



1<sup>st</sup> CDS Awareness Raising Meeting Webinar  
**‘Transforming teaching through soft skills, social engagement and virtual exchange competences’**

26 March 2021, 09.00-14.00 CET

The six awareness raising meetings of Capacity Development Support Programme in Aurora Alliance (WP 4.4) are aimed at adapting at least five deliverables which build on the programme results in the three main work packages of Aurora Alliance – WP 3. Learning for Societal impact; WP 4 Co-engaging Communities; and WP 5. Sustainability Pioneers.

They consist of three parts: Initial expert-sharing; In-person advanced training; and Further network-building and secondary sharing of know-how. The outcome of these events is to champion the internationalization at Aurora associate partner universities and help establish the regional hub for sharing best practices from Aurora Alliance to CDS Network of universities – 30 institutions across the CEE region sharing the same vision of social engagement. With this and other activities of the CDS programme in Aurora Alliance we work towards reducing disparities between the research-leading and research-emerging countries in Europe by assisting universities in Central-Eastern Europe and Neighboring Countries to develop their institutional capacity for academic excellence and societal relevance.

In this first Aurora CDS Awareness Raising Meeting Webinar, ‘Transforming Teaching through Soft Skills, Social Engagement and Virtual Mobility Competences’ the associate partner universities are invited to take part and discuss three important Aurora deliverables in our joint collaboration: *Competence Framework, Service Learning&Co-creation and Virtual Mobility*.

By introducing and discussing these concepts by Aurora resource persons and experts we aim to initiate the co-creation process with our associate partners.

The Webinar will consist of three interrelated sessions functioning as a one-day workshop:

**Session 1:** Introduction to the Concepts – In this introductory session, the Aurora experts share the state of the art in the three offered Aurora deliverables, each providing 15-20 minutes’ presentations with 10 minutes Q&A.

**Session 2:** Reflecting & Sharing – In this session associate partner representatives use information from the expert introduction and reflect on their own context and share with other associate partners. We identify the similarities and differences and how to proceed.

**Session 3:** Co-creation through Planning and Further Steps: In the third session we discuss in-person training at Associates HEIs as well as the co-creation form, content, model and involvement of the eligible staff to exchange expertise. We also discuss other partners and relevant stakeholders to involve in the seminars at the associate partners’ host institutions.

Webinar participants are selected staff in the International offices of Associate university partners and CDS Network members involved in the internationalization of study programmes and teaching as well as mobility of students.

Webinar is organized by Aurora CDS Task Team leader & co-leader – Palacky University and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Moderators of the day: Selma Porobic (Chair, UP), Anna Bon (co-chair VU), Tereza Kalouskova (reporter UP).

## Guest speakers:



Kees Kouwenaar is the Secretary General for the Aurora Universities Network. For 20 years, he worked at the Netherlands Organisation for Internationalisation of Higher Education (Nuffic), in recognition and credential evaluation as well as internationalisation programme management. After six years of leading a legal development cooperation foundation, he came to the VU in 2008 as Director for the Centre for International Cooperation, and has also managed the VU's Strategic Internationalisation Programme. Since 2013, he initiated and coordinated the Mastermind Europe project. Since 2015, Kouwenaar played a key role and is now coordinating the Aurora Universities Network, which unites nine research intensive universities in Europe committed to matching Academic Excellence with Societal Relevance. He coordinated the successful Aurora proposal for a European University alliance programme, which started in November 2020. In that programme, he is co-lead for the Aurora Competence Framework together with Kai Hockerts from the Copenhagen Business School.

*In his presentation, he will show two distinct examples of competences from the EntreComp framework and the VALUE Rubrics framework to highlight how these “soft skills” added to the subject-related knowledge and skills of the course may advance the employability and recognisability of the students/graduates and offer pathways to international peer learning among academic teachers.*



Marjolein Zweekhorst is professor of innovation and education at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Her research aims to provide insight into themes related to inter- and transdisciplinary research and to prepare students for conducting inter- and transdisciplinary research. It is focused on 1) development of educational approaches and innovations in health and life science education aiming to prepare students for inter- and transdisciplinary research and 2) methodology development for interactive policy and interactive technology development in the field of (international) public health (aiming to improve access to health care especially in low- and middle income countries). Marjolein Zweekhorst is Program Director of the Master Management Policy-Analysis and Entrepreneurship in the Health and Life Sciences and chair of the exam board of the educational qualification programs at VU University. She is a member of the International Academic Board of the Dutch Royal Tropical Institute and a member of the program committee of NRO (Nationaal Regieorgaan Onderwijs onderzoek).

*In her presentation, together with Dr. Sarju Sing Rai, the focus will be on introducing Service Learning and Co-creation as concepts and discussing how these are being developed within their Aurora Alliance task team to support staff and students and equip them with the knowledge, skills and mindset to tackle societal challenges as social entrepreneurs and innovators.*



Barbara Tasser is head of International Services at the University of Innsbruck. Since 2004, Tasser has been in charge of the Italy Centre, and the past five years now of the university's International Services. In this position, she no longer only takes care of the university's relations with Italy, but also of connections all over the world. Before dedicating herself to intercultural relations, she dived into the history of humankind. In 1992, Tasser began her archaeology studies at the University of Innsbruck. During her studies, she travelled to Italy, Greece and Turkey. A two-month stay in Iraq in 1995, shortly after the Second Gulf War, is particularly memorable where she took part in excavations and experienced how diplomacy works and what can be achieved with intercultural communication methods - in this case for science.

*In her presentation about Virtual Mobility, Dr. Tasser will introduce and clarify the concept of virtual exchange and introduce the developing model of the Aurora task team Borderless Learning that she is leading.*

**Webinar Programme:**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1<sup>st</sup> CDS Awareness Raising Meeting Webinar</b>  <b>‘Transforming teaching through soft skills, social engagement and virtual mobility competences’</b>                  26 March 2021, 09.00-14.00 CET</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Connection details:</b></p>		
Join Zoom Meeting Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/93605199791?pwd=NllvVmVkNzdqSHAvalZDc2ozbGluQT09">https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/93605199791?pwd=NllvVmVkNzdqSHAvalZDc2ozbGluQT09</a>		
Meeting ID: 93605199791 Passcode: 1STCDSARMW		
Time	Agenda	Speakers and Topic
09:00-09:15	▲ <b>OPENING</b>	▲ <i>Introduction</i>  Capacity Development Support Programme and Concept of the Webinar  CDS Activity Lead Dr. Selma Porobic
09:15-09:45	▲ <b>AURORA EXPERT SHARING</b>	▲ <i>Presentation 1</i>  Competence Framework with Q&A  Aurora Competence Framework Co-lead Mr. Kees Kouwenaar
09:45-10:15	▲ <b>AURORA EXPERT SHARING</b>	▲ <i>Presentation 2</i>  Service Learning and Co-Creation with Q&A  Aurora Service learning and Co-creation Lead Prof. Dr. Marjolein Zweekhorst and Dr. Sarju Sing Rai
10:15-10:45	▲ <b>AURORA EXPERT SHARING</b>	▲ <i>Presentation 3</i>  Virtual Exchange with Q&A  Aurora Borderless Learning Lead Dr. Barbara Tasser
10:45-11:00	▲ <i>Short break</i>	
11:00-11:30	▲ <b>REFLECTION &amp; SHARING 1</b>	▲ <i>Break out sessions</i>  GROUP 1 Competence framework (chair by Selma) GROUP 2 Service L & Co-creation (chaired by Anna) GROUP 3 Virtual Mobility (chaired by Tereza)  Associate partners engage in group discussions of contextualising the three concepts - reflecting and sharing similarities and differences with each other

11:30-12:00	<p>▲ <b>REFLECTION &amp; SHARING 2</b></p>	<p>▲ Plenary sessions</p> <p>GROUP 1 Competence framework GROUP 2 Service L &amp; Co-creation GROUP 3 Virtual Mobility</p> <p><i>Reporting back from the break out groups – identifying local similarities and differences (Moderated by Anna)</i></p>
12:00-12:15	<p>▲ <i>Short break</i></p>	
12:15-13:00	<p>▲ <b>CO-CREATION THROUGH PLANNING AND FURTHER STEPS</b></p>	<p>▲ <i>Open Internal discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- involvement of the eligible staff to exchange expertise</li> <li>- co-creation form, content, model and in-person training at Associates’ HEIs</li> <li>- relevant stakeholders at the associate partners’ host institutions</li> </ul> <p><i>Joint brain storming process of defining the next steps (moderated by Selma)</i></p>
13:00-13:30	<p>▲ <b>CLOSURE</b></p>	<p>▲ <i>Webinar conclusions by Reporter (Tereza)</i></p> <p>▲ <i>Wrap up Webinar Chair (Selma, Anna)</i></p>