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CESUN 2010
Central European Summer University, Pécs, Hungary
16 – 25 July 2010

“City-Regions in the Southern Cultural Zone”
Faculty of Humanities, University of Pécs

Introduction

The CESUN 2010 will take place between 16 and 25 July 2010 – according to the experience of the past years – which could mean the starting point of a long-term regional and international co-operation and contribute to the process of international regional development potentially launched by the European Capital of Culture Programme of Pécs. The project is based upon the experience, traditions, knowledge-bases, the already existing international relations of the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Pécs and the numerous experts of our city, but the cultural and sociological changes are planned to be examined and discussed with unconventional and new ways based on the young generations. Our summer university connects different fields of science, therefore, it is intended to be truly interdisciplinary.

Programme

The CESUN 2010 is an international summer university for university (undergrad and postgrad), Ph.D. students and young researchers, coupled with a photo exhibition. The event is planned for 60 participants, partly for the students of our faculty, partly for students of other Hungarian higher education institutions.

The programme is focused on social sciences, therefore, we expect students from social science disciplines. Lecturers will come from different countries ranging from Hungary to the USA.

The central objective is to analyse the concept of the “city-region”. According to this concept, we will take a close look at the mainstream theories, among others the differences between the local and regional social structures (in ideological, political, judiciary and economic aspects) to see their hidden trends and processes, to declare new symbolic spaces connected with the city and the changes of the local-regional policy – all under the aegis of the natural cultural fluctuation connected to the European Capital of Culture Programme (ECOC). Consequently, the process of cultural fluctuation (change) is standing in the focus of the summer university from the point of view of the potentially generated and expected changes in the regional and international context. The current researches and scientific outcomes provide a great base for the event,

presenters of former ECoC cities with plenty and illustrious observations will help gather a better understanding of the core issues.

A proceedings volume is also planned to be published as a selection of the best presentations from the summer university together with the resume of the discussions about Pécs and the Capital of Culture Programme. It will be published as an e-book over the Internet in co-operation with Publikon Publishers at the www.publikon.hu website.

In line with the topic of the school we are planning to organise a photo exhibition with over 40 photos. An arts jury will rank the best proposals after a call for university students is published in early January 2010. The subject of the photos: How are CITIES in the process of CHANGE? The works later on could be transported to different ECoC (partner) cities.

Methodology

A modular methodology will be implemented, which strengthens group work via certain interactive elements. The idea is to ensure lively discussions and some common conclusions and propositions which could be useful for the future in terms of any “city-region”.

The mixture of plenary sessions, workshops and group work will mean different ways to elaborate on the core issues. In addition, the above-mentioned exhibition and some other cultural events will also be part of the project.

Implementation

A number of partners will help organise the event. The main co-organisers are the Society for the Science of History in Pécs (a cultural NGO) and the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Pécs. The organisers count on the Students’ Union of the faculty, as well as many international partners from Osijek, Croatia, Vienna, Austria and the US.

Monitoring, assessment

We would like to measure the students’ satisfaction using questionnaires. At the website of the summer university we will set up a virtual forum to make observations to help our work for the future. As long as it is expected that during the discussions new ideas will show up, we will keep records of the potential next projects to realise the multiplier effect of the summer university.

Expected outcome

Students from abroad and Hungary will have the opportunity to see the City of Pécs and its region; they will experience the city’s cultural diversity, rich heritage and innovative strengths during both the professional and cultural programmes. The course provides possibility for the participants to define and exchange their own experiences.

The event is truly a great occasion to:

- meet up and mingle within an international and intercultural student community in one of Central Europe’s oldest universities,
- learn about Central-European issues and understand the ongoing changes and transformations of city-regions,

- learn Hungarian language,
- master communication and intercultural learning skills,
- build personal and official relations and work out joint projects for the future.

Combine CESUN2010 with ICWiP2010!

There is a great chance for those interested to combine participation in CESUN2010 with taking part in the one of the region's leading student festival, the pillar programme of Pécs2010, the *International Culture Week in Pécs* (ICWiP) 2010! Those who would like to extend their stay in Pécs, European Capital of Culture 2010, are encouraged to apply also for ICWiP2010 under the motto "Balkans: Re-loaded". Discounted rates can be asked for if you combine the two events. Don't miss the festival of your summer! Visit: www.icwip.hu

