expert.”

Irene Aves
UK Erasmus National Agency
26 January 2010