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VANADZOR STATE UNIVERSITY (VSU)

Erasmus+ SMARTI

Support for Innovative Methodology, Approaches and Tools for
Teaching through the Medium of English in order to improve
Educational Yield, Sustainability and Internationalization
[SMARTI]



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“VANADZOR STATE UNIVERSITY” FOUNDATION

Foundation Date: July 9, 1969

- Armenia’s north regional education-service provider and research centre
- the largest higher educational institution of Lori Region
- 1700 students (Bachelor, Master, PhD)
- 70% of regional teachers are VSU graduates
- 48.7% of the University academic staff are VSU graduates
- 32 Bachelor, 14 Master and 6 post-graduate degree programs
- 3 Faculties, 8 Chairs
- VSU Basic High School (since 1997)
- VSU College (since 2011)



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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

**Chair of Armenian Language
and Literature**

**Chair of Foreign Languages
and Literature**

Chair of History



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FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES

Chair of Chemistry and Biology

Chair of Mathematics and Informatics



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FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

**Chair of Pedagogy and
Psychology**

**Chair of Economics, Law and
Management**

Chair of Arts and Sports



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TEMPUS PROJECTS

MAHATMA

- Master's Program "Education Management"

GOVERN

- Reconstruction of HR and FE Departments

LeAGUe

- Development of LLL Education

SSRULLI

- Development of LLL Education

VERITAS

- Ph.D System Implementation



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ERASMUS+ ICM PROJECTS

- University of Porto, Portugal
- Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Romania
- University of Granada, Spain
- Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland
- Angel Kanchev University of Ruse, Bulgaria
- Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia



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ERASMUS+ CBHE PROJECTS

BOOST

- Boosting Armenian Universities Internationalization Strategy & Marketing

PRINTeL

- Change in Classroom: Promoting innovative Teaching & Learning to Enhance Student Learning Experience in Eastern Partnership Countries

ARMDOCT

- Reforming Doctoral Education in Armenia in line with Needs of Academia, Industry and Current EU Practices



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BOOST PROJECT OUTCOMES

- National Internationalization Strategy
- Website “Study in Armenia” <https://studyinarmenia.am/en>
- Modern equipment for the newly established Erasmus+ Conference Hall
- Development of strategic documents
- Raised awareness about internationalization
- 16 trained staff abroad





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PRINTeL PROJECT OUTCOMES

- Trained staff in innovative teaching and learning methods

Hybrid/Blended Teaching & Learning; Active Learning in the Flipped Classroom; Active learning & ICT-enhanced teaching: m-learning & gamification; Video as a Learning tool for teachers & students: Video Lecturing & promoting Interaction in the Classroom; Active Learning with special focus on Technology Enhanced Collaborative Learning

- Creation of VATL (Virtual Academy for Teaching and Learning) Portal
- Modern equipment for making video lessons, online classes, seminars



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PROJECTS STARTING FROM 2021

SMARTI
(Erasmus+)

- Support for Innovative Methodology, Approaches and Tools for Teaching through the Medium of English in order to improve Educational Yield, Sustainability and Internationalization

CONNECT
(Erasmus+)

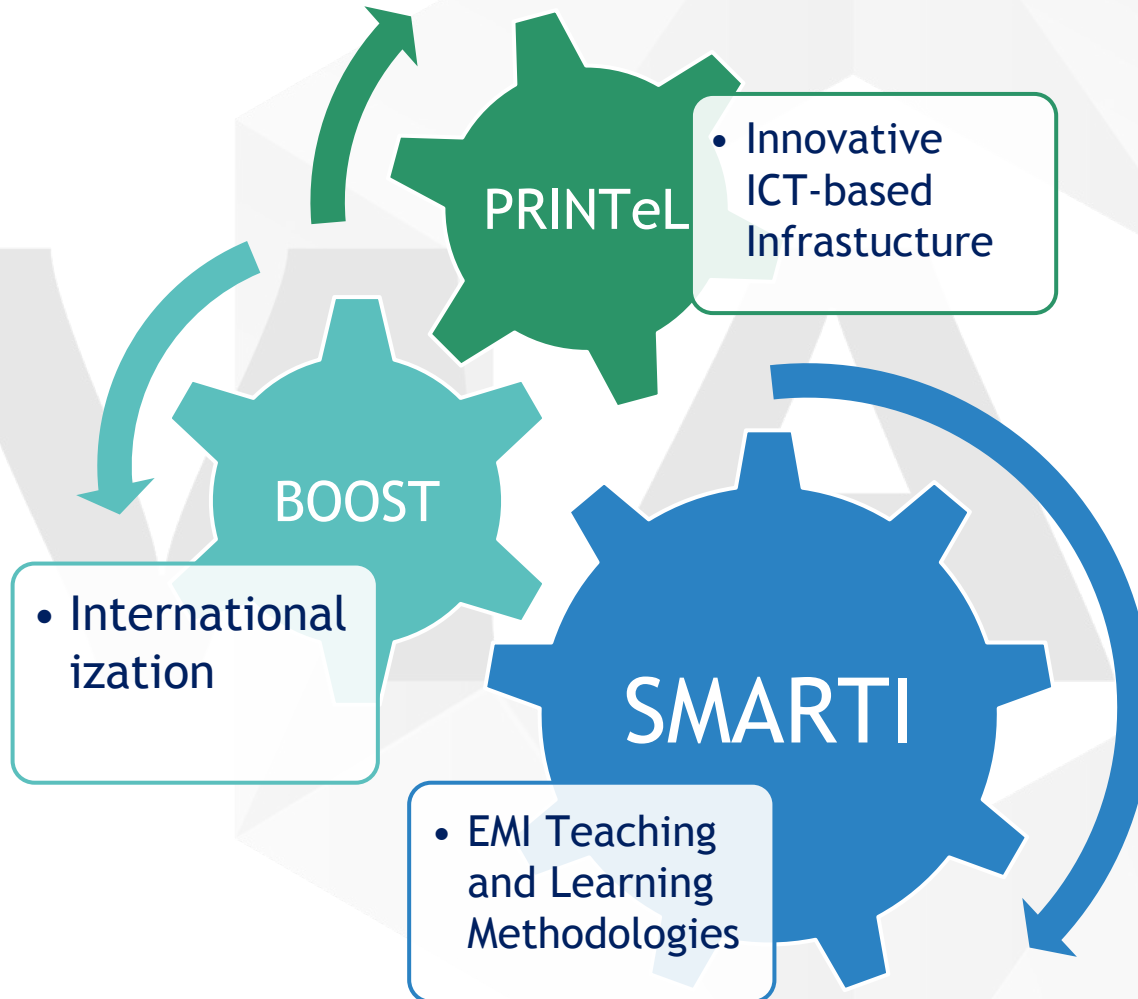
- Connecting universities-industry through smart entrepreneurial cooperation and competitive intelligence of students in Moldova, Georgia and Armenia

PROMOEU
(Jean Monnet)

- Promotion of the European Studies in Armenia



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EMI MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEACHING

I. EMI Skills and Experience

□ Trained Academic Staff

- 9 lecturers of Pedagogy, Psychology, Law, History, Sociology, Informatics, Physiology, Ecology, Armenian Literature and Linguistics successfully completed the two-year EMI Course organised by the Resource Centre functioning under the direct guidance of the Chair of Foreign Languages (2018-2020)

- Teaching foreign languages is also provided at the LLL Centre of VSU where 5 languages are taught at different language levels (General English, French, German, Russian and Spanish).

II. EMI Gaps

□ No Ongoing EMI Training

III. Degree Programs to be strengthened in the frame of SMARTI Project

□ Master Program “Informatics”

□ Bachelor Program “English Language and Literature”

(EMI Needs Analysis carried out among internal and external stakeholders)



EMI Needs
Analysis.docx



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SMARTI TEAM - VSU



Lusik Vardanyan

Associate Professor of the
Chair of Foreign Languages
and Literature

VSU Coordinator



Anna Khachatryan

Head of the Quality
Assurance Centre of VSU



Gayane Kanaryan

Associate Professor of
the Chair of Mathematics
and Informatics



Arine Danielyan

Assistant Professor of the
Chair of Foreign
Languages and Literature



Nune Khublaryan

Associate Professor of
the Chair of Mathematics
and Informatics



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SMARTI PROJECT TEAM - VSU

PROJECT OFFICER



Lusik Vardanyan

PhD in Philology; Associate Professor of the Chair of Foreign Languages and Literature; Head of the Chair of Foreign Languages (2017-2020); Head of the Resource Centre (2019-2020)

QA OFFICER



Anna Khachatryan

Head of the Quality Assurance Centre of VSU; PhD researcher (Eminence II 3rd call, University of Porto; 2016-2017 Porto, UP, Portugal); lecturer of the Chair of Pedagogy and Psychology; Head of LLL Center, VSU (2020)

Publicity OFFICER



Arine Danielyan

PhD in Philology; Assistant Professor of the Chair of Foreign Languages and Literature; Teacher-trainer of blended/hybrid learning in the frame of PRENTEL Project



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EMI TRAINING CENTRE ACTION GROUP - VSU

Teaching Staff Members

□ IT Specialist → Nune Khublaryan

PhD in Engineering, Associate Professor of the Chair of Mathematics and Informatics of VSU, IT specialist of the programs “My Sql”, “Cpp”, “Operation Systems”, “Modern Programming Languages-1”; Teaching and Research fields: “IT in education process”, “Data Type”, “Data Bases”, “Visual Basic”

□ Specialist in Physics, Informatics and Computer Technology → Gayane Kanaryan

PhD in Physics; Associate Professor of the Chair of Mathematics and Informatics of VSU; Teaching and Research fields: “Web programming (HTML/CSS, JavaScript, PHP)”, “Computer modeling of physical processes”, “Information technologies in the professional field”; a responsible person for internationalisation at the Chair of Mathematics and Informatics





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EMI TRAINING CENTRE ACTION GROUP - VSU

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS

□ Academic English Specialist → Lusik Vardanyan

PhD in Philology; Master in English language and Literature; Master in Pedagogy and Psychology; Associate Professor of the Chair of Foreign Languages and Literature; Short-term teaching experience in Poland, Sweden, Portugal, Uzbekistan; EMI training experience; Teaching and Research fields: Pragmatics, Discourse Analysis, Intercultural Communication, Academic Writing, Practical and Theoretical Grammar, European Studies

□ Business English Specialist → Arine Danielyan

PhD in Philology; Assistant Professor of the Chair of Foreign Languages and Literature; Short-term teaching experience in Sweden; Teacher-trainer of blended/hybrid learning in the frame of PRENTEL Project; Teaching and Research fields: Business English, Practical and Theoretical Phonetics, Oral Communication Skills; a responsible person for internationalisation at the Chair of Foreign Languages



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WHY WE WANT TO BE IN THE PROJECT - VSU

- Modernization of academic programs in compliance with the requirements of European standards;
- Empowering curriculum through updated content, innovative methodologies and strategies and through incorporating intercultural and international dimension into academic programs;
- Development and expansion of English-medium instruction through implementing EU best practices and expertise in EMI teaching;
- Enhancement of student and staff mobility through improving their English language proficiency; having mobility more evenly distributed across disciplines;
- Efficient cooperation and fruitful collaboration with internal and external partner universities in the field of education and research.



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Thank you for your attention!

Lusine Vardanyan

*Ph.D in Philology,
Associate Professor of the Chair of
Foreign Languages and Literature
E-mail: lvard62@gmail.com*

Official website of VSU: www.vsu.am