INTERMEZZO

OPEN AND ONLINE EDUCATION INCENTIVE SCHEME

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An annual incentive scheme is being implemented from 2015 through 2018 as a part of the Open and Online Education programme. The Minister of Education, Culture and Science introduced the scheme in order to provide higher education institutions with the necessary financial support to experiment with open and online education elements. These experiments should contribute to the quality, accessibility and efficiency of higher education and to improved study success rates. SURF plays a leading role in implementing the programme.

The first round of the incentive scheme generated a great deal of interest, resulting in the submission of 45 project proposals. An assessment committee under the supervision of SURF's Scientific Technical Council assessed the applications. The following eleven proposals were formally approved, representing a total funding amount of 830,000 euros.

How could this benefit other parties?
The teaching materials developed as a part of these funded projects will be made available on the basis of open licences and may be used freely by other education institutions. See www.surf.nl/stimuleringsregeling-open-online-onderwijs for fact sheets on each of the projects on page 17. These fact sheets also feature clear descriptions and announcements for use by other parties, and an overview of contact details for the various project leaders.

Overarching research
A joint research team established by the Open University of the Netherlands and Utrecht University is currently conducting overarching research under the auspices of the Netherlands Initiative for Education Research (NRO). The NRO study will involve a comprehensive analysis of the various incentive scheme projects. The findings will be combined with the results of fundamental research in the field of open and online education, conducted on the basis of other sources. The study aims to find out how open and online education can contribute to the improvement and innovation of higher education.

Second tranche
Applications for the second tranche of this incentive scheme are currently being accepted. The project proposal submission deadline is 15 December 2015.

Further information:
www.surf.nl/stimuleringsregeling-open-online-onderwijs or via janina.vanhees@surfnet.nl.

OVERVIEW OF ACCEPTED PROJECTS UNDER THE INCENTIVE SCHEME IN 2015

Codarts Rotterdam – Online music theory education
The music theory education provided by Codarts Rotterdam is currently highly time-, location- and lecturer-dependant. Codarts is striving to make this education more efficient and accessible through the application of blended learning.

Erasmus University Rotterdam – Flipping the Master
Erasmus University Rotterdam is working to structure the education preceding its postgraduate medical training programmes along more efficient lines. The institution will be transitioning to a 'flipping the classroom' approach, whereby knowledge-based education is provided online and students are offered more room to explore subjects in-depth during face-to-face education.

NHL University of Applied Sciences, The Hague University of Applied Sciences – Thinking, doing, sharing
The NHL and The Hague University of Applied Sciences are currently developing two online courses in the area of public administration innovation. These courses will offer public sector professionals an opportunity to exchange knowledge on social changes and their implications on government performance with representatives of the education sector.

Tilburg University, Open University of the Netherlands – Data Science for the arts and social sciences
This MOOC on the basis of automatically generated feedback teaches arts and social sciences students how to process and analyse large research databases.

Delft University of Technology – From campus students to professional learners: Flexible learning paths in Responsible Innovation
Delft University of Technology aims to make its knowledge on responsible innovation available to both students and professionals. The two groups follow different learning pathways. In order to accommodate these differences, the university will be developing flexible online content on responsible innovation that caters effectively to both target groups.

University of Amsterdam – Open Online Course in Big History
In an effort to meet the burgeoning demand for 'big history' education, the University of Amsterdam is currently developing a universally accessible open online course. The course will be based around knowledge clips developed by experts from the field. Other institutions will be free to adjust the course materials to their own specifications.

Leiden University – On Being a Scientist
Scientific standards and values cannot be learned from a book. Leiden University is addressing this hiatus by developing an online course entitled 'On Being a Scientist'. The course will centre around film drama clips and offer education developers the tools they need to create such materials.

Leiden University and Maastricht University – Topic Oriented Open Learning (TOOL) Anatomy.info platform
The Anatomy.info platform is an initiative by Leiden University Medical Centre (LUMC) and Maastricht University aimed at offering universal access to the sort of anatomical content that is currently exclusively featured in costly atlases. This will offer students easier access to high-quality content and improve learning efficiency.

Utrecht University – Open and Personalised Statistics Education
Utrecht University aims to develop open, personalised statistics modules for Bachelor's students. The university plans to offer personalised online learning arrangements, enabling its students to improve their statistics skills and clear any backlogs.

Wageningen UR – Open and online course in System Analysis and Sustainability
The system analysis approach plays a crucial role in research on the optimisation of global food supplies. Wageningen UR is currently developing an online course (SPOC and MOOC) in an effort to disseminate knowledge on system analysis more broadly and effectively.

Wageningen UR – Open and online course in Food Safety
The issue of food safety is a source of many common misconceptions. Wageningen UR is currently developing an online course (SPOC and MOOC) in an effort to disseminate knowledge on this subject more broadly and effectively amongst students and other interested parties.