

Network: CIII-AT-0604-05-1516

Program description:

Regional studies like Korean Studies are necessarily a multidisciplinary undertaking, involving numerous areas and fields, as well as various methods. No single Korean Studies department or institution has sufficient human resources and research capacities to meet all the requirements. Anyway, Korean Studies in Europe tend to be meagerly equipped in terms of staff. Therefore, international exchange and multilateral cooperation between institutions can probably nowhere be as fruitful as they are in our case. A cooperation like CEEPUS that is financed in Europe earns recognition and further fostering from Korean institutions as well. These institutions (the Korea Foundation, the Academy of Korean Studies, and others) are big spenders, sending guest professors, financing many positions and funding many projects in Korean Studies all over Europe -- as well as welcoming many of our students for short and long term study stays in Korea. The CEEPUS-network for Korean Studies in Central and Eastern Europe and the significant contribution to the appeal of Korean Studies that is provided by various elements of this network have already resulted in positive response, acknowledgement and additional generous support from Korean institutions. Languages of the instructions: All faculty members of the participating units are able to lecture in English. We also demand an appropriate language proficiency from the applying students. Student mobility exchange: For the benefit of the students, this project shall serve as a means to establish and sustain long lasting and fruitful contacts. Furthermore, it provides the students with an opportunity to advance in their specific fields of interest and to get more input into their research work. We plan to keep the network activities as symmetrical as possible, taking into account, however, differences as to size, staff and facilities etc. Undergraduate and graduate students will be advised to study a full semester (4 scholarship months) at the host institution. The short term scholarship shall serve doctoral students and participants in the summer school and the excursion. Faculty exchange: The participating units seek to cooperate in a manner that is in full harmony with the general educational aims and objectives of the participants. Faculty exchange is envisaged in the form of compressed courses. These courses are expected to bring variety in the curricular offerings of the host institutions. It stands to reason that faculty exchange will also be used for networking itself. Objectives and tasks: The participating units consider our CEEPUS-network as a good opportunity to increase academic mobility, to strengthen cooperation in teaching and research activities and to enrich their curricula. A dynamic multilateral exchange helps the harmonization of curricula and also the development of a streamlined curriculum that can lead to the realization of joint programs and joint degrees. In the long run, we would like to implement a joint program for a "thèse en cotutelle" for PhDs in Korean Studies. Moreover, we already feel that the existence of this CEEPUS-network is appreciated by those Korean institutions who generously support all the participating units. In the future, Korean Studies in that Central and Eastern European area will hopefully work more and more together. In this process the most instrumental and most decisive role will hopefully always be played by the CEEPUS-network.