

# FROM EXPERIENCE TO ACTION: CO-CREATING CROSS-BORDER STAFF WEEKS

OTH Amberg-Weiden (DE)
University of West Bohemia in Pilsen (CZ)

**Czech-German Staff Week** 



## **About Us**









Marian Mure
Head of Language Center
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## **About Us**









## **Content**

- Introduction
- Timeline of cooperation
- Lessons learned
- · World café session



## What's an International Staff Week?



- Question for the audience:
  - 1) Who has already organized a Staff Week?
  - 2) Who has taken part in a Staff Week?

- Purpose of International Staff Weeks (ISW)
- Rules? Financed from Erasmus+?
- Where to find ISW offers: http://staffmobility.eu/



## **Timeline of cooperation**





Prof. August W. Behr President OTH Amberg-Weiden 1994-2003



Rector
University of West Bohemia
in Pilsen
1998–2004

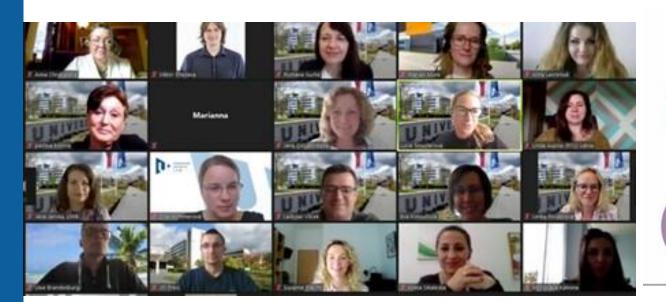
- Since 1998 Erasmus program cooperation
- Since 1999 Intensive Programs in Electrotechnics
- Since 2006 Semestral Courses in Economics
- Since 2021 Czech-German Staff Weeks
- Since 2024/25 Double Degree Program:
   Management and Digital Technology

## **ISW 2021 - online**

## **Topics:**

- Internationalization in Higher Education for Society
- Cooperating with companies
- Digitalization and Internationalization

24 participants 8 countries (+DE+CZ)



#### Programme

| MONDAY<br>17.05.    | DAY 1 Pilsen, Czech Republic  Welcome words of the International Office Team and UWB Rector (13:00 – 13:30) Presentation of the University of West Bohemia (13:30) Virtual UWB Campus Tour Virtual City Centre Tour in Pilsen Online presentations of the host universities representatives incl.15 min. breaktime (14:00 – 16:00) Virtual meeting with the faculty representatives of the University of West Bohemia (16:00 – 17:00)  DAY 2 Pilsen, Czech Republic |  |  |
|---------------------|---|--|--|
| Afternoon session:  |   |  |  |
| TUESDAY<br>18.05.   |   |  |  |
| Morning session:    | Workshop with Dr. Uwe Brandenburg (09:00 – 11:30) Topic: "Internationalisation in Higher Education for Society (IHES)":  - How we can make a difference in a COVID world?   |  |  |
| Afternoon session:  | Workshop with Dr. Uwe Brandenburg (13:00 – 14:30)<br>Developing own ideas and concepts  |  |  |
| WEDNESDAY<br>19.05. | DAY 3<br>Amberg and Weiden, Germany   |  |  |
| Morning session:    | Welcome from the President of Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule (OTH) Amberg-Weide (10:00 – 10:10)  Cooperating with companies in various fields (10:15 – 12:00)  |  |  |
| Afternoon session:  | Lunch Break (12:00 – 13:30)  Examples for Digitalization and potential Internationalization (13:30 – 14:30)  Virtual Exchange on Digitalization and Internationalization (14:30 – 15:30)  Virtual Live City Tours, Amberg – Weiden (15:30)  |  |  |
| THURSDAY<br>20.05.  | DAY 4<br>Pilsen, Amberg and Weiden  |  |  |
| Morning session:    | Final discussion and farewell (10:00 – 11:30) UWB Pilsen and OTH Amberg-Weiden  |  |  |





### ISW 2022 - 2025: Structure





Pilsen Weiden Amberg









## International Staff Week 2022 Cooperation in international projects. Examples of good practice. Monday May 16<sup>th</sup> Day 1 (Arrival Day) Pilsen, Czech Republic 13:00 Registration

| Afternoon session<br>From 13:00   | 13:00<br>13:15<br>13:30<br>15:00                | Registration Welcome at the Rectorate and presentation of UWB Campus Tour Participant's presentations of their institutions / Meeting with UWB faculty representatives |  |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
|                                   | 17:00   | Evening Reception  |  |
| Tuesday<br>May 17 <sup>th</sup>   | Day 2<br>Pilsen, Czech Republic                 |  |  |
| Morning session<br>From 9:00      | 9:00<br>12:00                                   | Presentation of UWB international projects<br>Lunch  |  |
| Afternoon session                 | 13:00<br>15:15<br>16:45                         | World Café (discussion about international projects) Pilsner Urquell Brewery visit tour City Center Tour (voluntary), Individual programme                             |  |
| Wednesday<br>May 18 <sup>th</sup> | Day 3<br>Weiden, Germany                        |  |  |
| Morning session                   | 8:00<br>10:00<br>11:30<br>12:00                 | Departure from Pilsen Dealing with external challenges in Internationalisation International Projects: Job Speed Dating Lunch  |  |
| Afternoon session                 | 14:00<br>16:00<br>18:00<br>21:30                | Company Visit<br>City Tour of Weiden<br>Bavarian Evening<br>Arrival in Pilsen  |  |
| Thursday<br>May 19 <sup>th</sup>  | Day 4<br>Amberg, Germany                        |  |  |
| Morning session                   | 8:00<br>10:00<br>11:30<br>13:00                 | Departure from Pilsen<br>Feedback on Internationalisation Audit at OTH AW<br>Campus and City Tour of Amberg<br>Lunch   |  |
| Afternoon session                 | 14:00<br>16:00<br>18:30                         | World Café "Examples of International Projects" / Meeting Faculty representatives Individual programme Arrival in Pilsen   |  |
| Friday<br>May 20 <sup>th</sup>    | Day 5 (Departure Day)<br>Pilsen, Czech Republic |  |  |
| Morning session                   | 9:00<br>11:00                                   | Presentation of Buddy System UWB, Discussion, Coffee break Farewell  |  |

## **Topics:**

• Cooperation on international projects Examples of good practice













## **Topics:**

• Think Positive. Challenges for the future





18 Participants, 8 Countries (& DE + CZ)



## **Topics:**

 Think Positive: Current Issues in Internationalization – Critical Incidents, International Student Integration and BIP's



20 Participants, 12 Countries (& DE+CZ)



## **Topics:**

Mindful internalization and Inclusion





9 Participants, 4 Countries (& DE + CZ)



## ISW 2026 .....







- . What do you expect from an ISW?
  - What topic would make you take your time and travel to an ISW?





https://www.menti.com/alvrmiz5okms

## What are we good at ...



### **UNIQUE CONCEPT**

2 countries /regions - 3 cities cross-border Collaboration using 3 languages during the organizational phase

#### **LOGISTICS**

Geographical proximity
Pilsen - Amberg 140 km, duration 1:45
Pilsen - Weiden 100 km, duration 1:15
Amberg - Weiden 40 km, duration 40 min

#### **TEAMWORK**

Sustainable and long-lasting cooperation Open-minded communication Learning from previous experience

#### **INTENSIVE AGENDA**

Visiting 2 universities in 3 locations

Agreeing on 2 + 3 days

Variety of topics based on universities' expertise

Finding useful and current topics

Intercultural experience and international

exposure

## **Challenges**

## **International participants**

Minimum of participants
Profile of participants

#### **Commitment**

Participants attendance Contribution of speakers and university staff

## **Financing**

Setting up the participation fee
Early payment deadline
Dividing the participation fee between the
two universities
Finding additional funding

## **Promotion strategy**

IMOTION
University website
Emails to partner universities

## **Intensive Agenda**

Moving from one place to another / Free time for participants coming late to the hotel and waking up too early

Content: Physical / online lectures and workshops

## Logistics

Bus drives and drivers
Technical issues
Spending a few hours a day in the bus
Staying at one place or changing the hotel



## Over to you!

#### **Partners for a Cross-Border ISW**

- 2 partner universities
- 2 countries

#### **Topic and Speaker**

- One principal topic and one subtopic
- Internal or external speaker

#### **Participants**

- Minimum number of participants
- Profile of participants



#### Agenda

- Month and week
- 2 / 3 days at each university

#### Participation fee

- Amount of the participation fee
- Division between the 2 organizing universities

#### **Communication strategy**

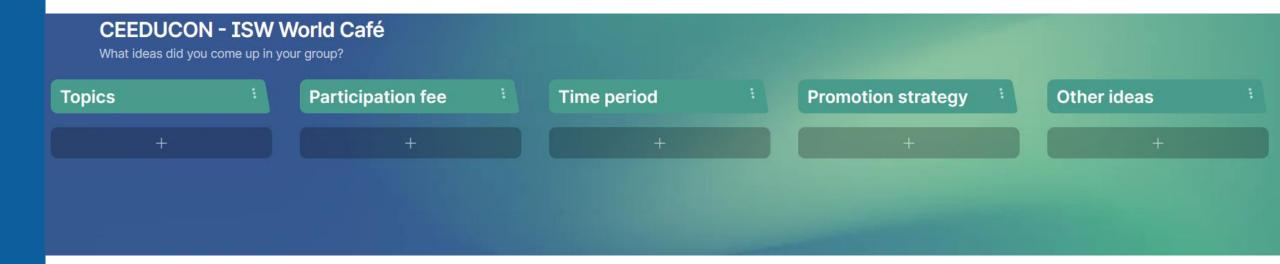
- Promotion when to start and what channels to use
- External and internal communication

## Over to you!

- ➤ Please form a group quickly and discuss the different aspects when planning an ISW
- > Please add some of your points in our padlet.







## Think about this ...

What makes a good partner university for a cross-border ISW?

How can two universities share responsibilities fairly?

Which themes would attract and benefit the most participants?

Would you bring in external speakers, or rely mainly on inhouse expertise?

What's the ideal number of participants?

What **period** in the year works best for participants and hosts? How would you **balance** time between the two universities? What level of **fee** feels fair and feasible? How to divide the fee between both institutions?

When should **promotion** start to reach the right audience? Which **channels** are most effective for external and internal **communication**?



## Let's hear and see what you came up with ...





## **Contact us**



#### **OTH Amberg-Weiden**

international@oth-aw.de



https://www.othaw.de/en/international/internation al-profile/news-events/staff-week/

## **University of West Bohemia in Pilsen**

international@rek.zcu.cz



www.international.zcu.cz/cs/Events/staff\_week.html







## Thank you for your attention



