



Annex B to QC Manual - Word document template

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Enhancement of HE Research Potential Contributing to Further Growth of the WB Region
Re@WBC**

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Abstract	The following document is a report on the current situation of the relationships UNS has with the scientific diaspora
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Report on the current situation of the cooperation with scientific diaspora

University of Novi Sad is one of the Western Balkan (WB) partners of the ERASMUS+ project *Re@WBC*. University of Novi Sad is responsible for the Work Package 2 (WP2): *Excellent University for the researchers*, which consists of 9 activities. Within the Activity 2.9: *Establishing links with scientific Diaspora by creating and updating databases*, all WB partners are expected to prepare a report which describes the present situation concerning cooperation with scientific Diaspora and Alumni. The task leader, University of Tirana, shall then gather the reports from all the WB partners and shall prepare an internal report in which suggestions on how to improve the current status pertaining to links with scientific diaspora will be outlined.

The first Alumni meeting at the University of Novi Sad was held in July 2003. The Alumni Association of the University of Novi Sad gathers, on a voluntary basis, all former students, teachers, assistants and friends of the University to foster and maintain relationships with the University in order to inform, monitor and participate in the events at the University and to ensure lasting cooperation. On the University web site there is a database of Alumni Association members. Advancement of the Alumni Association activities of the University of Novi Sad is supported through the Tempus project "*Developing and setting up measures for initiating and sustaining Higher Education Society Cooperation – INTERFACE*",

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financed by EU Tempus program. The preparation of the new version of the University Alumni Association web site is in progress.

Apart from the Alumni Association of the University of Novi Sad, some of the 14 faculties that form the University has its own alumni service. We analyzed web pages of all the faculties and the current situation of existing Alumni activities is the following: 6 faculties (out of 14) provide links to their respective Alumni Associations on their faculty web pages, while the remaining 8 faculties provide no information regarding that kind of activities on their web pages.

Analyzing further these 6 web pages we established that the Alumni associations are organized in various ways.

- Three faculties provide only a static list of graduated students (Faculty of Law, Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of technical sciences Mihajlo Pupin in Zrenjanin).
- Faculty of Philosophy provides a detailed description of the foundational principles of their Alumni association, but no information is available about the members and their activities. There is information that an invitation to join the Alumni association will be open soon to all the students of all study levels who completed their studies at the Faculty of Philosophy.
- Faculty of Technical Sciences launched a campaign in 2014 to gather companies, enterprises, banks, industries, IT companies, service companies, SMEs, private companies and others as well as the Alumni in a *Friends club of the Faculty of Technical sciences*. The aim of the *Friends club* is to support the faculty activities related to students, as well as to establish a permanent presence of these companies in various forms at Faculty. This will create a pool of companies around the Faculty, which would in addition help in providing sponsorships, provide the ability to create professional practice (for undergraduate and graduate students), employment of graduates, feedback on the quality of their academic programs, and to promote Faculty in other forms of cooperation. At the same time their former students (Alumni) will be informed about the activities of the Faculty, about the possibilities of further education and training, and will be able to help in equipping laboratories, to provide advice and useful experiences. There is a list of members of the *Faculty Friends Club* but there is no information about their activities.
- The Academy of Arts founded the Alumni association in May 2012 with the support of the Tempus project *"Introducing Interdisciplinarity in Music Studies in Western Balkans in line with European Perspective – InMusWB."* The aim of the Alumni association is to connect all those who participate or have participated in the work and activities of the Academy of Arts, with a desire to create, strengthen and develop further connections. There is a list of Alumni members on the web site of the Academy. The Alumni Association has its own Web page, Facebook and Gmail address.

University of Novi Sad is about to promote a new Strategy for the Internationalization of the University of Novi Sad. The Strategy recognizes the importance and the benefits of collaboration with the university alumni and the scientific diaspora. The University of Novi Sad is devoted to establishing sustainable ways of engaging not only the alumni of the University of Novi Sad, but also the alumni of all the universities in the ex-Yugoslavia region in various activities ranging from merely raising awareness of the educational and scientific activities of the University to deeper integration into the educational and research environment of the University (such as guest professorship positions and collaboration in joint research projects).

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