



EuFooD-STA to improve Industry-Academia collaboration in teaching!

The EUFooD-STA project - started this year and co-funded by the European Union – works on improving the collaboration between the food industry and academia on the topic of training food graduates and food professionals. Based on identified needed skills for staff in the food industry, the project will focus on improvement of continuous professional development and food study programmes. This first of the FooD-STA newsletter provides an overview of the project. Watch out for the next issue of the newsletter for useful project updates!

FooD-STA News

Needs and Demand Analysis

The project contains a series of tasks aimed to set a knowledge basis for the development of academic and CPD training by (i) compiling, structuring and analyzing collected and reported demand and needs from the food industry (from at least two selected projects), (ii) supplementing this information with further input from the company and SME network introduced by the involved multiplier organizations and the consortium partners and (iii) identifying the needs most relevant to companies and referenced to consortium offers and skills.

EU FooD-STA Centre

The EuFooD-STA network, will be an organisational innovation hub to bridge the gap between academia, industry, and other key stakeholders in the food sector. It will bring together the various stakeholders to foster successful learning for students and graduates, as well as for industry staff and other stakeholders – according to their needs. It will be a consortium of representatives from universities, companies and students, supported by associated partners. It will coordinate innovative (1) academic (aiming at the development of a common “Industrial Master” as joint degree as well as tuning of existing curricula) and (2) CPD training. This will include for example the administration of joint degrees, internships, recruitment of students for joint master, organisation of CPD training, qualification/certification of study programmes, CPD trainings and professions at European level.



Continuous Professional Development

The project will (i) develop training activities for HE teachers and industry professionals, tailored for the needs of the participating partners, (ii) improve industry-oriented professional skills of HE-teachers, (iii) improve science and technology skills of industry professionals and (iv) develop a certification scheme for CPD training.

Innovative Teaching Methods and Tools

State-of-the-art teaching methods and tools will be designed to give a strong fundamental basis in targeted scientific subjects (Food Engineering, Food Processing, Food Chemistry, Food Microbiology, etc) and in addition to promote learning skills in written and oral communication, problem and project solving and team work.

The methods and tools will be suitable for food study programmes and CPD training and for different levels of participants as well, like BSc-, MSc-, PhD-students, HE teachers, graduated and non-graduated food professionals.

Food Study Programmes

Diverse educational and training activities will be carried out in collaboration with all the universities and industry partners of the consortium to encourage the development of a real working partnership between HE teachers and industry professionals including the development of an educational framework for students, teachers and professionals and a continuous flow of knowledge and expertise between universities and industry partners to enhance professional and entrepreneurial skills.

The implementation of a novel training approach to food processing and engineering education by integration of education, research and innovation will be developed in a close industry-academia collaboration.

Teaching and training will require the development of technology-enhanced teaching tools and materials (e-learning, webinars, virtual industry tours) that will be properly designed in terms of contents and learning outcomes based on the results of the initial survey on needs and demands.



Events

Food-STA meets CASE

End of September, the coordinators of the Food-STA project and the CASE project met in Vienna to exchange first project insights and identify ways for collaboration and knowledge exchange. Led by RCE Vienna the CASE project (Competencies for a sustainable socio-economic development) focuses on changing the EU landscape of Higher Education Institutions towards a stronger accentuation on new inter- and transdisciplinary ways of teaching and learning as well as sustainable entrepreneurial education, increasing university-business cooperation, new university spin-offs or relate start-ups in the area of a “green economy” and a subsequent change in the curricula of European HEIs.

Find out more about CASE (website <http://www.case-ka.eu/>).

Food-STA welcomes first 4 New Food-STA Network members

The first 4 organisations joined the Food-STA network. This includes Proquimia ([Www.proquimia.com](http://www.proquimia.com)) from

IROICA invites Food-STA

IROICA - (International Relations Officers’ Network of the Association of European Life Science Universities) would like to invite everybody to the 20th IROICA Annual Conference which will take place in France from 6 till 10th of June 2016.

Our host in the coming year will be FESIA. The conference will be held in ISA-Lille and there will be also the possibility to visit other FESIA Campuses. Detailed information will follow at: www.ica-iroica.eu
During the conference FoodSta project results will be disseminated in a presentation as well as in the form of leaflets about the project.

We are looking forward to meeting you in France!

IROICA Executive Committee

First Researchers Mobility organised by Food-STA

The first Mobility activity between Food-STA Partner BOKU and the new Food-STA network partner Universidad de Burgos is in the planning stage for



Spain,

Centro de Estudios Superiores de la Industria Farmacéutica (www.cesif.es) also from Spain, University of Mersin (www.mersin.edu.tr) from Turkey and Universidad de Burgos (http://www2.ubu.es/ginves/cien_biotec/tecnofood/index.htm) from as well from Spain.

A warm welcome to our FooD-STA network!

summer 2016. This exchange will serve as a test case for many more exchange activities to come within the FooD-STA network.