Significant success in ERASMUS + for University of Cyprus

The ERASMUS+ National Agency in Cyprus announced the first three successful projects which attained funding under Erasmus+, Key Action 2, Strategic Partnerships for the category of school education that have been evaluated among 33 proposals. The Project ‘Teachers’ Assessment Literacy Enhancement (TALE)’ Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices, Strategic Partnerships for school education was evaluated first in this category and received a funding of €272,418,00. TALE project proposal was submitted by the University of Cyprus and it is coordinated by Dina Tsagari, Assistant Professor in the Department of English Studies.

The Project ‘(TALE)’ which is consisted by a network of experts from five different European countries (Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Germany and the UK), the TALE project will build on a solid identification of Language Testing and Assessment (LTA) training needs of pre- and in-service English Language Teachers in order to provide a training ecosystem that will cater for these needs. TALE aims to develop an efficient and sustainable platform that will offer training and support to teachers of English and other foreign languages and to the development of innovative measurement and evaluation tools of students’ performance while learning foreign languages.

Overall, the TALE project will contribute towards:
- the development of innovative training materials and services that will be delivered through traditional face-to-face and online learning and offered through synchronous and asynchronous modes for the enhancement of the required LTA skills and competencies. The proposed training ecosystem will offer continuous support and mentoring to teachers in the respective countries.
- The expansion and the exchange of LTA expertise between European educational contexts in a creative and innovative way
- The cooperation between and within different disciplines, e.g. education (foreign/second language teaching and testing, assessment literacy, Content and Language Integrated Learning assessment and eLearning/distance education) and various sectors of training and the workplace in order to foster efficient and meaningful assessments suitable for all types of language learners in primary and secondary education.
- The synchronization and harmonization of foreign language teacher training and assessment practices in the field of LTA in Europe and beyond.

The main target audiences of the project are: 1) pre-service and in-service English Language Teachers, 2) students, 3) educational policymakers, 4) experts and researchers in LTA and 5) pre-service and in-service language teachers in general. In each of the participating countries, two multiplier events will take place aiming to disseminate the results of the needs analysis and the online training course, respectively. In these events mainly pre-service and in-service ELTs will participate and also persons from the last three categories of stakeholders mentioned above. Near the completion of the project, a final conference will be organised in order to raise awareness on the main intellectual outputs of
the project: the needs analysis, the online course and the handbook.

For more information please contact:

Dina Tsagari, Assistant Professor, Department of English Studies, University of Cyprus

dinatsa@ucy.ac.cy