

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2017

INFORMATION ABOUT RUNNING PROJECTS

Implementation of Software Engineering Competence Remote Evaluation for Master Program Graduates (iSecret)

Acronym of the project:

iSecret

Head of the Project: Prof. Boriss Mišņevs



Period: 01.09.2015.-31.08.2017.

Short description:

iSecret is a three year Project which has entered into the final stage. The Project aims to facilitate interchange between educational systems and collaboration in the field of personnel training. It is planned that the project iSecret will accelerate the process of innovations in the higher education institutions, will expand the possibilities for collaboration of the universities, will grant access to the educational know-how (Open Education Resource, OER) and will create an experimental framework for the determination and evaluation of the results of study under the master's degree programmes in the field of SE&ST (Software Engineering and Software Technology) at the regional and European level.

The first half of the project was successful. The SECEIP portal was already established and is functioning in the test mode for remote testing of the competencies of undergraduates in the field of software engineering and information technologies.

Expected results of the project:

1. Creation of operational prototype of Internet Portal (SECEIP) for SE&ST Master Program's graduates competence evaluation and certification
2. Design of the Basic ECTS oriented Framework applicable for Joint Master Programs in SE&ST implementation and assessment
3. Demo example of SE&ST Master Program's Education Outcome (competence) definition in terms of e-CF freely accessible for European educational community as OER

6 partners from 6 countries: Poland, Lithuania, Spain, Greece, Bulgaria and Latvia are involved in this project.

Partners:

1. University of Economy in Bydgoszcz (WSG), Poland
2. Kaunas Technological University (KTU), Lithuania
3. Technological Educational Institute of Epirus (TEIEP), Greece
4. University of Murcia (UM), Spain
5. Plovdiv university, (UP), Bulgaria
6. Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI), Latvia

Funding:

Total funding: 241 800.00 EUR

The Project team invites all interested parties to participate in the annual international conference MIP-2017 that is organized in conjunction with ERASMUS+ and Project iSecret last dissemination conference hosted by Transport and Telecommunication institute in Riga, 1-2 June, 2017.

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NEWS AND EVENTS

Development of New IT Laboratory in collaboration with X INFOTECH

Transport and Telecommunication institute and X INFOTECH have signed an agreement of joint scientific research laboratory development for image processing, biometry and automated border control systems (IPB & ABC) on February, 2017. This laboratory is provided for carrying out theoretical and practical research in the field of image analysis and human biometric identification methods. The main directions of the laboratory activities are related to research and development of methods and algorithms of image analysis, identification of human biometrics and other facilities, operation and information security systems of automated border control.

The aim of the laboratory is to improve and develop education in the field of engineering technical and computer science at TSI, as well as developing the creative abilities of students and intensify scientific and research work of the faculty staff. The laboratory is a scientific educational and technical base for carrying out research in the field of image analysis and methods of identification of human biometrics, as well as preparing proposals for participation in projects and their implementation.

Students research paper competition

Dear Computer Science and Telecommunication Faculty students, we would like to pay your attention on new student research paper competition.

Competition dates:

20 March – 15 December, 2017

The application must be submitted by 1 May, 2017.

Requirements: Research works on topics prepared by the X INFOTECH representatives should be prepared and submitted for competitions. To apply for the competition, the student must submit an application in **Corporate client Department** at 1 Lomonosova Street - room 404 or electronically scanned to the following e-mail address: **priede.j@tsi.lv**, indicating the chosen theme and research consultant. An Application should be signed by the student and consultant.

Competition work must be presented on the TTI Scientific practical and academic conference "**Research and Technology – Step into the Future**", that will be held at TTI premises on 8 December, 2017.

Award ceremony will be held on a solemn event on 15 December, 2017.

More detailed information about the competition you can get from the contact persons mentioned below:

Contact person from TTI:

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Contact person from X INFOTECH:

Ruslans Aržanīks

E-mail: ruslans.arzaniks@x-infotech.com

For more information, about the competition, visit the website:

<http://www.tsi.lv/lv/content/zinatnisko-darbu-konkurss-no-tsi-un-x-infotech-1>

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ECTRI BOARD MEETING

The first meeting of new elected Board was held on March 15, 2017 at the ECTRI offices. The Board that took office on January 27, 2017 met to discuss the present-day management issues, to draw the new Implementation Plan and establish new priorities for its two year mandate. Professor **Irina Yatskiv (Jackiva)**, TTI Vice-Rector as Member of ECTRI Board also attended the meeting.



SUBMIT YOUR MANUSCRIPT

The European Transport Research Review is now accepting submissions for a topical collection on **Smart cities and transport infrastructures**.

Contributions are welcome, especially dealing with the following thematic areas:

1. The impact and implication of **technological change**
2. The impact on **social organization and on conception** of infrastructure
3. The **socio-economic impact** of smart cities for transport infrastructure
4. The **governance and management** of transport infrastructure



Deadline for submissions: June 1, 2017

For more information, about the journal and to submit your manuscript, visit the journals website:
<http://www.springer.com/engineering/civil+engineering/journal/12544>

Please note that ECTRI sponsors a number of waivers to Article Processing Charges each year, and authors who wish to benefit from this should contact the Editor-in-Chief for a submission code at: k.t.geurs@utwente.nl



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ROBOT BALL

From 21 January until 5 March, 2017 shopping center “Elkor Plaza” premises was visited by travelling exhibition of robotic “Robot Ball”, where it was possible to see about 20 different robots that have been created in 12 countries worldwide and was used in a various business, social services and entertainment areas. Interactive educational exhibition of modern robots and the latest developments of Robotics from Britain, Russia, Japan and South Korea! Robots - dancers, athletes and scientific assistants. They help people in business, services and entertainment. The exhibition was successfully held in Saint-Petersburg, Minsk, Yekaterinburg, Sochi, Yerevan and Moscow. And now the inhabitants of Latvia got a chance to see and meet interesting robots from all over the world. Among the exhibits there were such as the robot-Android Tespian actor, singer and just a wonderful conversationalist; robot Boris-adapted version of the robot is widely used in children's hospitals, hospices, exhibitions etc. activities; robot playing table tennis; robot-Narrator in Pushkin's face, etc.

The TTI staff (I. Ljaksa, D. Opolchenov, T. Dilavka) every weekend organized master classes for programming Lego robots, as well as the opportunity to take the first steps in the world of electronics (O. Samovar). Also first-year students together with Accenture provided voice Assistant Amazon Echo "Alexa".

The site of the organizers: <http://www.robotuballe.lv>



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ANNOUNCEMENT

ALLIANCE 1stSUMMER SCHOOL

“Sustainable Transport Interchanges Program - STIP”



The 1st ALLIANCE Summer School “Sustainable Transport Interchanges Program (STIP) - Part I: Freight Transportation” will be held on 16-22 July, 2017, in Riga, Latvia. STIP is organized by:

- Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI) (<http://www.tsi.lv/en>)
- Traffic, Transportation and Logistics Laboratory of the University of Thessaly (TTLog) (<http://ttlog.civ.uth.gr/>)
- Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (IFF) (<https://www.iff.fraunhofer.de/>)

What are ALLIANCE Summer Schools?

The Summer Schools are organized in the framework of the ALLIANCE project (Enhancing Excellence and Innovation Capacity In Sustainable Transport Interchanges), which is funded by European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. ALLIANCE aims at developing advanced research and higher education institution in the field of transport in Latvia by linking Transport and Telecommunication Institute (TTI) with two internationally recognized research entities – University of Thessaly (UTH) and Fraunhofer Institute for Factory Operation and Automation (IFF).

The common vision for the Summer Schools is the preparation of a new generation of transportation researchers and professionals in the area of Transport Interchanges.

The objectives are:

- to enable the international networking of young transport researchers
- to train young researchers on specialized topics, defined as vivid for Baltic States through intensive courses.

The outcomes of these Summer Schools are scientific excellence, along with skills and ability to put science into practice.

What does the 1stSummer School cover?

1st Summer School constitutes the STIP and it is focused on **Freight Transportation**. The offered courses are:

- The European policy on intermodal transportation;
- Sustainable development and transportation planning;
- Building business models for intermodal transport interchanges;
- Operation and management of intermodal transport systems;
- Optimization of intermodal transport systems;
- Design of freight transport interchanges;
- Information systems for intermodal freight transportation;
- Smart technologies for efficient transport logistics;
- Decision making methodologies;
- Data collection methods;
- Research methodology and team work setup.

Who should participate?

The School is addressed to **young researchers**, preferably master and PhD students, master degree holders and post-doc researchers (up to 5 years after obtaining their PhD), who are involved in the domain of Sustainable Transportation. Following quotas for participants are proposed for 1st Summer School:

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	TTI students and staff	UTH students	Fraunhofer IFF students
Quota	20	3	2
Fee	Funded by ALLIANCE project	Funded by ALLIANCE project	Funded by ALLIANCE project

The number of places is **limited to 30**.

What is offered?

The ALLIANCE Summer Schools offer the possibility of obtaining up-to-date knowledge on Sustainable Transport Interchanges from leading EU researchers and academicians from the Organizing Institutions. The program includes lectures, hands-on workshops, case-studies, demonstrations and projects. After successful completion of the 1st Summer School participants will be granted **6 ECTS credit points**.

Teaching material will be delivered to the participants in printed and electronic format.

ALLIANCE 1st Summer School key dates

Registration for ALLIANCE 1st Summer School	28 April 2017
Notification about acceptance	10 May 2017
Venue and logistics data	12 May 2017
ALLIANCE 1 st Summer School	16-22 July 2017

Information about the 1st Summer School is available at <http://alliance-project.eu/>

Contact person: Viktorija Gruzite (gruzite.v@tsi.lv)

For further information about the project, please visit the website: www.alliance-project.eu

We look forward to seeing you in Latvia in 2017!



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PAY ATTENTION

Dear colleagues, we would like to pay your attention to announced new calls under the following programmes:

1. Programme 1.2.1.4.–Support for introducing new products into production (ERAF)

Production and acquisition of experimental technologies, as well as installation and testing in the work environment to the technology readiness level No 8.

Total programme fund – **70,6mln EUR**

Applicant – enterprise.

Project sum – from 1 till 16 mln EUR (intensity of support – 35%).

Opportunities for: research institution - research works; customer – enterprises.

Next call for proposals will be in the 2nd quarter 2017.

For further information, please, visit the following website (documents for the 2nd call are not published yet):

<http://cfla.gov.lv/lv/es-fondi-2014-2020/izsludinatas-atlases/1-2-1-4>

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2. Programme 1.2.1.2. – Support for technology transfer systems and innovative vouchers for small and medium enterprises (ERAF)

Vouchers (grants) for small and medium enterprises for technical and economic feasibility study for new products/technologies, industrial researches, experimental development, development of industrial product design, registration of industrial property rights and certification.

Opportunities for research institution - research services; customer – small and medium enterprises.

Total programme fund – 3,7mln EUR

Intensity of support: 60% (without VAT)

Grant support for 1 project: Max 25 000 EUR, max cost of service 41 666 euro + VAT

Terms for submission of proposals: from 6th February 2017

For further information, please, visit the following website:

<http://www.liaa.gov.lv/lv/fondi/2014-2020/inovaciju-vauceru-atbalsta-pakalpojumi>

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3. Programme 1.2.1.1. – Support for development of new projects and technologies in competence centres (ERAF)

Support for competence centres in Smart specialisation fields. Support for new products and technologies, experimental development (including, prototyping) and industrial researches in competence centres.

Total programme fund – 65,1mln EUR

Opportunities for research institution - research works; customer – small, medium, large enterprises.

New competence centres have been approved in September 2016.

For further information, please, visit the following website:

<http://cfla.gov.lv/lv/es-fondi-2014-2020/projektu-istenosana/1-2-1-1-atbalsts-jaunu-produktu-un-tehnologiju-izstradei-kompetences-centru-ietvaros-2-karta>

Contact person:

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4. Estonia-Latvia cross-border cooperation programme (ERAF)

The programme supports creation and improvement of services for jobseekers and/or job providers that would increase labour mobility across the Estonian-Latvian border.

Until 21 April, 2017 call is open **under integrated labour market priority**; potential applicants are welcome to submit their project ideas. There could be more people commuting across the border for work.

Around 364 000 euros were allocated for the project “Labour market” during the 1st call.

Examples of expected activities:

- Adjusting databases of Estonian jobseekers and job offers for the Latvian market and vice versa;
- Carrying out life-long learning and re-training activities;
- Developing the (language) skills that are necessary for cross-border jobs;
- Distant/smart work;
- Info services, fairs, and similar events that serve to promote cross-border employment;
- Raising the capacity of local and regional bodies, both public and private, that provide labour market and public employment services;
- Internships across the border.

The maximum grant size per project is 646 800 Euros.

All types of organizations and enterprises can apply.

Programme will support up to 85% of the total budget of the project.

For further information, please, visit the following website: <http://www.estlat.eu/2014-2020/for-applicants/>

If you have any ideas or suggestions, feel free to contact TTI research department:

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