CEEPUS-Network Bioethics – Application for 1015-16

Planned Activities

Planned mobility actions

Student and Teacher Mobility aims at intensifying scientific cooperation at different levels: 1) Intensive seminars and summer schools for Ph.D. students and advanced Master students. These seminars are offered by members of the network and invited specialists. They provide special teaching that cannot be covered within the usual curricula of other Faculties. These summer schools and intensive seminars cover the thematic clusters that have been developed during the cooperation of the network: Fundamental Questions of Bioethics; Special Fields of Bioethics; Bioethics with respect to Family Studies; inter-confessional (in the future also interreligious) aspects of bioethics; Bioethics and Politics. 2) Short term stays for joint supervision of Ph.D. and Masters'/Diploma theses: Students with research topics which belong to special research interests of different participants in the network are encouraged to spend some time working with the respective experts. 3) Long term stays: Students with special interests and high motivation are invited to study with teachers of other universities in order to deepen their own interests for a longer period of time. Recent experience has shown that through those contacts it is possible to detect excellent future Ph.D. students in the field that will be encouraged to follow an international career. 4) Exchange of teachers: Scientific cooperation between academic teachers: Participation in lectures and classes, cooperation in supervision and publications. 5) Special introductory course for non-theologians (summer school) 6) Added value for long term students: Special reading and writing competences: a special seminar is being offered to train students from other countries in reading theological books and academic writing in German.

Special contribution of each institution

The importance of summer schools and intensive seminars as part of the regular teaching program in this network brings about that each year, students are concentrating with short term stays and excursions in some Faculties (this year at Vienna and Pecs). But since the teaching will be organised in two and three-years cycles by the thematic clusters of teaching units, these places of concentration will change each year (next year, e.g., Prague, Ljublana and Sibiu will be main places for summer schools and intensive seminars). Mobility Action (1) Intensive seminars for Ph.D. students and advanced Master's students: Fundamental and special questions, e.g. Medical Ethics (Vienna and changing locations, every year, in special cooperation with Graz, Ljublana, Pecs, Kosice). Inter-confessional and interreligious aspects of bioethics (Vienna, Cluj, Sibiu, Belgrade, Sarajevo, changing between the faculties). Summer school cluster 1: Aspects of bioethics with regard to Family Studies and Gender Questions (Opole, Pecs, Vienna, changing between the faculties). Summer school cluster 2: Special issues of bioethics: Bioethics and Politics (Ljubljana, every third year)

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Environmental Ethics (Zagreb, every third year) Bioethics and Social Practice (Kosice, every third year). Mobility Actions (2)-(4): all participating units Mobility Action (5) Introduction into Theological Ethics for Non-theologians (Prague) Mobility Action (6) Special language competences (Vienna)

Selection Criteria

Student mobility

According to an new agreement of all participants, a special emphasis will be laid on the exchange and training of Ph.D. students either through long stay mobilities or through intensive courses that add to one term's teaching. Students are requested to submit an application for a CEEPUS scholarship of one page length (or letter of motivation) to their home institute or to the organiser of the intensive seminar, and to provide an evaluation report of one page length after their stay. The representative of the institution to the network will aprove of the application by taking account of the following selection criteria: university achievement, language proficiency, special field of interest.

Short Term Student mobility

Open for Ph.D. and graduate students for library research, for consultation with supervisors and for participation in special seminars. The same criteria apply as in "Student mobility".

Teacher mobility

Teacher mobility is planned (a) to complement classes offered by the hosting institution and (b) to offer optional courses as e.g. research seminars which allow for deepening special questions. In order to facilitate this, the planned teaching activities will be exchanged between the institutions and once a year a meeting of all network partners will be held in continuation of the annual conference of the network of Bioethicists in Central Europe (BCE).

Coordination

If yes, please specify intended frequency

Coordination meetings will be held in continuation of the annual conference of the Association of Bioethicists in Central Europe (BCE) in October each year. This will allow to plan both the teaching of the thematic groups and summer schools and intensive seminars for all participants.

How do you plan to monitor the performance of your network?

Because of multiple duties of the coordinator, the monitoring of the steps to take has not always been possible with the due time necessary for this task. Therefore, in order to improve the monitoring process, it has been decided that another person should be specially in charge of qualicty assurance. This person will collect and evaluate reports from students and teachers, supervise the steps that are taken in order to reach the milestones and provide a report with suggestions for improvement for the annual meeting. Additionally, a small group of acting coordinators has been established which will be in charge of stimulating and coordinating the concrete steps of a joint doctoral study program within the thematic groups.

Recognition

Mutual recognition has not been a real problem so far.

Special Merit

The network builds upon an already installed network of bioethicists in Central Europe (BCE) which contains more institutions than the partners which have enrolled in the CEEPUS program. Building on the experience of cooperation in teaching during the first CEEPUS network activities, we hope to gradually enlarge the coordinated teaching and research activities. During the BCE meetings (Opole 2010, Pecs 2011, Zagreb 2012, Vienna 2013, Ljubljana 2014), a lively exchange about possible CEEPUS activities took place, which resulted in finding new partners for the

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network (Budapest, Prague, Olomouc) and a large number of further student mobility within the free mover program, in a way that there are more applicants than mobility months available. In the future, intensive seminars will be organized in a way as to allow CEEPUS students to participate in the annual BCE conferences. Both participating partners and students will be asked to prepare a contribution to the conference which, after a peer review process, might also be published as part of the congress documentation or as a working paper. In this way, international academic activities will be enhanced with the help of the Association of Bioethicists in Central Europe. In addition, the BCE network will engage in applying for third party financing for inviting established scholars from Western Europe and the United States to summer schools and intensive seminars organised within the CEEPUS network, in order to increase scientific exchange between Central European and Western European or American researchers. Also, a programme on Fundaments of Christian Ethics established by the Faculty of Catholic Theology at Prague for American students who do not study Theology will be opened for students of the CEEPUS network who come from non-theological Faculties or other denominations. In this way, students interested in the field of ethics and religion participating in the CEEPUS network have an added value in participating.

Further Information

1. Department of Theological Ethics, Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Vienna As part of the restructuring the Catholic Theological Faculty, the former "Institute for Moral Theology" has been renamed "Department of Theological Ethics"and is now situated within the "Institute of Systematic Theology", starting from January 1, 2012. The Department of Theological Ethics at Vienna has its roots in the foundation of casuistic teaching in 1622. The study of Moral Theology was profoundly reformed under the emperor Maria Theresia (1752). Since 1993, the Department for Theological Ethics has a special focus on Medical Ethics and Bioethics through the foundation of the Interdisciplinary Research Institute for Ethics and Law in Medicine (IERM) by the now emeritus Professor Dr. Günter Virt. Today the Department for Theological Ethics is a research and teaching unit with specialisations in Medical Ethics, Ethics of Family and Marriage and Beginning-of-Life Decisions, Interdenominational and Intercultural Ethics, Gender Perspectives in Theological Ethics, History of Ethics and, as a field in progress, Ethics of Technology. The Institute contributes to the before mentioned research platform for Ethics and Law in Medicine (IERM) which links the Law Faculty, the Faculty for Protestant Theology and the Faculty for Catholic Theology of the University of Vienna with the Medical University of Vienna. A global vision of ethics and society is provided by the research platform “Religion and Transformation” that is based ad the Catholic Theological Faculty of Vienna and links 'Theology with many related academic fields. Since November 2009, the Department hosts also the Association of Bioethicists in Central Europe (BCE). The study of Catholic Theology meets the Bologna requirements. It offers a modularised Diploma program (5 years) and a BA and MA program in Religious Education, a Master's program in Religious Studies (non-denominational) and in Advanced Theological Studies (that allows both specialising in one of the theological fields and entering into Theology from a different academic field, as e.g. medicine, law, or political sciences). It also offers a Theological Doctorate which is structured as a three years course. Apart from this, the Catholic Theological Faculty also hosts an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program, which is accessible also for non-theologians with interest in Theological and ethical studies, and a D.phil. degree in religious studies. The current teaching in Moral Theology comprises on a regular basis the following courses: Foundations of Moral Theology (winter semester), Introduction into special ethical fields (summer semester), special Questions of Fundamental Moral Theology (winter semester),

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Medical Ethics (winter semester), Bioethics or Current Questions of Special Ethical Fields (summer semester), Ethics of personal relations (winter semester), and also seminars on fundamental questions of ethics, research seminars in the field of bioethics, supervision seminars and doctoral seminars. 2. Episcopal Theological College of Pécs Episcopal Theological College of Pécs - originally founded in 1742, and dissolved by the communist regime in 1950 - was established anew by Bishop Mihály Mayer in 1991. The institute trains both clerical and lay theologians and RE teachers. It is one of its basic intentions to provide an education paying special attention to the particular characteristics of the region: the presence of the different ethnic groups (Hungarians, Germans, Croatioans, Romas, etc.), the network of small villages, and the growing distance between the different social layers. Bioethical topics are not only researched within moral theology, but also within the framework of the programs of the „Department of Philosophy and Social Sciences”, where it is first of all the social facets of bioethics, which are focused on: poverty and health; Roma population and their attitude towards the body; the role of gender in the health care system; and the topic of bioethics in popular media. The institute aims to handle these topics with the inclusion of those affected. Thus the college established several practical places in Ormánság, one of the poorest regions in Hungary, to enable students to acquire practical not just theoretical, but also practical experiences through their studies. The educational programs of the college correspond both to the Roman Catholic Canonical Requirements and the Bologna process with its European Credit Transfer System. Besides the study programs in Theology and RE, students can participate in joint programs at the University of Pécs. Beyond the compulsory lectures, additional seminars and lectures in the field of bioethics are offered. The small size of the college makes it possible to follow the studies of all students personally, to adjust the educational program to their needs, and offer plenty of chances to gain practical experience. Students from abroad are provided with lectures in English, German and Croatian. 4. Institute of Moral Theology, Opole University The University of Opole was founded in 1993 as the first university with a Theological Faculty post transformation (1989). The Theological Faculty offers two curricula: The 5-year MA programme in Theology educates graduates in a broad way of humanistic thinking. Multidisciplinarity, as one of the main features of theological studies, contributes to the fact that graduating from theology qualifies for work in many areas of religious, social and public life. The Institute of Family Studies is a young institution on theological faculty, but the education in family studies in Opole existed more than 10 years. The Institute of Family Studies offers a BA and MA of science degree in family studies. The Faculty supports the well-being of individuals and families through research, teaching, and service. Undergraduate and graduate programs emphasize both theoretical and practical knowledge about human development through the entire lifespan; child advocacy; the roles families play in our larger society and economy; teacher and parent education; social policy and family law; geriatric and palliative care; and intervention programs that help families. The department is affiliated with other interdisciplinary centers and institutes. There is purposeful overlap in research and course work across these areas. For example, faculty focus on individual development in the context of family relationships, developing new methods to understand individual and family development over time, and evaluating programs designed to strengthen individual competencies and family functioning. Most faculty fit into more than one area, and graduate students are expected to develop special expertise in two or more areas. Graduate training offers students a tantalizing smorgasbord of opportunities. Each student makes different choices, and in doing so, defines his or her evolving professional identity. The key aspects of the Institute’s activity are the following: • Psychological and Social Problems of Family Life

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• Moral-theological fundaments of Marriage and Family • Anthropological Aspects of Family Research • Family in Social Ethics Perspective • Bioethics Problems in Context of Family (general and special) • Sexual ethics • Social Policy and Family Law • Ethics in an Ecumenical Perspective • Gender ethics • Non-medical Palliative and Geriatric Care • Prevention of Dysfunction of Family Development • Conflict Management The Family Studies Graduate Program is designed to educate students about research, theory, and methodology related to the study of individuals and families across diverse populations and diverse settings. There is a strong interest in the ways in which social institutions and settings such as day care facilities, schools, neighborhoods, and social policy institutions facilitate (or inhibit) opportunities for development and change for individuals and families. All students, regardless of substantive area, are encouraged to develop strong skills in research methods, a hallmark of our graduate training. Through course work and apprenticeship experiences, students develop an understanding of the program's multi-disciplinary, life span/life course, and applied orientation; the program also aims to build students' competence in developmental research methods. The general language of all lectures and courses is Polish even though there may be a few exceptions where the teaching language is German or English. Besides its ongoing teaching and research activities the Institute is also engaged with various other projects and activities, such cooperation programs with another Family Studies Institutes or partner in CEEPUS-Program (Ethics and Politics in the European Context). 5. Institute for Ecumenical Research of Sibiu (Institut für Ökumenische Forschung Hermannstadt / Centrul de Cercetare Ecumenica Sibiu), “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu, Romania The Institute for Ecumenical Research at Sibiu is a department of the “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu. It was founded in June 2005 by the “Andrei Saguna” Faculty of Orthodox Theology together with the Department for Protestant Theology. Therefore the institute is headed by one member of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology and one member of the Department for Protestant Theology. The aim of the institute is to promote the ecumenical dialogue, to support relevant ecumenical studies and to develop an ecumenical perspective on social and ethical challenges of Romania today. IERS has four research areas: Ecumenical Dialogue, Church History, Religion and Society, Interreligious Dialogue. IERS coordinates the Network for Ecumenical Learning in Central and Eastern Europe, a platform where the most important initiatives in ecumenical teaching and research from the region meet and collaborate. The IERS edits a series of translations of documents called Documenta Oecumenica, a second series of publications dedicated to ecumenical research (Studia Oecumenica). Since 2009 IERS also publishes the ecumenical academic journal RES – Revista Ecumenica Sibiu. IERS supervises and supports financially doctoral students in the field of ecumenism. Activities in bioethics include the interdisciplinary project “The Human Dignity and the Poverty in Romania” initiated in 2007. The disciplines involved in the project are: Constitutional Law, Psychology, Political Studies, Social Studies, Theology. The IERS hosts the InfoEcum, an online documentation project on ecumenism in Romania (www.ecum.ro). Most of the courses for students are held at the Orthodox Faculty (in Romanian language) and the Protestant Departement (in German language). The IERS itself organizes special research seminars for doctoral students and advanced students. 6. Department of Moral Theology, University of Graz

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The Department of Moral Theology belongs to the Faculty of Catholic Theology which is part of the Karl-Franzens University of Graz, founded in 1585. Head of Institute is Univ.Prof. DDr. Walter Schaupp. Since 2003, the Department of Moral Theology has as a research and teaching focus on bioethics / medical ethics. Relevant activities are memberships in diverse ethical committees (Ethics Committee at the Medical University of Graz, Ethics Committee of Eurotransplant, National Bioethics Commission of Austria), teaching activities at the Medical University of Graz (curriculum in medical ethics for medical students), research projects including Master and Doctorate Theses, organization of interdisciplinary meetings on topics of medicine, ethics and theology. On the level of master and doctoral theses there is a regular cooperation and exchange with the Department of Moral Theology in Linz. In 2008, the Bologna process has been implemented with the introduction of a modularized study program and ECTS system. Currently available programs are: (1) Diploma Course in Catholic Theology (“Diplomstudium Katholische Fachtheologie”; 5 years); (2) Bachelor / Master Course in Catholic Religious Education (“Bachelor/Masterstudium Katholische Religionspädagogik”; 3/2 years); (3) Combined Religious Education Course (Catholic Theology in combination with another subject; “Lehramtsstudium im Unterrichtsfach Katholische Religion”; 5 years). In October 2010 a new, interdisciplinary, two-years, Master in Applied Ethics has started under the guidance of the Faculty of Theology. Within the program students can choose two out of three focuses, resp. ethical education, medical and health care ethics, ethics of economy. - Besides this a two years Master in Religious Sciences is offered by the Institute of Religious Sciences. The following courses are offered - mostly biennial – within the mentioned programs: Introduction to Moral Theology (Theologische Ethik: Grundlagen und aktuelle Fragestellungen); Basic Course Moral Theology 1 (Fundamental Moral Theology); Basic Course Moral Theology 2 (Ethics of life / Environmental Ethics); Advanced Course in Moral Theology (Ethics of Human Sexuality); Media ethics; Moral Theology at the Interface between Church and Society; Basics of Medical and Health Care Ethics; Religious and Cultural Aspects of Bioethics. 7. Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Ljubljana The Faculty of Theology has its roots in medieval monastic and cathedral schools and holds a prominent position among the oldest universities. It is also one of the five founding faculties of the University of Ljubljana. Its predecessors were the Jesuit College which existed in Ljubljana between 1601 and 1773, numerous religious high schools and diocesan theological schools. The Faculty of Theology offers teaching for candidates for the priesthood, and for lay men and women collaborators in the Church and in the wider society. In its formation, classical topics of moral theology and the social teaching of the church are offered, but the Faculty can also look back on a long tradition of cooperation with other faculties and with the sector of education and is continuously engaged in societal and political dialogue about bioethical issues. 8. Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Zagreb Since its establishment, the Catholic Faculty of Theology (CFT) has initiated five graduate programmes. The student gains competence in a general knowledge of theological subjects and a first initiation into scientific and theological research both in its systematic and practical aspect. Research at the CFT is related to particular challenges and needs of present social and ecclesiastical demands. In the first place there is research in the field of ecumenism and interreligious dialogue focused on the possibilities and opportunities of a dialogical approach to other religious communities, e.g. orthodox Christians and Muslims. Other research focuses on the place of Croatia in European integration processes. Special research attention is dedicated to bioethics and social ethics with particular emphasis on current developments in the field of biotechnology, on the contribution of theology to an interdisciplinary bioethical dialogue and to a systematic theological-moral evaluation of

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bioethical challenges relating to the anthropological and ethical status of human life, with special focus on beginning- and end-of-life decisions. The representative of the faculty to the bioethics network, Ass. Professor STD Tonci Matulic, is an internationally trained bioethicist. The CFT has got a specialist in bioethics (Doc dr. sc. Tonci Matulic) because beside his studies of moral theology, gaining a master's degree in 1995, and his doctorate in 1998, he completed the Corso di Perfezionamento in Bioetica at the Istituto di Bioetica Catholic University Sacro Cuore in Rome in 1996. 9. Faculty of Teacher Education, University of Zagreb The Faculty of Teacher Education (founded 1919 as Academy of Pedagogy, since 2006 under its current name). We have three university programmes: 1. Integrated undergraduate and graduate university programme – first and second cycles take five six years in which students are required to earn 300 ECTS credits respectively. 2. University undergraduate programme – first cycle take three years in which students are required to earn 180 ECTS credits. 3. University graduate programme – second cycle take two years in which students are required to earn 120 ECTS credits. In all these programmes the Sub-departement of Philosophy and Sociology at the Faculty of Teacher Education conducts the teaching of ethics as a compulsory and bioethics as an optional subject. 10. Faculty of Orthodox Theology, "Babes-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca The Course in Orthodox Social Theology at "Babes-Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca represents an outcome of the Bologna Declaration (19 June 1999) concerning the homogenization of the European academic structures. This structural reform ascribed Romanian academic theology the task to clarify what its specificities with reference to double specializations. The former curriculum offered by the Theology and Social Care Section with its mere juxtaposition of two different disciplines was given up. Instead, the two sections were combined fruitfully to what is now “Orthodox Social Theology”. This framework allows for a consistent and academically legitimate articulation of the public message of the Orthodox Church and implies a transformation of the concept of social care and theology’s reconnection to the secular disciplines. Drawing from the Catholic social doctrine and the Protestant Christian ethics, the Orthodox social theology represents a methodological novelty and reconstitutes and systematises the implicit ethos of the Eastern Church. By doing so, it contributes to bridge the classical orthodox gap between spiritual ideals and the immediate reality. Special emphasis is given in teaching to Bioethics in general and to social conditions in the field of bioethics, as e.g. poverty and health, poverty and corruption, medically assisted suicide and organ donation. 11. Catholic Theological Faculty, University of South Bohemia at Ceské Budejovice The roots of theological education at the University of South Bohemia in Ceské Budejovice can be traced back to the beginning of the nineteenth century. The teaching of theology was forcefully stopped in 1950 by the communist regime. The origins of biological sciences in South Bohemia go back to 1985, when a regional centre of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences was launched to pursue research stimulated by the local environment. With these educational traditions, the University did not have to start from scratch and recruited their staff primarily from the Academy of Sciences, local hospitals and religious institutions. Theological education in South Bohemia has been connected with the Catholic diocese of Ceské Budejovice since its beginning in the nineteenth century. In 1991, the diocesan bishop of Ceské Budejovice became by statute the moderator of the Faculty of Theology. The main focuses of the Department of Theological Ethics and Social Ethics are Bioethics, questions concerning human

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dignity in post-modern society, the social teaching of the Church and ethics in social work. 12. Faculty of Catholic Theology in Košice Though being only nine years old, the Faculty of Catholic Theology at Košice can draw on the ancient tradition of the Universitas Cassoviensia (1657). Teaching is offered at the departments at Košice and Spišská Kapitula. The theological faculty also hosts other related departments for philosophical studies, family studies and for lifelong learning. Recently the Institute of Applied Ethics “Spesz Alexander” was founded which promotes the study of bioethics, infoethics, economic ethics and political ethics. With respect to the ecumenical perspective of the bioethics network, the ecumenical initiatives of the Faculty may be stressed amongst other fields of research. The Faculty provides an intellectual preparation for future priests and for lay men and women who wish to work in the Catholic Church and in the wider society, and also offers Ph.D. studies. 13. The Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University (KTF) The Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University (KTF) was in 1348 the founding faculty of today’s Charles University in Prague. It’s legal existence has been continual since that time. The mission of the Faculty is consistent with the mission of the university: “the spreading of education and protection of knowledge, the cultivation of free thinking, independent scientific research as well as original artistic production, and the universal fostering of the creative mind of human society” (Statute of Charles University chapter 2, paragraph 1). KTF fulfils this mission in several different scientific disciplines, primarily Catholic theology, by scientific research, education of students and an effort to apply its knowledge to the topical problems of the society. KTF pursues accredited study programs and life-long study programs as well as scientific research and development, artistic endeavours and other activities. The Faculty offers several areas of study: Catholic Theology, Theological Sciences, Applied Ethics, History of Christian Art, History of European Culture, Ecclesial and General History. The „Department of Theological Ethics and Spiritual Theology“ is one of its departments and offers among other subjects studies of Bioethics and Medical Ethics. 14. The Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology at Palacky University, Olomouc Palacky University in Olomouc is the second oldest university in the Czech Republic after Charles University in Prague. It consists of eight faculties including the faculties of Medicine, Health Sciences, Law and Theology. The school provides for its 25.000 students in a city of 100.000 inhabitants, which makes Olomouc a place with the highest density of university students in Central Europe. From the notable persons connected to the university may be mentioned Gregor Mendel, the finder of the modern science of genetics, who both studied and taught at the University. The history of Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Thelogy dates back to 1573, when the University in Olomouc was established. Now it offers B.A. degrees and M.A. degrees in Theology (including Theology and Spirituality of Sacred Life), in Catholic Education (in collaboration with the Faculty of Education), and in Social and Charitable Work (in collaboration with College of Social Work CARITAS). It also offers Doctorates of Theology in three fields (Biblical Theology, Systematic Theology and Christian Philosophy, and Practical Theology) as well as lifelong learning. 15. University of Sarajevo Sarajevo was first placed on the map of academic centers in this part of Europe in 1573, with the signing of the Waqfname (Book of Endowment) by Gazi Husrev-bey. Following the departure of the Ottoman administration and the arrival of Austria-Hungary, the Sharia Judicial Academy was founded in 1887, the National Museum in 1888, the Catholic Seminary of the Vrhbosna

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Archbishopric in 1890. The Eastern Orthodox Seminary of Sarajevo was upgraded to an institution of higher learning in 1892. Today, the National Museum is an associate member of the University of Sarajevo, and the Faculty of Catholic Theology is a full member. In 1996, the University of Sarajevo joined the European higher education reform support programmes. This period was also marked by intense work on repairing the wartime damages and creating an environment suited for stable and continuous development. During the period 1997–2000, the University of Sarajevo coordinated the first European-level TEMPUS project aimed at introducing the 3+2 model. Understanding the importance of establishing itself within the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), in the academic year 2005/2006, the University of Sarajevo entered the complex process of reform in compliance with the Bologna principles. The University has developed or participated in several international third-cycle programmes of study based on the EHEA-ERA standards. The Catholic Theological Faculty in Sarajevo is the oldest higher education institution in Bosnia and Herzegovina, established in 1890. Until September 2009 we functioned as the Vrhbosnian Catholic Theology Faculty, connected with the Catholic Theological Faculty in Zagreb. However, in September 2009, the Vatican elevated us to the status of the Catholic Theological Faculty in Sarajevo. Under this Vatican initiative we should be incorporated in the University of Sarajevo what we did in 2012. There are 27 professors and about hundred students. 16. University of Belgrade, Orthodox Theological Faculty The Faculty of Orthodox Theology at the University of Belgrade was established together with another four institutions for higher education (the Faculty of Philosophy, the Faculty of Law, the School of Medicine, and the Faculty of Technical Sciences) as late as February 27th 1905 by the inauguration of the University Act. A supplementary Act was introduced October 1st of the same year which stipulated, amongst other things, the program of studies for each individual faculty. Nevertheless, due to adverse historical conditions at the beginning of the 20th century and the lack of qualified instructors, the Faculty of Orthodox Theology will have to wait another 15 years (1920) to finally start functioning as an academic institution.

Network Activities

Type of instruction planned Others:

Supervision of Ph.D. and MA. Theses.

Language of instruction planned Others

English or German.

Background Information

Colleagues who are working at the International Relations Office (IRO) informed us about their network activities. Further information was sought by acceeding the CEEPUS homepage and by contacting local representatives of the IRO, who were invited to present the facilities of CEEPUS networks to members of the network of bioethicists in Central Europe (BCE) at two occasions (in Vienna and Kosice). Ever since, the annual BCE conferences served as basis for informing about CEEPUS.

Type of instruction planned

assistance with work on a (doctoral) thesis

courses

lectures

summerschool

others (pls. specify in section 'network aktivities')

language course

Language of instruction planned

english

german

Joint Program

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Joint Program: Ph.D. with specialisation in a field of Bioethics

Joint Program Developement:

no answer

Joint Program Type:

joint degree

Study Type:

PhD, thèse en cotutelle (thesis supervision)

Planned Duration:

3 years

ECTS credits to obtain the degree:

60

Language of Instructions:

english, german

Minimum Requierement for teaching staff in teaching hours at the partner institution:

0

Minimum Requierement for students in ECTS Credits obtained at partner institutions:

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Participating Units

University of Vienna , Catholic Theological Faculty, Department for Moral Theology

This is the primary institution

This unit will award the degree

University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Theology

This unit will award the degree

University of Graz, Institute for Moral Theology, Faculty of Theology

Admission Criteria

Diploma or Master degree with good or very good success. German and/or English language proficiency. GPA 3.0 (scale of 4) or above.

Implementation

The study year 2015-16 serves as a test phase. Official implementation is planned within 2016-17.

Milestones

1. Defining the special courses (15 ECTS or more) that can be offered by each institution (until October 2015, coordinators' meeting at Vienna)

2. Carry out adaptations of existing curricula, if possible, during Summer semester 2016 or, if not possible earlier, in winter semester 2016-17. Offering teaching as planned in order to check functioning of joint ventures. Evaluation of the seminars.

3. Official implementation of the joint study program in the following semester (summer semester 2017).

4. Invitation to other participating units to join (summer semester 2017).

A special group of coordinators has been built which is in charge of stimulating and monitoring the progress.

Objectives

Objectives

The main object is to intensify cooperation in faculty and exchange of PhD

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students and advanced Master's Students. Specific aims are: 1. To create joint study opportunities that allow younger scholars to be trained as part of an international network of experts and Ph.D. students from neighbour countries. 2. To create opportunities for as many students as possible to follow shared courses that intend to create a common basis of ethical knowledge for students of the various participating units. 3. To especially motivate gifted students to carry out Ph.D. studies in the field of bioethics and to create in this way an excellence cluster of future bioethicists in Central European countries that are trained to collaborate with each other. 4. To promote a broad view of bioethics by collecting special knowledge of different bioethical fields present in the different participating faculties.

Biggest Achievement

The most important aim is the introduction of regular intensive seminars and summer schools in order to make it possible that international seminars become a fixed part of regular study programs. The aim is to introduce this regular study exchange beween 2-3 participating units according to one or two thematic clusters.

Biggest Challenge

The biggest challenge is the individualisation of curricula in the various participating universities, and the changes they undergo regularly according to the needs of the individual faculties. Curricula in a first place are created according to the standards and policies of the respective universities. As a rule, the regulations and given financial and organizational frameworks do not allow for much flexibility. Therefore, aiming at a joint program that allows a minimum of 15 ECTS in each cluster to be acquired at other Universities or through joint seminars, seems to be the best feasible aim to pursue at this moment. In this way, students who cannot afford to stay at another Faculty for a whole semester because they are working and studying, will also have the opportunity to participate in the seminar program and, according to the number of clusters they can follow, may earn 15-30 ECTS at other universities and in an international context.

Long Program Description

Motivation and background Bioethical questions are increasingly being dealt with at a European level. Yet many different ways of approaching bioethics exist both within the teaching of moral theology and social ethics at Theological Faculties and in other Faculties, especially in Medicine, of the various Central European Countries. The network aims at discussing methodological and value-based differences and dogmatic fundaments that have their origin in the various political histories and traditions as well as in the different cultural and religious backgrounds that form not only an inter-confessional (Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox Christian Religion), but also an interreligious community (Islam). The network therefore focuses on dialogue between the various approaches by offering closer cooperation. An inter-confessional exchange has been promoted and should be developed further. Dialogue with Islamic Faculties gradually needs to be integrated. Cooperation with related faculties (philosophy, medicine) also needs to be continued. Taking these differences into account, it is necessary to complement existing curricula by seminars and lectures that present special approaches that are not present in all universities. While cooperation within the CEEPUS network has been very successful with respect to the exchange of students and teachers, it has so far proofed to be very difficult to harmonize curricula. This is due to the fact that currucula in general are under continuous change at the various places and often cannot freely be changed because of financial and policy restraints. This inability has probably lead to the fact that in the present academic year, this CEEPUS network has not reached a full status but is working at the level of an Umbrella network. However, members of the network have been using this period to reframe parts of the network and to reflect its policies and aims anew. The new aims are: 1. To concentrate on a smaller group of Faculties that have the highest probability of succeeding in harmonizing their curricula in a way that they offer 15-30 ECTS points that should be acquired by participating in courses and lectures at other faculties. 2. Setting excellence priorities in this program: Students from within

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the network and interested students from without are admitted to the intensive courses and summer schools according to excellence criteria. 3. To develop stricter language criteria for participation, and offering more opportunities for practicing German or English as foreign language before participating in the courses, as well as encouraging gifted students to stay for a longer period. 4. To integrate an Islamic Faculty as future partner in the network. As a preparatory step, students and teachers from Islamic Faculties will be invited to participate before establishing formal cooperation. 5. Once the new model of cooperation at a Ph.D. level will be established, an expansion to similar models of cooperation within the Master's level will be planned. Languages of instruction All faculty members of the participating institutions are able to lecture in German and/or English. Students who wish to participate in the network are required sufficient language proficiency. Faculty members are also prepared to offer personal tutorials for incoming short term students in English or German. Some exchanges will not require English or German - as those between the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Some institutions, as the Theological Faculty at Pecs, are offering special language courses to train their students in German and English, or special course for acquiring technical vocabulary. Student mobility exchange The network helps to further encourage students to study at other faculties. First exchanges have been stimulated by the activity of the BCE network. But the possibility to offer summer or spring schools for MA and Ph.D. students will encourage exchange a lot more, since contacts which have been built up at special research seminars make it easier to approach professors of other Universities and to create long lasting personal and academic contacts. On the other hand, it is clear that these exchanges will be motivated mainly by special training or teaching programs or by the knowledge of special persons, which also requires a regular exchange of teaching programs. In order to take advantage of specific bioethical expertise of faculty members, students who are preparing for their Master's thesis are encouraged as doctoral students to use short term stays for a personal contact with experts in the field they are working in. Faculty exchange The Faculty exchange has been directed towards getting to know the respective methodologies and specific research interests of the participants. Amongst the areas which form the parts of the curricula there are more common ones as Fundamental Questions of Moral Theology, as the Foundation of Ethical Theory and the contribution of Christian belief to it, and Special Questions which can vary, still being shared between a substantive part of the members, as e.g. (1) Anthropological Foundations of bioethics (all participants); (2) Social and cultural aspects of bioethics, e.g. poverty and health (Budweis, Prague, Vienna, Pecs, Opole, Ljubljana, Sarajevo); (3) Medical ethics (Vienna, Budapest, Opole, Zagreb, Graz); (4) Ecumenical and Inter-reliigious aspects of bioethics (Sibiu, Cluj, Vienna, Belgrade, Sarajevo); (5) Family related bioethics (Vienna, Opole, Pecs, Kosice); (6) Gender aspects of bioethics (Pecs, Vienna, Prague); bioethics and new technologies (Zagreb, Vienna, Budapest, Prague, Pecs, Graz). Already strong in cooperation: the CEEPUS network builds on a long-standing network of bioethicists in Central Europe 1) The past: developping common grounds In a first period of the CEEPUS network cooperation, members of the network defined shared fields of research and teaching which provide the basis for offering joint partial curricula (thematic clusters) or optional additional courses. Students were invited to bioethical congresses to intensify exchange on their research topics and to provide international contacts to researchers. Also regional conferences and contacts between some members of the network allowed to present special fields of bioethics which are not being offered or only scratched during regular teaching programs, as well as new methodologies, e.g. special aspects of gender questions in bioethics, comparative or interdisciplinary approaches, practical experiences, and interdisciplinary approaches. In cooperation with the BCE network, some members were able to participate in an intensive courses for academic teachers of bioethics (the first was held in September 2012) that intended to provide grounds for a mutual understanding with respect to specifically connoted ethical concepts which can provide a shared basis e.g. in the case of joint supervisions of Ph.D. theses in the field, and to help harmonizing the teaching in bioethics. We hope to offer a similar course in the near future. 2) The present: Building on established relationships The core members of the CEEPUS network have been interested in cooperating at a European level for a long time. They are members of the Association of Bioethicists in Central Europe that teach bioethical subjects at theological, medical and philosophical faculties. Since

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2007 the "Association of Bioethicists in Central Europe (BCE), formally established in 2009, holds annual conferences at Vienna (2007, 2008, 2013) and at other participating universities (Kosice 2009, Opole 2010, Pécs 2011, Zagreb 2012, Ljubljana 2014). In addition, regional workshops and conferences and special courses are being held in cooperation with local partners (Spišská Kapitula 2009, Pecs 2009, 2014, Olsztyn 2012, Lilienfeld 2012). These activities offer the unique chance to promote bioethical issues that are of special regional relevance, to discuss them on an international level and to stimulate new research. 3) The future: Inviting new partners into the network This application brings new partners into the network: The Faculty at Olomouc, Belgrade, Sarajevo and an additional branch at Zagreb. Since the "northern" Central European countries in the network already cooperate very well, we hope to expand further in the South. We are confident that the new partners will integrate rapidly and that we will be able to include even more new partners in the near future