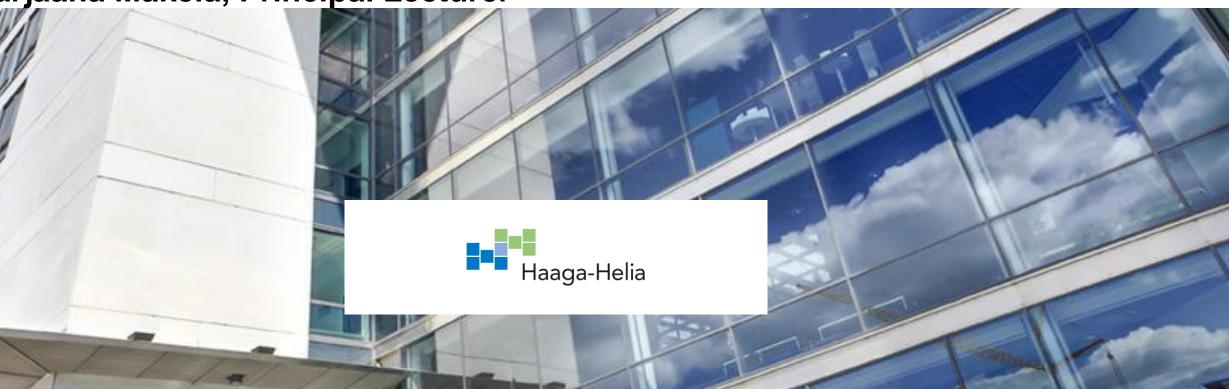
## Toteemi – A nation-wide development and research project on combining work and higher education in Finland

VPL Biennale May 2019, Berlin Marjaana Mäkelä, Principal Lecturer





## Toteemi 2017-2019

#### Funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture



Opetus- ja kulttuuriministeriön rahoittama korkeakoulutuksen kehittämishanke

#### Coordinated by Haaga-Helia UAS

#### Three development areas

- Flexibly at work → individualized, life-long learning paths across studies and careers
- Competence from and to work

   → synergy and added value;
   entrepreneurship; co-creation; alumni
   networks
- Well-being in learning at work
   → guidance, counselling and tutoring



## Background

- A high percentage of Finnish HE students work in job positions matching their education already during their studies (Eurostudent survey: 53 %)
- Wide opportunities for life-long learning across part-time degree programmes in Finland
- Both full and part time students are involved in the labour market, yet this is not fully embraced at HEI (+)
   Challenges occur in coordination of work and related HE studies (-)



Additional incentives for HEI :

New funding mechanism

Digitalization

Competencebased curricula

### Objectives

Three guiding questions articulate the entire project:

- 1. How could organisations and companies make direct use of their experts' studies in related fields in HE?
- 2. How could HEI utilize students' competences as part of curriculum studies, and advance their graduation?
- 3. How does digitalization enhance ubiquitous and life-long learning?

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#### Participants: 16 Universities of Applied Sciences and two research universities



# A pragmatic and a research-oriented approach

#### **UAS institutions**

Development of tools, approaches, policies, cooperation strategies, documentation, networking, applications...

#### **Research universities**

- 1. University of Jyväskylä (Flexibly at work)
- Literature review on work-integrated learning
- Repertoire of best pedagogical practices and solutions of UAS institutions in work-integrated learning
- 2. University of Helsinki (Digitalization in contexts of HE pedagogy)
- Opportunities provided by digitalization in higher education: enhanced learning and alleviation of learning hindrances
- Expectations for lecturers and staff related to digitalization

3. Haaga-Helia UAS (national follow-up and dissemination)

• Statistical data on HEI students at work

## Results and findings (1)

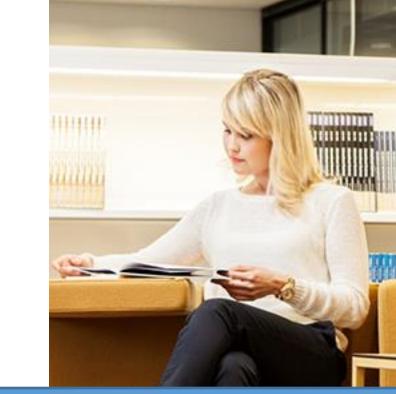
Results from the UAS institutions

- <u>www.amktoteemi.fi</u>
- Twenty sets of pragmatic toolkits to approach challenges of integration of work and HE studies

→ Pilot programmes, evaluation and followup tools, procedures of validation, documentation, apps...

→ Example from Haaga-Helia UAS: Demonstration Days as a validation tool in Work & Study process

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#### Identified development are

- Enhanced information needec counterparts
  - Engagement of companies
     organisations
- Integration of curricula to development
   work

## Results and findings (2)

#### University of Jyväskylä

- Extensive study modules are most functional in integration of work and studies, facilitating motivation and validation
- Co-creation methods should be emphasized (HEI & world of work)
- Project-oriented learning and cross-sectional approaches support efficiently these processes.

#### University of Helsinki

- Conceptualization of digital approaches using C-map Tools, with lecturers
- Unfolding of professional competences of students in teacher education programmes, required in the 21st century
- Journal articles.





## Results and findings (3)

#### Haaga-Helia UAS

- Extensive statistical data on students at work on national and international scales
- Findings and results of all partners are coordinated, enabling further development and dissemination

1) Integration of work and HE studies

- 2) Well-being of students at work and in studies
- 3) Situational and contextual variation in wellbeing (young/mature students)
- 4) Experiences of UAS graduates for competences required at work.
- Publications.





#### References

Eurostudent Thematic Review: <u>http://www.amktoteemi.fi/sites/amktoteemi/files/TR\_p</u> <u>aid\_jobs.pdf</u>

Project website: http:www.amktoteemi.fi/en

Journal articles and conference proceedings related to the project: see Toteemi website.





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## Thank you!

