



MEET OUR TEAMS

University of L'Aquila

professor Henry Muccini

The University of L'Aquila is a medium-size HEI that counts about 20.000 students and 600 among professors and researchers. It comprises seven Departments: Biotechnological and Applied Clinical Sciences; Civil, Construction-Architectural and Environmental Engineering; Human Studies; Industrial and Information Engineering and Economics; Information Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics; Life, Health and Environmental Sciences; Physical and Chemical Sciences.

The mission of the University of L'Aquila is to create a truly International environment, with many international study programs thought in English; to invest on the „third mission“, facilitating the integration of the University activities into the socio-industrial national environment; to focus on research, so to train the future researchers to have an impact on the future.

How does TEACH4EDU4 project fit into this mission?

The Information Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics Department (DISIM), leading for the University of L'Aquila the TEACH4EDU4 project, is running international master programs since the early 2000. We are currently running 4 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree programs, and about ten double degree master programs, in collaboration with European and non-European Universities.

TEACH4EDU4 is giving us the opportunity to study new ways for running our international double degree programs. Traditional double degree programs foresee a sequencing of mobility periods. By adopting the TEACH4EDU4 JCCs, instead, we might run a thoroughly joint program. Moreover, TEACH4EDU4 will

help us to better understand and evaluate new teaching methods to be used in the post-pandemic phase.

What is your role in the TEACH4EDU4 project?

UnivAQ is coordinating the intellectual output IO3 (Collaborative Teaching Methods for Joint Creative Classrooms), and currently contributing to the systematic literature review conducted on IO1.

The UnivAQ team counts, at this moment, nine members: Henry Muccini, UnivAQ Project Coordinator and IO3 leader; Giovanni De Gasperis, Project Associate; Giovanna Melideo, UnivAQ IO4 leader; Maria Vittoria Isidori, UnivAQ IO1 leader; Giovanni De Gasperis, Marianna Traversetti, Alessio Santelli, and Anna Guerrieri, UnivAQ Project Associate; Mara Grisenti, Project Associate, Administrator.

What is the most exciting aspect of taking part in TEACH4EDU4?

Designing Collaborative Teaching Methods for Joint Creative Classrooms is extremely exciting. While there are multiple theoretical ways of combining (individual) courses to create JCCs, it will be extremely intriguing to understand the concrete ways of creating JCCs. In fact, a number of constraints (such as, language of teaching, period of teaching, effort required to create JCCs, pre-conditions to attend courses) applies. In order to better understand the state-of-the-art, we will also run a systematic study to analyse the existing methods to create global/cooperative courses.

In your opinion, which of the competences expected by the Industry 4.0 do you find most important?

Personally, I believe that social skills are as important as technical skills in Industry 4.0. Computer Scientists have to interact with many other stakeholders, take decisions, lead projects, manage people and deadlines. Technical skills are not enough for this purpose.

Entrepreneurial skills are important as well. Not that all computer scientists have to open their own company, but understanding the implications of competing in the market, budgeting, and short time to market is certainly a plus for a computer science professional in the Industry 4.0 era.

How can we can make students more engaged and motivated to develop these competences?

Students have to team up with us in our projects. We need to let them experience the complexity, satisfaction, pressure, delusion, surprise in engineering a new software project. Passion is the key to engage students.

April, 2021

