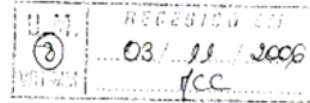


Příloha 1 Vyjádření EK



Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Erasmus Mundus



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ec: sd-LA
22/11/06
AO GRI
MUT
31/11/06
cópia Prof. Paulo Lourenço

Prof. Antonio José GUIMARAES
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Brussels, 23 OCT. 2006
EACEA/P4/JF/MVH/egp/ D (2006) 204416

mc 08/11/2006

Subject: Erasmus Mundus Action 1 – Masters Courses
Reference: 2007-0071/001 FRAME MUNB123
(please quote this number in all correspondence)

Project Title: SAMHC - Advanced Masters in Structural Analysis of Monuments and Historical Constructions

Dear Sir or Madam,

You have submitted a proposal in the framework of the *2007 Erasmus Mundus Call for Proposals (DGEAC EAC/70/05)* for the Action mentioned above.

I am pleased to inform you that your above-mentioned proposal has been selected.

The corresponding framework agreement and other relevant information will be sent to you by separate mail. A model of the agreement and the financial handbook are already available, under "Document Library", from the Erasmus Mundus website at:

We will publish a description of your master course on the Erasmus Mundus website. This description will correspond to the summary description of the course as provided in your application. If you want us to modify any element of this description (e.g internet links, contact addresses, etc.), we invite you to send an email to [EACEA ERASMUS MUNDUS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EACEA_ERASMUS_MUNDUS@ec.europa.eu) by the 10 of November 2006.

All proposals were assessed with the assistance of independent academic experts. Enclosed you will find for your information a summary of the experts' assessments of your proposal. Please take account of the fact that non-native speakers wrote most of the assessments and that the Agency cannot comment on these independent assessments.

EACEA – "Education, Audiovisual and Culture" Executive Agency
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UNIVERSIDADE DO MINHO
PROTOCOLO
n.º 255-799

RECEBIMOS
31 10 2006

Should you require any further information, please contact Mr José Gutiérrez Fernández of the Erasmus Mundus team (tel.:+32 2 296 78 09, fax+32 2 292 13 28, email jose.gutierrez@ec.europa.eu).

Yours faithfully,

Joachim FRONIA
Head of Unit

Annex 1: comments and recommendations from the two independent experts

Annex 2: summary of the Master Course

Independent experts assessment

Application Reference: 130127-EM-1-2007-1-PT-ERA MUNDUS-EM1

Title : SAMHC - Advanced Masters in Structural Analysis of Monuments and Historical Constructions

Coordinator: Paulo LOURENÇO

Coordinating organisation: UNIVERSIDADE DO MINHO

Experts comment

Expert 1 Comment:

1. Academic quality and integration of the study programme

The objectives of the proposed MSc program on Structural Analysis of Monuments and Historical Constructions are clearly and in a convincing way described; however, the part that corresponds to the Structural Analysis (see the title of the course) is only a percentage of the units that compose it.

The course contributes to the partners excellence and to the European competitiveness, since the role of each group is clearly described. A double degree is awarded to the successful students, and the ECTS is applied. The role of each institution in the degree-awarding arrangements would need more clarification. In addition, questions arise about the effectiveness of the visiting professors due to the length of their stay during the course.

2. Admission and mobility

Conditions of acceptance are clear, acceptance criteria are however, not in details described. In addition, examination criteria are in a rather general way described and need further clarification.

A tuition fee policy is applied but the distribution of the resources among partners is not clear from the beginning and remains an open problem to be decided annually.

3. Third-country students/scholars and language policy

Although a variety of means is described, publicity strategy as well as selection criteria need further elaboration in order to attract high-level third-country students. The application and selection process for third-country scholars is very generally presented, and their distribution mechanism among partners is not clear. Services provided by the consortium partners to the third-country scholars as well as payment mechanisms are satisfactorily designed; however, language policy applied is very vaguely connected to the course and so it is not convincing.

4. Quality assurance and evaluation

The quality of the course is assured in a satisfactory way by means of both local institutional quality assurance schemes and a consortium mechanism. ECTS will be used in parallel to the

local grading systems. All students including third-country scholars are expected to give feedback on their experience by filling in relevant questionnaires.

5. Management and feasibility

The partners have collaborated for a long period on similar research and academic topics and so, it is expected that within the proposed E M MSc framework they will continue to do so, since cooperation mechanisms within the consortium are provided. In addition, administrative staffing and funding aspects are clearly presented.

6. Other aspects

The course is closely connected to the research activities of the involved partners. In this sense, the present MSc course contributes to the generation of knowledge, methodology and technology in Europe; a clear European added value is obvious. In addition, the examples of good practice given are convincing.

Expert 2 Comment:

1. Academic quality and integration of the study programme

The proposed Masters Course is submitted by a consortium consisting of four prestigious European universities. They prepared the study programme also based on previous long term collaboration in research, educational programs and several other common activities (such as scientific conferences, international journals editing) in the concerned field. The importance and attractiveness of European construction companies on the world market was also taken in to account.

The study programme is based on deep theoretical knowledge (basic science related to engineering applications), is very complex and well described.

A double degree will be awarded to successful students with diploma supplement.

As 240 ECTS are required for applicants, one year of study with 60 ECTS is fully justified for MSc degree.

All required aspects are fulfilled. The project is very well prepared.

2. Admission and mobility

Common admission criteria are adopted: good quality degree in Civil Engineering with a min. 240 ECTS or equivalent qualification and English knowledge for all interested students. Application, selection and examination criteria as well as procedure are precisely explained. Common tuition fee of 8.000 € for all students is significantly high. Its reason and distribution mode is explained in the proposal (high quality of MSc course, lecturer transportation and lodging costs, etc.). Mobility mechanism will be managed by Management board and is clearly done.

3. Third-country students/scholars and language policy

Various very efficient means will be used for the publicity of MCs course mainly in first year. Application and selection process is clear and the same as for EU students.

Very complex services for third-country students will be offered by experienced International Relation Offices in all hosting universities. The official language is English and the students

are encouraged to take national local language courses with additional ECTS credits, which will be officially identified in the Diploma Supplement.

4. Quality assurance and evaluation

Quality assurance mechanisms are based on institutional and special for SAMHC MSc course prepared systems including student questionnaires. The responsible bodies are Management Board with one student appointed by the class (internal audit) and Educational committee (external). ECTS grading will be used in parallel with local grading system. All students are asked to give feedback on their experiences across the entire course when graduating. No special evaluation by third-country students is supposed.

5. Management and feasibility

Co-operation mechanism is based on long time existing cooperation in research, joint projects and student exchange. Management Board and Examination Committee are the ground bodies through which the cooperation will be managed and monitored. Administrative staffing and funding is clearly described (will be handled mainly by coordinating university).

6. Other aspects

The MSc course is directly linked to research activities of teaching staff - leading researchers are also leading consultants. Several European and national research projects in concerned field were and are carried out in partner institutions and are listed in the proposal. European leadership in conservation and restoration of architectural heritage is evident and the Master course will benefit from collective knowledge and experiences not only universities involved but also other partners linked through different European projects and international professional associations.