

PACES Newsletter No. 1

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PACES Project Kick-Off Meeting University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki, Greece

Date of event: 22-25 of January 2018

The Kick-Off meeting for the PACES project took place at the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki, Greece, from 22-25 January 2018. The first two days of the meeting were used for project coordination and planning, and the second two days were used for the sharing of good practice by the University of Macedonia and its affiliates.

The coordination meeting included an introduction from Ms. Jacqueline Cawston, the project coordinator, during which she discussed the aims, impact, and deliverables of the project, and reviewed the work packages and the partners' responsibilities. Each partner gave a presentation, providing an overview of their university, their role in the project, the experience of the team members, and the current situation with regard to students with disabilities within their institution.

On the second day the leaders of the work packages which commenced at the beginning of the project presented their planned activities and timelines. The partners agreed the PACES logo and marketing colors, in accordance with EU accessibility guidance.

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The third and fourth days focused on the demonstration of good practices by staff and affiliates of the University of Macedonia. The day began with a practical workshop, including suggestions of ways in which staff can be encouraged to think about how best to support students with disabilities. Other sessions included presentations on the benefits of employing people with disabilities, the structure and services of the Centre of Counselling and Supporting Students at UOM, audio-tactile mapping, communication within the classroom, and self-advocacy for students with disabilities.

The four days of the kick-Off Meeting were varied and interesting and provided a useful foundation for the first work packages and ongoing activities of the PACES project.

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