



October ** 2016**
PRESS RELEASE

MyStory Digital Storytelling project made possible after securing Erasmus+ funding.

The University of Gloucestershire has been successful in gaining Erasmus+ funding.

The University of Gloucestershire has received €237,000 to run an international two-year digital story project with schools, universities and NGOs across Europe to understand diversity within the EU, with the emphasis on involving refugees, migrants and asylum seekers. 'Mystory: Digital Storytelling Toolbox for Diversity' runs from 1/11/16 to 31/10/18 and involves the collection, editing and uploading of digital stories. These stories focus on 'food', 'family' and 'festival' and act as a platform to enhance understanding of ethnic and cultural diversity. Teachers will be trained in the use of digital media for storytelling and pupils will conduct and lead on their collection and editing. The University is working with St Edwards Senior School, Cheltenham, The University of Graz (Austria), the International Bilingual School (Austria), The Rogers Foundation (Hungary), Baross Gabor School (Hungary), The Centro Per Lo Sviluppo Creativo 'Danilo Dolci' (Italy) and Regina Margherita School (Italy).

Erasmus+ is the European Union's (EU) programme for education, training, youth and sport, with the EU committing £12 billion to the programme between 2014 and 2020. In the UK, the programme is managed by the Erasmus+ UK National Agency, a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.

The project is funded under Key Action 2 of the programme. (Key Action 2 provides opportunities for UK organisations to work in partnership with European colleagues).

Project co-ordinator Dr Abigail Gardner said: "We are delighted to have been successful in Erasmus+ and are looking forward to starting the project. Teachers and pupils across the four countries involved will benefit from the inclusive educational opportunities MyStory

'MYSTY' will provide for both their digital media literacy and intercultural competency. MYSTY will enable minority groups to share and spread their migration experience to other communities, groups, schools and civic organisations. The project enables pupils and teachers to engage with politically current and pressing issues in ways that are engaging and inclusive, whilst also dynamic and instructional.

For more information about funding opportunities visit www.erasmusplus.org.uk, or use the hashtag #epluspeople to see what other projects are doing across the UK.

For more information on the MyStory project, contact agardner@glos.ac.uk

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Erasmus+

Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport for 2014-2020. It significantly increases EU funding (+40%) with an overall budget of €14.7 billion (£12 billion) for the development of knowledge and skills and aims to increase the quality and relevance of qualifications and skills. Two-thirds of its funding will provide grants for more than 4 million people to study, train, gain work experience or volunteer abroad in 2014-2020 (compared with 2.7 million in 2007-2013). The period abroad can range from a few days up to a year. In the UK, it is expected that nearly 250,000 people will undertake activities abroad with the programme. Erasmus+ aims to modernise education, training and youth work across Europe. It is open to education, training, youth and sport organisations across all sectors of Lifelong Learning, including schools education, further and higher education, adult education and the youth sector. Erasmus+ provides funding for organisations to offer opportunities to students, teachers, apprentices, volunteers, youth leaders and people working in grassroots' sport. It will also provide funding for partnerships between organisations such as educational institutions, youth organisations, enterprises, local and regional authorities and NGOs, as well as support for reforms in Member States to modernise education and training and to promote innovation, entrepreneurship and employability.

The programme is managed in the UK by the Erasmus+ UK National Agency, which is a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.

Further information from www.erasmusplus.org.uk

Twitter: @erasmusplusuk

Facebook: ukerasmusplus