

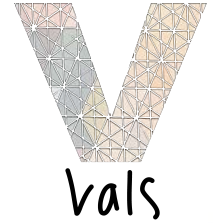
# VALS Project Overview at the Third Meeting Time

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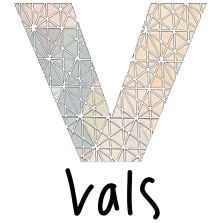
VALS Meeting, Udine, Italy  
February 23<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

# Outline



- Main administrative issues
- Issues and challenges after the first year
- The numbers behind the first round of the Semester of Code
- Initial numbers of the second round of the Semester of Code
- Meeting objectives
- Meeting Agenda
- Conclusions

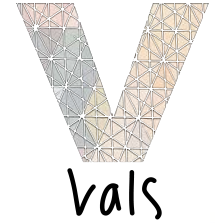
# Approval of the Progress Report



Assessment Sheet - Items	Score
Objectives, results and products	7
Cohence between workplan and activities carried out to date	7
Partnership	8
Management	7
Financial management	6
Evaluation and/or quality assurance	7
Dissemination	8

# Progress Report

## Objectives, results and products



### Strong points

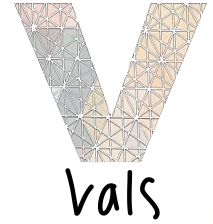
- The activities initially planned have been carried out in line with what stated in the initial application
- Key supporting materials confirmed above
- The assessment is considered satisfactory

### Weak points

- Need of more details in the reports and documents

# Progress Report

## Cohence between workplan and activities carried out to date



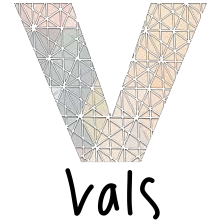
### Strong points

- The activities are coherent with the initial plan
- Vast majority of 1st year activities have been completed
- Delays in WP5 are considered fair

### Weak points

- More details regarding upcoming work

# Progress Report Partneship



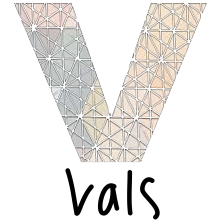
## Strong points

- The partnership is considered to be working satisfactorily

## Weak points

- Lack of participation of all the partners in the meetings

# Progress Report Management



## Strong points

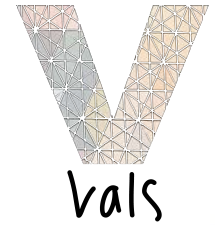
- The project has been properly managed to date
- Communication and internal monitoring system are satisfactory

## Weak points

- Need of more details in the reporting activities

# Progress Report

## Financial management



### Strong points

- The expenditure are in line with the workplan and activities
- The project leader has distributed funds received to the partners

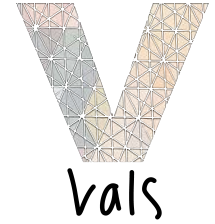
### Weak points

- Need of clarify the purpose of the travels
- Respect of subsistence ceilings and days for travel



# Progress Report

## Evaluation and/or quality assurance



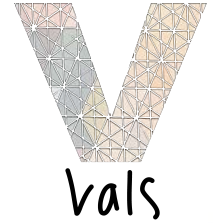
### Strong points

- Evaluation plan quite well structured.
- Evaluation report includes recommendations

### Weak points

- It is recommended to make explicit in the final report the consortium addressed the recommendations

# Progress Report Dissemination



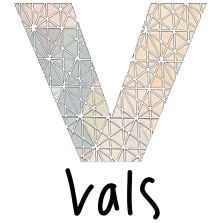
## Strong points

- The activities started on time and complied with what had been foreseen in the initial application

## Recommendation

- To intensify the activities in the second year

# Knowledge retrieved after the first year

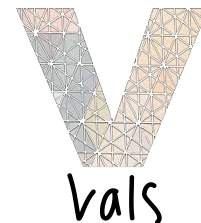


- University managers like VALS proposal
- Companies rely on VALS ideas (62 at least)
- Students think that VALS is an amazing opportunity

## BUT

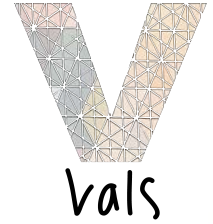
- University is slow in reaction
- Companies want having results immediately
- Students need to internalize VALS new opportunities

# Issues and challenges



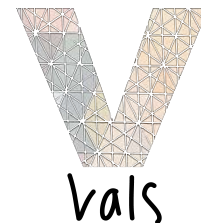
- Administrative processes in the universities are very strict, especially regarding schedules, and are not shared by all the universities all over Europe
- Schedules and workload in companies are not always compatible with universities ones and students' planning
  - Ad hoc adapting and making more flexible the administrative processes in the universities (it depends on each university and the people involved in)
  - Defining a two-round piloting procedure (inside the VALS scope)

# Issues and challenges



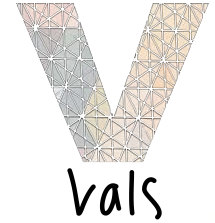
- University tutors engagement
  - Personal relationships
  - Altruistic behaviours

# Issues and challenges



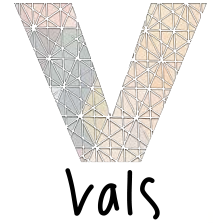
- Students engagement
  - They need time to include VALS activities with their own plans (short term plans are not usually compliant with the most of the students' reality)
  - The VALS benefits must include academic rewards (credits recognition for the placements, reusing the work done for their final degree works, and so on)
  - The fear of English communication, workload, effort done in the proposal definition and other different excuses
    - Presentation of the project several times including open placement definitions in the platform
    - Flexibilizing the administrative procedures in the universities
    - Taking into account all the possible and available academic rewards
    - Involving more universities

# Effective results of the first round



- A workflow definition for an open innovation process regarding virtual placement
- Two sites for project dissemination  
<http://virtualalliances.eu/> <http://semesterofcode.com/>
- A platform for virtual placement management  
<http://vps.semesterofcode.com>

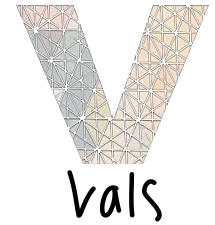
# The numbers behind the first round of SoC



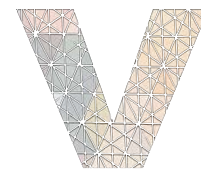
- Some participation data
  - 12 universities
  - 64 companies
  - 237 placement proposals
  
- 12 proposals submitted by students, 7 active projects
  - 4 open
  - 1 preselected
  - 7 active (accepted)



# Current state of the second round



- Some data
  - 12 universities
  - 67 companies
  - 253 placement proposals
  - 23 students enrolled for the second round
  - Open proposals 2
  - 4 proposals finished (3 new proposals + 1 proposal from the first round)



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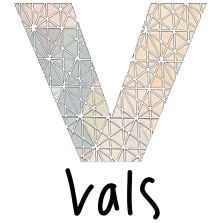
# Meeting Objectives



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme

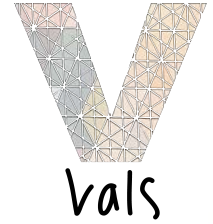
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# VALS Project Management



- Discussion and approval of all WPs **deliverables**  
**state-of-art**
- Identify **reporting activities** to be completed
- Assign **responsibilities** and **deadlines** for:
  - reporting activities
  - deliverables

# Semester of Code 2° round



- Evaluation of **successful** and **transferable experiences** of the 1<sup>st</sup> round
- Identifying reasons for not feasible scenarios
- Assign **responsibilities** and **deadlines** to manage:
  - students submission by deadline (13<sup>th</sup> March)
  - students virtual placements
  - final evaluations



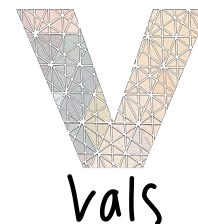
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# Meeting Agenda



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme

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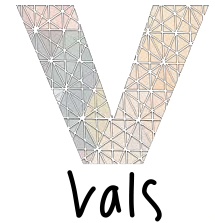


# Meeting Agenda 23/02/2015

Time	Topic of discussion	Partner
14:30 – 15:00	<i>Welcome coffee and registration</i>	-
15:00 – 15:15	Introductory session with host welcome (prof. Alberto F. De Toni)	University of Udine
15:15 – 15:45	Project management and overview	University of Salamanca
15:45 – 16:30	Involving students in Semester of Code: experiences and issues from the first round	Academic Partners
16:30 – 19:00	Open discussion about new approaches for involving students and other issues for the second round	All
20:30	<i>Social dinner</i>	-

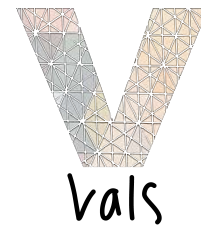


# Meeting Agenda 24/02/2015



Time	Topic of discussion	Partner
9:30 – 10:30	WP1 and WP6: Project Management Issues (Financial management and Quality Assurance)	University of Salamanca
10:30 – 11:10	WP2: Review of Open Innovation Process Model	University of Udine
11:10 – 11:40	<i>Coffee break</i>	-
11:40 – 12:20	WP3: Review of VALS Virtual Placement System platform	University of Bolton
12:20 – 13:00	WP4: Feedbacks from foundations and industrial companies engaged in the Semester of Code	University of Oxford - OSS Watch
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	-
14:00 – 14:40	WP5: Evaluation and observations of virtual placements already started	Academic Partners
14:40 – 15:20	WP7: Discussion about dissemination activities carried out and contacts established	University of Cyprus
15:20 - 16:00	WP8: Project mainstreaming issues (Guide for Universities, Guide for Businesses and Foundations, Semester of Code book)	RayCom B.V.
16:00 – 17:00	Meeting conclusion: next steps and deadlines	All
17:00 – 17:30	<i>Meeting closure coffee</i>	-

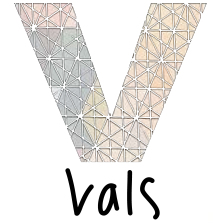




# Conclusions of the meeting and next steps

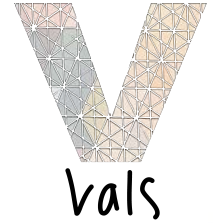


# Conclusions



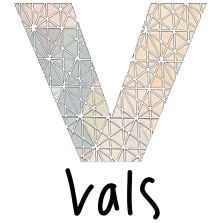
- Looking for more students' engagement to VALS
  - More VALS presentations
  - Shift the second round deadline to the end of March
  - Try to use the summer also as time to perform the placements
  - Contact with OSS representative academics to disseminate VALS
  - Invite more universities to be involved in VALS
  - Contact with potential supervisors
  - Contact with failed previous students' proposals
- Looking for having more insight of the VALS procedure
  - Make an internal report with the full experience of the first piloting round
  - Make a survey to the students that assist to next VALS presentations
  - Keep statistics from the VPS
  - Make systematic interviews with students and lectures mainly to understand barriers and opportunities regarding VALS

# Conclusions



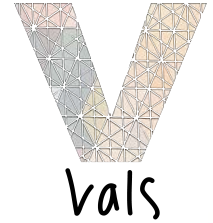
- Regarding the management
  - Request information to the project officer about some financial issues in order to proceed in the final report
  - Send the originals or signed copies to the coordinator for the audit process
- Regarding the VPS
  - Good work done
  - Some improvements have been presented
    - Make visible supervisors' selection to the students

# Conclusions



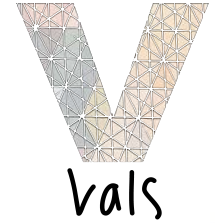
- Regarding the mainstreaming
  - Make the process more flexible in order to
    - Allow universities establishing their own schedules or open innovation workflow implementation
    - Allow foundations and companies make project proposals including the timing restrictions associated to every individual proposal instead of all the procedure
  - In order to support that, the VPS should
    - Be always open for receiving new project proposals from the foundations and companies and applications from the students
    - Notify to the foundations and companies that a deadline is approaching and they may decide if extending the deadline or dropping out the proposal

# Conclusions



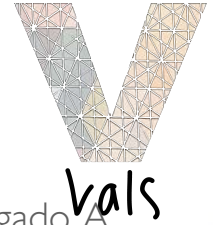
- We need to guarantee three pillars to sustain the VALS future
  - Commitment of the universities
  - Commitment of the foundations and companies
  - Commitment of the VPS providers

# The other presentations of the meeting



- Achilleos, A. P. (2015). Involving students in Semester of Code: Experiences and issues from the first round. <http://repositorio.grial.eu/handle/grial/368>
- Achilleos, A. P. (2015). VALS Dissemination. <http://repositorio.grial.eu/handle/grial/369>
- Commisso, A. (2015). Current status of the open innovation process model. <http://repositorio.grial.eu/handle/grial/367>
- Cruz Benito, J. (2015). Virtual placements evaluation. <http://repositorio.grial.eu/handle/grial/366>
- Veenendaal, E. (2015). Review of VALS Virtual Platform. <http://repositorio.grial.eu/handle/grial/371>
- Veenendaal, E. (2015). VALS Project Mainstreaming Issues. <http://repositorio.grial.eu/handle/grial/372>



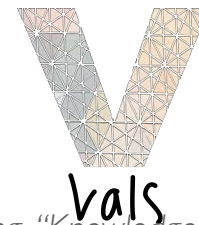


# Some references

- García-Peñalvo, F.J., Álvarez Navia, I., García Bermejo, J.R., Conde González, M.Á., García-Holgado, A., Zangrando, V., Seoane Pardo, A.M., Cruz-Benito, J., Lee, S., Elferink, R., Veenendaal, E., Zondergeld, S., Griffiths, D., Sharples, P., Sherlock, D., De Toni, A., Battistella, C., Tonizza, G., De Zan, G., Papadopoulos, G., Kapitsaki, G., Achilleos, A., Mettouris, C., Cheung, S., Guerrero, Z., He, E., Alier Forment, M., Mayol, E., Casany, M.J., Wilson, S., Wilson, R., and Johnson, M., (2013). VALS: Virtual Alliances for Learning Society. In *Proceedings of the TEEM Conference 2013. Technological Ecosystems for Enhancing Multiculturality* (Salamanca, Spain, 14-16 November 2013), GRIAL Research Group. First International Conference on Technological Ecosystems for Enhancing Multiculturality (TEEM'13), 19-26.
- García-Peñalvo, F. J., Cruz-Benito, J., Griffiths, D., Sharples, P., Wilson, S., Johnson, M., ... & Lee, S. (2014). Developing win-win solutions for virtual placements in informatics: the VALS case. In *Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Technological Ecosystems for Enhancing Multiculturality* (pp. 733-738). ACM.
- García-Peñalvo, F. J., Cruz-Benito, J., Conde, M. Á., Griffiths, D. (2014) Virtual placements for informatics students in open source business across Europe. In *2014 IEEE Frontiers in Education Conference Proceedings* (October 22-25, 2014 Madrid, Spain). (pp. 2551-2555) IEEE. ISBN: 978-1-4799-3921-3. IEEE Catalog Number: CFP14FIE-ART. USB version, IEEE Catalog Number: CFP14FIE-USB. 2014
- García-Peñalvo, F. J., Cruz-Benito, J., Conde, M. Á., & Griffiths, D. (2015). Semester of Code: Piloting Virtual Placements for Informatics across Europe *Proceedings of Global Engineering Education Conference, EDUCON 2015. Tallinn, Estonia, 18-20 March 2015*. USA: IEEE

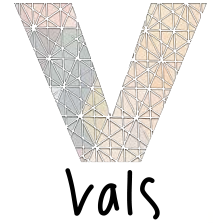


# Some references



- García-Peñalvo, F.J. (2014). VALS Project – One year after. *Presented in the Thematic Cluster Meeting “Knowledge Alliances” in Brussels at November 7th, 2014.* <http://hdl.handle.net/10366/125221>
- García-Peñalvo, F.J. (2015). Introducing VALS project and Semester of Code (English version). <http://hdl.handle.net/10366/125227>
- García-Peñalvo, F.J. (2015). Presentación del proyecto Virtual Alliances for Learning Society (Spanish version). <http://hdl.handle.net/10366/125220>

# More info



- <http://virtualalliances.eu/>
- <http://semesterofcode.com/>
- <http://vps.semesterofcode.com>
- <http://vps2.semesterofcode.com>
- <http://grial.usal.es>

## Contact

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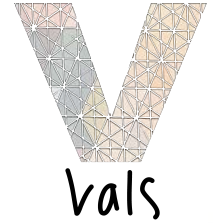
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