

VALS Project Overview in Bolton meeting

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VALS Meeting, Bolton, UK
September 1st, 2015

Outline

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting objectives
- Current numbers behind VALS project
- External evaluator's notes
- Deliverables status



Meeting Agenda



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Meeting Agenda 1/09/2015

Time	Topic of discussion	Partner
12:00 – 12:15	Local host welcome	University of Bolton
12:15 – 13:30	VALS status, an overview	University of Salamanca
13:30 – 15:00	<i>Lunchtime</i>	
15:00 – 16:30	Pending tasks, TO-Dos	University of Salamanca
16:30-17:30	Management Issues	University of Salamanca
20:00	<i>Dinner</i>	





Meeting Agenda 2/09/2015

Time	Topic of discussion	Partner
9:30 – 10:15	Dissemination and Exploitation Strategy	University of Cyprus, University of Salamanca, University of Bolton
10:15 – 11:15	VALS placements status review, impressions and facts	Partners involved in the placements
11:15 – 11:45	<i>Coffee break</i>	-
11:45 – 12:15	Placements evaluation & assessment	University of Salamanca
12:15 – 13:00	VALS project final reflections	University of Salamanca
13:00 – 13:30	Meeting closure	University of Salamanca
13:30	Lunchtime	-





Meeting Objectives



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Meeting Objectives

- Review the project current status
- Review the pending tasks and To-Dos
- Review the project status regarding the management
- Review the placements





Meeting Objectives

- Review the project dissemination
- Discuss about the project extension
- Open discussion about the project
- Decision making and schedule of the work to be done





Current numbers behind VALS project



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Semester of Code. 1st round

- 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)



Semester of Code. 2nd round

- Some participation data
 - 13 universities
 - 67 companies
 - 291 placement proposals
 - 24 proposals submitted by students, 10 active projects
 - 1 open
 - 7 published
 - 10 accepted (active)
 - 2 rejected
 - 4 archived





Semester of Code: total

- 13 participant universities (not all of them provide students to SoC)
- 67 participant companies/foundations/projects
- ~ 300 placements proposals



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Semester of Code: total

- 36 proposals submitted by students
- 17 active projects (total placements performed)
 - 75 initially proposed in the project application
- 5 open proposals (not confirmed by students)
- 8 proposals with no final decision (7 of them with no response of the company about the proposal)



External evaluator's notes



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External evaluator's notes

- In general VALS is seen as a good idea and a good project
- The consortium achieved a good number of participating organizations
- The platform worked well
- But it has been let down by the number of students participating



External evaluator's notes

- Student participation seems to be affected by
 - Mentality – a what's in this for me attitude
 - The optional/extra/voluntary nature of the activity, which devalues it from student perspective
 - A lack of integration with curricular activity
 - Language skills in some cases
- More appropriately targeted communication (marketing) of the value of the activity may be needed
- Thought about how the activity could best integrate into existing structures and time frames is needed

External evaluator's notes

- Some clarification of expectations about mentor involvement and participation may be needed
- Thought about what kind of university and department, and student, would be optimal for this kind of activity may be needed, it may not to be appropriate for all as set up in this instance
- The consortium is a good consortium
- Management has been appropriate



External evaluator's notes

- Clarity is needed about next steps and exploitation plans
- The idea needs more pilot interaction to build up steam and some experiences that can be used to sell the idea to each new cohort
- Also need for more time to overcome bureaucratic obstacles



Deliverables status



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Deliverables Status

- WP1 – University of Salamanca
 - To be finalized
 - Final Report
- WP2 – University of Udine
 - To be finalized
 - Report on Course and Supervisor Alignment
 - Revised Open Innovation Process Model
- WP3 – University of Bolton
 - To be finalized
 - The Revised VALS Virtual Placement System
- WP4 – OSS Watch
 - To be finalized
 - Guidance on developing industrial engagement with the Semester of Code
 - Report on open innovation activities

Deliverables Status

- WP5 – University of Salamanca
 - To be finalized
 - Report on virtual placements organized for VALS pilots
 - Evaluation plan
 - To be done
 - Report on virtual placements pilots and evaluation on their results
- WP6 – University of Salamanca
 - To be done
 - Final Quality Assurance Report
- WP7 – University of Cyprus
 - To be finalized
 - Dissemination report with details of dissemination activities carried out and contacts established



Deliverables Status

- WP8 – Raycom
 - To be finalized
 - Semester of Code Guide for Universities
 - To be done
 - Semester of Code Guide for business and foundations
 - Semester of Code book proposal
 - Mainstreaming plan



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Further steps

- Project extension?
- Try to follow with Semester of Code?
- Planning the final dissemination
- Publishing results
- Scheduling the work to be done



References



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More info

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

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