



Newsletter 6: 14 July 2023

**Quality Standards in Teaching
ECTN Standing Committee**

Announcements

Three New Committee Members

The Quality Standards in Teaching Standing Committee is pleased to announce that three new members are joining starting with September 2023. Coming from different universities across Europe, the new committee members bring years of experience and leadership to contribute with new ideas and approaches to improve quality in the fast-changing chemistry education.



Dr. Rosendo Pou Amérigo Dr. Thomas Konegger Dr. Steven Vreysen

Dr. Rosendo Pou Amérigo is Senior Lecturer at the Department of Physical Chemistry of the University of Valencia (Spain). I was Head of the Quality Assurance Office and I currently work as Rector's Delegate for the Teaching Transformation. I'm a member of the EUROLABEL Accreditation Committee of the National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation of Spain.

Dr. Thomas Konegger is an Associate Professor for Structural Ceramics at the Institute of Chemical Technologies and Analytics at TU Wien (Austria). His research focuses on chemical aspects in the design, production, and application of advanced ceramic materials. He is involved in teaching activities primarily in the study programs of chemistry and chemical engineering at TU Wien.

Dr. Steven Vreysen is the Program Manager of the Chemistry Program at Thomas More University of Applied Science (Belgium). Steven obtained his PhD in Bioscience Engineering at the KU Leuven. He wants to further improve the quality of the education in the chemistry program at Thomas More by international cooperation.

Introducing the STEM-CPD Ambassadors

At the 2nd STEM-CPD@EUni Summer School (University of Naples Federico II, from 2-7 October 2022), 15 lecturers from 7 countries became CPD Ambassadors. They each developed their own use case, which aims to support fellow lecturers in improving the quality of education. In this newsletter, we present Dr. Vânia Calisto and her STEM-CPD use case.

Who are you?

Dr. Vânia Calisto, Assistant Professor at the University of Aveiro, Portugal.

How does the User Case that you have created at the Summer School help you and your fellow lecturers now at your university?

My user case [Motivating non-chemists to analytical chemistry courses](#) arose from my experience as teacher of Analytical Chemistry courses to non-chemistry degrees which allowed me to verify that these students cannot see the point of studying analytical chemistry, and are not motivated to attend classes. This user case suggests that the commitment of students in these courses can be improved by introducing modifications in the courses' design which should be adapted for each context. It was very helpful as it allowed me to make a reflective assessment on my teaching practices and to raise awareness among my fellow lectures on the need to tailor the courses with case studies that can convince the students of the relevance of the subject for their professional careers. This awareness is the starting point for relevant changes, transmitting them to my colleagues and encouraging them to try the same approach.

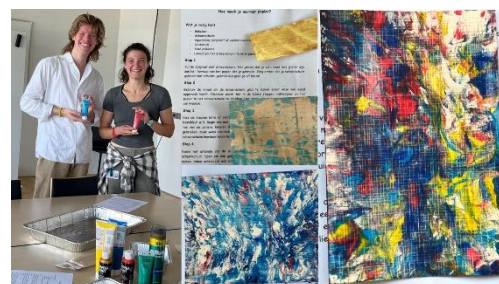


Would you recommend others to attend the STEM-CPD@EUni Summer school?

My experience attending the STEM-CPD@EUni Summer school was very enriching as it allowed me to reflect on how my teaching methods can have a real impact in the motivation and success of students and how I can play an active role as ambassador of good practices in teaching in my Institution. I would definitely recommend others to attend the STEM-CPD@EUni Summer school.

Introducing chemistry to primary school children

BSc student Hugo Wolterman and MSc student Elli Tsakoniati of the chemistry study programme at the University of Amsterdam gave a workshop on marble paper to primary school children to help them to learn scientific concepts, such as hydrophilicity and hydrophobicity, in a fun and engaging way.



Links of interest

[Higher Education in Europe - Scholarships, grants and financial support](#)

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