“THE DREAM OF VIRTECA”

A CARIBBEAN APPROACH IN THE FIELD OF TEACHER EDUCATION

JOS KUSTERS
VIRTUAL EDUCA 2012
PARAMARIBO, SURINAM
PRESENTATION

OPEN UNIVERSITY in the NETHERLANDS

ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN
  • DUTCH CARIBBEAN CONNECTION
  • TEACHER PROGRAM IN BONAIRE, SABA AND STATIA 2012 – 2016

THE DREAM OF “VIRTECA”
  • BENEFITS
  • SUSTAINABILITY

INVITATION
OPEN UNIVERSITY in the NETHERLANDS (OUNL)

JOS J.M. KUSTERS
director ruud de moor centrum
scientific centre of teacher research

OUNL PROVIDES OPEN & DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS FOR 25,000 STUDENTS MOSTLY WORKING ADULTS

THE NO 1 DUTCH UNIVERSITY AWARDED BY STUDENTS

PROGRAM BASED ON INNOVATIVE DIDACTICS AND BLENDED METHODS: VIRTUAL COMBINED WITH PHYSICAL ENCOUNTER

THE FREEDOM OF STUDY
BLENDED LEARNING OUNL

Physical – place dependent

- campus
- library
- info board
- class
- encounter
- working group
- info desk
- college

A- synchrone time independent

- ELO
- dig. library
- weblecture
- forum
- e-mail / sms
- chat /skype
- weblecture
- whiteboard
- videoconf.

Digital – place independent
SCAFFOLDING OWNL

Individual programs

- TEACHED LEARNING
- COACHED LEARNING
- LEARNING on your OWN
- OWNERSHIP
DUTCH CONNECTION since 1600

spakenburg

paramaribo
CARIBBEAN AREA 2012

SURINAM → COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT

ARUBA → COUNTRY in KINGDOM NL with some agreements

CURACAO → COUNTRY in KINGDOM NL with some agreements

ST. MARTIN → COUNTRY in KINGDOM NL with some agreements

BONAIRE → MUNICIPALITY (particular) in KINGDOM NL

SABA → MUNICIPALITY (particular) in KINGDOM NL

ST. EUSTATIUS → MUNICIPALITY (particular) in KINGDOM NL
CARIBBEAN AREA 2012

SURINAM
ARUBA
CURACAO
ST. MARTIN
BONAIRE
SABA
ST. EUSTATIUS

CARIBBEAN NETHERLANDS (CN)
ANALYSING THE CURRENT SITUATION CN (1)

MOST SCHOOLS ARE DEFINED AS WEAK (according dutch inspectorate of education)
LACK OF EDUCATIONAL INSTRUMENTS, BOOKS

UNSTABLE INTERNET CONNECTION
POOR SCHOOLBUILDINGS, NO AIRCONDITIONING

ONE PARENT FAMILY’S
MANY MULTI PROBLEM FAMILY’S
ISLAND CULTURE: EVERYBODY IS RELATED TO EVERYBODY
LANGUAGE PROBLEM (native language conflicts with dutch exams)

CONSULTANTS FLOODED THE ISLANDS WITH EXPENSIVE WORK SHOPS (short term success)
NO UNIVERSITIES WITH COMPLETE OR FLEXIBLE PROGRAMS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
NO DUTCH ACCREDITED PROGRAMS
ANALYSING THE CURRENT SITUATION CN (2)

LACK OF DOMESTIC TEACHERS
BRAIN DRAIN TO THE NETHERLANDS
20% OF THE TEACHERS IS NOT OFFICIALY QUALIFIED (according dutch law)

UNDERPAID TEACHERS (after school other jobs and family care)
MOSTLY FEMALE TEACHERS
MANY DUTCH TEACHERS COME OVER FOR MAX. 3 YEARS (repatriation)

STRONG INFLUENCE OF VOLUNTARY DENOMINATED BOARDS, TOP DOWN
MANY DIFFICULTIES WITH DIFFERENTIATION, SPECIAL NEEDS, CLASS MANAGEMENT
LACK OF TEACHER INVOLVEMENT (no bottom up)
PROGRAM “MAESTRO KOMPAS”
CARIBBEAN NETHERLANDS EDUCATIONAL AGENDA

1. SALARY
2. FACILITIES
3. TEACHER PROGRAM

TEACHER PROGRAM “MAESTRO KOMPAS”

CONSORTIUM: RUUD DE MOOR OUNL, KENNISLAND, HOGESCHOOL UTRECHT. EXPERTS IN INFORMAL AND FORMAL LEARNING WITH TEACHERS IN THE DRIVER SEAT

2012 – 2016
1. EDUCATE THE UNQUALIFIED TEACHERS
2. START A PROFESSIONALISATION PROGRAM
3. BUILD A REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE LEARNING INFRASTRUCTURE
HOW MAESTRO KOMPAS WORKS

LONG TERM BUT STEP BY STEP
BOTTUM UP APPROACH
TEACHERS IN THE DRIVER SEAT

BEGIN WITH THE URGENT ISSUES
START WITH TEACHERS AND SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
BRING TOGETHER TEACHERS IN LEARNING COMMUNITIES VIRTUAL & PHYSICAL

POSITIONING THE LOCAL EXPERTS
DEVELOP A VIRTUAL CAMPUS
WORK TOGETHER WITH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTES IN THE REGION
HOW MAESTRO KOMPAS STARTED

VISITED THE ISLANDS AND BROUGHT TOGETHER TEACHERS ASKING THEM TO TELL THEIR DREAMS AND SHARE THEM (on Bonaire more than 120 teachers voluntarily were present on a friday afternoon!! they want to be heard)

GATHERED TRAINING NEEDS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL TEACHER (to qualify)

ANALYSED THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND IDENTIFIED THE PRIORITIES CO - CREATION PLAN TOGETHER WITH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS MADE AN ISLAND PLAN AND ALLOCATED BUDGET TO SUBSIDISE THE ACTIVITIES

ORGANISED TEACHER COMMUNITIES, TEACHER TEAMS LEARNING TOGETHER ORGANISED A LOCAL COORDINATOR AND GATHERING A POOL OF LOCAL EXPERTS

ASKED THE UNIVERSITIES (Curaçao, Aruba, St Martin) TO COLLABORATE IN THE VIRTUAL TEACHER CAMPUS
AMBITION IN THE CARIBBEAN

WHAT IS SHE DREAMING OF?

GOOD EDUCATION IS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT FOR A FUTURE
“THE DREAM OF VIRTECA”
“THE DREAM OF VIRTECA”

The caribbean VIRTUAL TEACHER CAMPUS
“VIRTECA”
THE VIRTUAL TEACHER CAMPUS; HELP MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE
MARKET DEVELOPMENT
CONTENT DEVELOPMENT AND SHARING INSTRUMENTS
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT
BLENDED LEARNING

ACCREDITED TEACHER PROGRAMS
LEARNING COMMUNITIES
TEACHER WORKSHOPS
KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

SCHOOL LEADERSHIPS
GOVERNANCE
RESEARCH (phd graduate school)
SUSTAINABILITY

.................................?
OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

900,000 LEARNING OBJECTS AND GROWING EVERY DAY!
180 Hrs VIDEO, 90,000 TEACHER VISITORS A MONTH!
“VIRTECA”
THE VIRTUAL TEACHER CAMPUS

STUDENT/TEACHER: ‘KNOWS ME PERSONAL’

- Choose
  - course reviews/testimonials by associate students*
  - call me back, (video) chat
  - contact with current students
  - brochure to size
  - other students who chose this course, additionally chose...
  - personal study advice
  - pay with credit card, iDEAL, ...
  - DigiD**

- Order
  - my study planner
  - tips: interesting information like meetings, activities and course news (SMS, RSS, e-mail)

- Receive
  - my school timetable
  - personal bookmarker
  - visualisation of study progress
  - What is the status of my order? (personal page)

- Study
  - order interesting book with discount
  - get acquainted

Podcast/vodcast of lecture
STUDENT/ TEACHER: I AM LINKED ‘STUDYING TOGETHER’

- Study
  - virtual study groups
  - undertaking study trip together
  - (video) chatting with teachers
  - (video) conferencing with teachers
  - attend lectures virtually
  - invitation to teacher to join virtual meeting study group
- Receive
  - webinar/webpage of study group
  - meetings with students living in neighbourhood
  - book room online
- Choose
  - get acquainted
  - forum (students, teachers, business people)
- Order
  - upload of own notes

who is online? (teachers, associate students)
SUSTAINABILITY (1)

INVESTMENT IN THE HARDWARE

SELF SUPPORTING SYSTEM

SHARING OPEN CONTENT FOR FREE (decrease costs)

ALWAYS UP TO DATE (state of the art)

SHARING DATA (science)
SUSTAINABILITY (2)

EASY TO UP LOAD, DOWN LOAD AND ARRANGE

TRANSFORM TO OTHER EDUCATION TOPICS

ADJUSTABLE TO LOCAL AND REGIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

POWER TO THE TEACHER AND TEACHER INSTITUTES

KNOWLEDGE IS LOCAL & 24-7 AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE

BLENDED LEARNING, STUDENTS CHOOSE THEIR OWN PATH
SUSTAINABILITY (3)

POSSIBILITY TO ACCORDANCE FOREIGN STANDARDS (accredited)

EASY TO PROVIDE SMALL MARKETS (individuals)

ONE SYSTEM IS CHEAPER

LESS TRAVELLING COSTS

LESS BRAIN DRAIN

LESS EXPENSIVE CONSULTANTS

LESS FACILITY COSTS

MORE DREAMS COME TRUE
JOIN US?!

INVITE YOU TO JOIN US REALISE THE DREAM “VIRTECA”

ORGANISE (OAS/ OUNL?) A MEETING OF CARIBBEAN UNIVERSITIES COULD BE THE FIRST STEP TO DEEPEN THE MAIN ISSUES

WITHIN A YEAR FROM NOW A LONG TERM UNIVERSITY CARIBBEAN APPROACH DEVELOPMENT PLAN SHOULD BE THE GOAL

WITHIN 3 YEARS “VIRTECA” SHOULD BE OPERATIONAL

PLEASE CONTACT ME TO SHARE YOUR OPINION AND WILLINGNESS

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THANK YOU!