



Tempus



PROGRESS REPORT ON STRATEGIC PLAN ACTIVITIES FOR INTERNATIONALISATION

The Max Stern Yezreel Valley College



Project number 530315-TEMPUS-1-2012-1-IL-TEMPUS-JPGR

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

KEY OBJECTIVES OF STRATEGIC PLAN

- Support for internationalization of curricula, including courses in English
- Coordination & supporting international research activities
- Establishing international academic partnerships and networks

STRATEGIC PLAN ACTIVITIES FOR 2014

- **Support for internationalization of curricula, including courses in English**
 - Courses in English - MA Organizational Development and Consulting (2 in 2014-2015)
 - Development of Pedagogy and Content – Action research on culture- sensitive learning and teaching: data collection, data analysis, dissemination and implementation of recommendations;
- **Coordination & supporting international research activities**
 - international conferences/submission of joint research/projects proposals and joint international publications
- **Establishing international academic partnerships and networks**
 - further development of existing research centers and establishment of new international research/training centers (e.g., Center for Diversity and Intergroup Relations Studies – DIRS); development of summer programs/schools



PROGRESS MADE IN 2014

- **Support for internationalization of curricula, including courses in English (areas of satisfactory progress and indicators of achievements)**
 - Design of 2 courses, approval by the academic administration, inclusion in the MA program/curriculum, approval of support for students by the Unit for English; pending opening of courses (registration of 10 students)
 - Research on Culture sensitive teaching and learning: completion of data collection phase 1, in progress data analysis, presentation of initial findings at International Conference on Diversity
- **Coordination & supporting international research activities**
 - Increase in rate of submission of proposals by faculty, including international funding agencies with international partners; international publications; support provided to academic staff
- **Establishing international academic partnerships and networks**
 - Updated mapping of international partnerships in research/projects, hosting of international researchers and students at YVC; teaching experiences of faculty abroad; first summer school at the Galilee Center for Jewish-Christian Relations; further development of English YVC website



Tempus



The Max Stern
Yezreel Valley
College



CONSTRAINTS OR INHIBITORS

- **Coordination & supporting international research activities**
 - Slow progress in rates of submissions with international partners
 - Heavy teaching load of academic staff at YVC
 - Limited support for academic staff (financial and professional)
 - Inadequate technologic devices (data base of foundations, etc.)
- **Establishing international academic partnerships and networks**
 - Slow progress in developing the English Website of YVC
 - Inadequate resources (HR and financial)
 - Slow progress in establishing summer programs
 - Ambiguity and bureacraucy re: transfer of credits
 - Organizational Constraints: inadequate HR and ambiguity re: areas of responsibilities
 - Slow progress in expanding networks and research/training centers
 - Based mainly on individual initiatives rather than collective mandate, joint YVC actions and support of management



Tempus



WAYS TO OVERCOME CONSTRAINTS

- **Continued Championship** (YVC/IRIS team members)
- **Negotiation with YVC Management**
- **Pooling resources within YVC** (improving internal coordination of internationalisation-related activities)
- **Partnering** with Israeli academic institutions (partners in IRIS and others) and submission of proposals to continue and expand extant activities
- **Learning** (good practices, success, coping with challenges): Reflection within YVC and with IRIS partners

QUESTIONS TO THE GROUP

- **How to optimize negotiation outcomes concerning support from the college management?**
- **How to overcome organizational constraints in establishing IR team/staff for the long run?**
- **How to work more efficiently and effectively in developing an English website?**
- **How to motivate students to participate in IR programs?**



Tempus

