

The BSUN Executive Board Meeting
Sakarya – Istanbul
18-22 February 2009

Between 18-22 February 2009, it was organized the BSUN Executive Board Meeting on the premises of Sakarya University and Istanbul Technical University.

The participants from the Executive Board have been the followings:

- Prof. Mychaylo Zgurovsky, National Technical University, “KPI”, Kiev
- Prof. Jorgaq Kacani, Polytechnic University of Tirana;
- Prof. Gegham Gevorgyan Yerevan State University;
- Prof. Zurab Davitashvili, Tbilisi State University;
- Prof. Merab Kiladze, Tbilisi State University;
- Prof. Gulheiran Ragimova Baku State University;
- Prof. Victor Ciupina, “Ovidius” University of Constanta;
- Mr. Nicolas Mandalos, University of Patras;
- Prof. Mehmet Durman, Sakarya University;
- Prof. Sergey Byelikov, Zaporojnia National State University;
- Mr. Andrii Smoliarov, Zaporojnia National State University;

The BSUN International Permanent Secretariat has been represented by:

- Prof. Eden Mamut, BSUN IPS Director;
- Mrs. Georgiana Bercaru, BSUN IPS Expert.

The main items which have been included in the agenda have been the followings:

19 February, 2009

- ❖ welcome speech of Prof. Dr. Mehmet Durman, the Rector of Sakarya University, which included a short presentation of the history and structure of the university and the internal evaluation and the strategic planning management structure of his university
- ❖ Prof. Mychaylo Zgurovsky, BSUN President, presented his gratefulness for the hospitality of the organizers from Sakarya University and made a presentation on the *Current Status of the activities within BSUN*, where he underlined the governmental support for the activities of the Network and stressed on the BSUN priority areas and the future projects of BSUN:

1. Sustainable Development

- Development of Network tool for Sustainable Development global simulation and country threats quantitative analysis in Context of quality and safety of human life.

2. Technology Transfer

- Knowledge and Innovation Community on climate change

3. Advanced Materials

- Networking tools for advanced materials research

4. Sustainable Energy

- BSUN regional Master/PhD programs: “Sustainable Development and Governance: Global and Regional context” and “Management of renewable and sustainable energy systems”

5. IT&C

- IT Platforms for Management and Learning Resources

6. E-health and telemedicine

- Satellite based telemedicine conferencing Network

7. Intercultural and Social Cohesion

- Student’s camp on intercultural and interethnic cooperation in the Black Sea Region.

❖ Prof. Zgurovsky explained the importance of the Black Sea Synergy for the activities of the Network, presented to the participants the results of the meetings with Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, General Secretary of PABSEC and H.E. Ambassador Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos, General Secretary of BSEC

❖ Presentation of the EIT (European Institute of Innovation and Technology) initiative and the action plan for nearest future: the next Executive Board Meeting and the Congress of Rectors from 2010.

❖ Presentation of funding opportunities for the projects from the Black Sea Region: *BSEC Hellenic Development Fund* which will be operational in two months, *Black Sea Cross Border Cooperation Program*, *Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation*.

❖ Discussion on the new application forms and the acceptance of the new member in the Network:

- 1) Republican Higher Educational Institution “Crimean University of Humanities”
- 2) Dnipropetrovsk National University of Railway Transport
- 3) Bohdan Khmelnytsky National University at Cherkasy

- 4) Odessa State Environmental University
- 5) Yerevan State Linguistic University after V. Barusov
- 6) Pryazovskyi State Technical University

❖ Prof. Zgurovsky, *The plan for BSUN 2010 Congress*

❖ The members of the Executive Board presented the new updates on the higher education sector in their countries with an emphasis on the new regulations strategies and policies from higher education at national level, ongoing projects of cooperation among the BSUN member universities from every country, proposals for new projects and cooperative activities and proposals for the improvement of the efficiency of BSUN.

20 February, 2009

- ❖ Prof. Muhamed Sahin, Welcomed Speech and presentation of his university, underlining the achievements of the last few years.
- ❖ Visit to the Techno Park where Mrs. Nazire Peker made a presentation of the institution she is leading, which had the aim to increase the cooperation between universities and companies.
- ❖ Prof. Eden Mamut, Presentation of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and their activities
- ❖ Discussions on the priority projects for the future period
- ❖ Prof. Gusun Saglamer, former rector of Istanbul Technical University and EUA Board Member, *Presentation on the challenges in engineering education.*

Main decisions:

1) BSUN shall initiate a special partnership with PABSEC in order to promote a regional visa agreement which could be an important approach for the academic community regarding the mobility of students, professors and researchers in the Black Sea Region. In this context it was established that BSUN should provide a special report on this issue.

2) The participants have agreed to launch the idea of a Black Sea Regional Digital Archive.

3) It was agreed to enhance cooperation on Quality Assurance within the BSUN Member Universities, with an emphasis on exchanging good practices in implementing institutional quality culture and it was decided to initiate a Working Group on Quality Assurance. For the initiation it was proposed a bilateral approach by organizing a joint Romanian –Turkish Workshop on Quality Assurance which has been scheduled on March 23-25, 2009, in Constanta, Romania.

4) The participants have agreed on the strategy of BSUN regarding the participation in the EIT Project. Prof. Zgurovsky, Prof. Mamut and Prof. Sahin have been assigned to contact the possible members of BSUN that might be invited to join a future proposal on one of the priority areas (Climate Change, Energy, IT&C).

5) The Executive Board was informed that it will be prepared a visit of Prof. Zgurovsky to Brussels for meetings with the high officials of the European Commission.

6) It has been approved the proposal of Prof. Zurab Davitashvili, for the organization of a Black Sea Medical Congress.

7) The next session of the Executive Board Meeting it was proposed to be held in September or October, 2009. The Patras University shall analyze the possibility of hosting such a Meeting.