China Programme, final report for projects 2014-2016

SUMMARY REPORT FOR PUBLICATION

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<th>Name of the project</th>
<th>Helsinki-Beijing Healthcare Product Development Project</th>
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<td>Coordinating Institution</td>
<td>Aalto University</td>
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Objectives of the project (as indicated in the project proposal)

The project aimed to educate students in the product development process in healthcare technology, with the goal of understanding the creation of viable, commercialized products for sustainable business. The project increased understanding of related social and ethical impacts of health and related communications technology. The universities developed an international product development course in the field of health and communications technology. These aims – the original objectives of the project – were well achieved.

In summary:

1) Students received intercultural immersion
2) Students learned about the specifics of high-tech product development in this international environment
3) Also, the international operations of Aalto Health Factory and Peking University’s health and wellbeing activities were strengthened, and also further (future) plans for their development were already discussed
4) The project served as an important part in building up more institutionalized collaboration between the two universities; health and wellbeing is considered the launch pad for this.

An additional result was that although this was an international teaching development project, also research activities of both universities will benefit from the project.

Achieved results and outcomes

The Project started visiting in China at the Peking University, Tsinghua University and the Chinese health technology company ENSUN Co., Ltd. The ENSUN offered final project positions for Finnish students, but unfortunately any of Aalto students applied the position.
The main target was to establish the Health Technology Product Development summer School in order to offer possibility for Chinese students, teachers and staff members of EFSUN to attend the summer school. The Summer School took place in August 9-19, 2016.

The Summer School was organized in Aalto University Design Factory which provides an environment for experimental learning. Peking University was interested in to learn the Design Factory’s product development and design education which combines disciplinary knowledge with design thinking and working life skills, such as collaborative working style, effective communication skills, and ability to implement theory to practice.

Chinese visitors participated the Summer School together with other international and Finnish students. Also the Chinese professor wanted to participate the Summer School as a student in order to gain the practical experiment of the learning process. She was willing to learn and observe the teaching methods and the collaborative product development process as well as the creative learning environment and to implement the ideas in Peking University.

The Summer School was two weeks intensive Product Development course. 13 specialists gave the lectures or tutored the students who planned and realized the product development projects in teams during the course and presented their results in the end. Students also paid a visit in a Finnish high technology company Planmeca.

Summer School organized one Get together event on the country side in Vihti with sauna and barbecue giving a touch of Finnish culture.

**Health Technology Product Development Summer School programme and Schedule (appendix 1)**

**Activities carried out during the project**

**October 2015, meeting in China:**
Participants: Professor Markus Mäkelä, Professor Raimo Sepponen and Professor Yuping Zhao and the product development specialists in ENSUN CO. & Ltd.
- discussions of master’s thesis projects for Finnish students in ENSUN
- planning the Health Technology Product Development Summer School

**May 2016, meetings in Tsinghua University and Peking University, China.**
Professor Markus Mäkelä had meetings with university administrators Wand Songtao and Wang Qian at Tsinghua University and discussed of collaboration in the field of
Entrepreneurship education. He also had a meeting with Professor LU and Professor Zhao at Peking University.

**August 2016, Summer School in Finland Aalto University:**
Professor Yuping Zhao and two researchers from Peking University participated the Summer School.

**Future developments**
We felt that this project was very useful in terms of further deepening the collaboration, which we already base to long term relations with Peking University. New collaboration opportunities in teaching, research and innovations were discussed on several occasions and we will pursue these also in the future, and we foresee growing collaboration with this very good university in the near future.

**Other remarks**
The thesis projects and trainee possibilities at ENSUN Co. were marketed for Finnish students in Spring semester 2016. Students should have started the work in China right away in order to finish the work by October 2016. The time was too short for Finnish students to do the decisions to go to China. No grants for Finnish students were used.

We reserved grants for more people from China to attend the Summer School, but in the end only 3 came.