

Challenge is cultural rather than technological

A title honestly stolen from Valère Meus's presentation...

'... and I should have stopped here'
(my own quotation)

Impact on IRO personnel, academics and students

- IRO
 - Danger of low motivation and high turnover
 - Less time for student advising
 - Resent increasing bureaucracy
- Academics
 - Find the procedures too complicated
 - Have no time to study the rules
 - Are not rewarded for student Exchange efforts
- Students: *le auberge espagnol* syndrome

Unexpected Result

Despite shortcomings at Alcalá indeed
fulfils EU-wide mobility goal

Expected result

Impact on IRO, Academics and students peaked.

An obvious solution

As of April 2016 the focus at Alcalá began to shifting towards the development of a new suite of tools that was geared towards easing the administration of outgoing and incoming students.

In short...

... we wanted to have something similar in nature to what Janina Mincer-Daszkiewicz has shown today.

An unexpected journey back home

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- On May 2017, it became evident that the testing of the tools was not convincing enough.
- Our IT team decided more time was required to fine tune it.
- For the International Relations Department this was a sensible decision, one that jeopardized the timeline that had been agreed internally.
- Partners were kept aloof concerning the nominations of students for 2017-18, that were going to organized through the new suit of tools.
- Students were kept further aloof...

In short, there was a vacuum to be filled. And doing nothing was not an option, since we would risk losing the existing momentum for going digital, international credit, jeopardize student's plan of studies, etc.

The obvious solution

Let's form a committee

To tell a story short

After two weeks, the initial committee had suffered from cellular division, turned into three sub-committees, a task force for considering security issues, and a liaison officer with the office of the President that happened to pass by.

A White Knight enters the stage...

In that critical situation the decision was then to adopt a tool that have been developed by the EUF and the ESN: the OLA

It took one week to convinced committees, subcommittees, task forces, and the liaison officer.

It was a long week

OLA for Dummies

Once we committed to it it was critical to make sure staff involved was well aware of any behavioral traits of the OLA, which would allow us to quickly address any internal/external doubts/issues

In doing so, we got to a point where we could also support our partners that were getting in contact with the tool for the first time.

The end of the affair