MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE INDUSTRIAL BOARD (BI)

The second meeting of the FSK Industrial Board	**Date:** 26.10.2023	
	Start: 13:30	**Conclusion:** 15:00
	Location: Senate Hall, University of Prizren	

Participants: 1. Zirije Hasani, Dean of FShK 2. Arbnore Shehu, Secretary of FShK 3. Enis Qaféleshi, Makerspace - BI Chairman 4. Esen Kaymakci, Eris Agensi Prizren 5. Marigona Krasniqi, Vista 6. Lulzim Guhelli, Ex-Cite 7. Visar Haxifazliu, ITP Prizren 8. Naim Baftiu, vice dean at FShK 9. Nehat Gashi, Coordinator of the Career and Alumni Center 10. Arta Rrustemi, ud Activity Leader 11. Ariel Shaban, Industry Relations Specialist *12.* Cassie Barnhardt , Director of *the Private Sector Partnerships to Strengthen Higher Education* Activity 13. Zoie Schares, Senior Activity Manager 14. Ardi Mejzini, Communication Manager 15. Getoar Krasniqi, ICT Specialist 16. Denur Paçaku, Program Assistant

DESCRIPTION OF THE TOPICS ADDRESSED AND CONCLUSIONS

i) **Discussion in BI**

• Zirije Hasani presents the Software Design Professional study program. After the presentation of the subjects of the study program, he asks to see if there are any comments from private companies. • In the academic year 2023/24, more than 100 students remained unenrolled in studies. • Lulzim Guhelli said that the program is targeted, it is also for the foreign market, since most of services that we have here are out-sourced. The program is not only for the Kosovo market, that's good.

• FShK had 13 student interns at Innovation and Training Park (ITP) Prizren, and after work practically 50% of them are employed.

• Lulzim Guhelli said that we should discuss the issue of the study program in a separate meeting, where we would meet and talk more about how this part could be adjusted.

• Nehat Gashi asks if you think the study program will be professional or scientific. For this, Zirije Hasani responded by saying that he is a professional and that vacant positions in the market are more vacant professionally.

As for the practical work, Naim Baftiu says that we have thought of having a memorandum cooperation with companies, although from a professional point of view he thinks that it should be an internship of more than 6 months.

• Lulzim Guhelli thinks that this bachelor studies program should be scientific and in master's studies must be professional. • Zirije Hasani says that there have been cases where students have been hired after their study visits done. Regarding this, Enis Qafeleshi says that most local companies "sell their brains", so we are dealing with outsourcing and outstaffing.

• According to Zirije Hasan, the main goal is to develop programming skills.

Dean Albana Milaimi said that private companies do not participate in BI, the reason being that they sometimes do not have time since they are busy with work. Then, apart from this, another reason is the distance of the participants on the board from the place where it is held and the lack of incentives. • Besim Loshaj said that the invitations should be

sent to the owners of the companies (p.s. this is what we have already done). There are workers from companies who have no qualification or access to various problems. He says that companies are more focused on profit.

• Besim Loshaj says that it is important to create an awareness or obtain a model, e.g. from western countries about how BI works, or related programs.

• Evelina Leka thinks that private businesses/companies should be given a praise/thanks for their contribution.

• Albana Milaimi proposed any incentive, road payment or per diem for private companies. • Besim Loshaj thinks that not

everyone understands the purpose of BI. He said that it is good that someone meets with the company owners and explains to them that not everything is material and that it is important for private companies to participate.

• Ariel Shaban says that registration/interest in studies in the field of agriculture has increased in University of Peja, the reason being that they know that after their studies they have a greater chance of employment.

II) Corporate Panels

• Cassie Barnhardt and Ardi Mejzini mention that from February of next year fouks will also have in software engineering.

• Getoar Krasniqi presented details about the organization of the Training of Trainers and Corporate Panels. • Ariel Shaban mentioned that the profile of the participants in the Corporate Panels is of medium level.

III) Presentation of preliminary data from the research

• In continuation of the discussion, Getoar Krasniqi presented preliminary research data which had do with the number of registered and active students. • Software is

the largest outsource: software and web developer. • A figure that was discussed the

most is: 7200 active students in all public and private universities in the field of ICT and only 760 graduates. This number initially seemed to present a serious problem, but considering that it spans three years academic studies, i.e. a larger number of students, does not represent any very negative trend.

• Lulzim Guhelli says that there are many question marks on the data. • Enis

Qafeleshi says that they should be seen progressively.

IV) Presentation by the Career and Alumni Center

• Nehat Gashi present the operation of the Career and Alumni Center and its relationship with university and private companies. • Office

work, trainings, forms, participants and organization of start-ups were presented. • The cooperation of the office with

BI has been superficial. • Nehat Gashi said that there is only one

person working in the office and it is a bit difficult for him. Following this discussion, Cassie Barnhardt said that this work, e.g. in the USA it would be done by 12-15 workers.

In connection with this, she mentioned that based on the Cooperation Agreement between the activity and the University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" (UPZ), a worker will be employed at the Career and Alumni Center.

• Nehat Gashi says that we try to get data on the employment of students, see what they do do they currently work and is there a need for a change in market orientation.

• Enis Qafeleshi asks Cassie Barnhardt if the project includes any support for the Career and Alumni Center. For this, Cassie Barnhardt says that mentors from Iowa are provided for the Career and Alumni Center at UPZ.

• A special statistic that was shared is that 63% of UP students do not use the resources from the Center of Career.

- The Career and Alumni Center at UPZ holds a welcome week for new students and informs them those for the operation of the office.

v)   **Kosovo Learn**

- Ardi Mejzini presented the Kosova Learn platform and the opportunities offered to students.
- Attendees were informed about the held student information sessions regarding the platform.
- Lulzim Guhelli proposed to see the possibility of incorporating Kosova Learn into SEMS, as the best option good for reaching a larger number of students.
- At the end of the meeting, it was discussed about holding the third consecutive meeting of BI.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (IF ANY)		
ACTiViTY	LIABILITY	DEADLINE

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