

part of co-operation is to bring new people into our research and development teams and to send our employees to partner universities, where they can get more practical and theoretical experience, more flexibility and adaptability in their work.

**PhD student education** – it is the second important part of work at the University of Economics - Prague. What is the main goal in this part in the framework of ALADIN group for our school? It is to offer the chance to our PhD students at first to present and to discuss their ideas on the international field, then to be members of international research and development teams (for example in living laboratories) and in the last level to take part on educational process not only at the home university, but also at other partner universities of the ALADIN group.

The **General platform** for starting and realizing of **common projects** and preparing publications with our newly found partners is the most important of co-operation. Here all previously described activities in the form of common projects could be integrated, supported either by EU or by local authorities. The Faculty of Informatics and Statistics offers practical experience for finding partners for common projects in following areas:

- general concepts of information society, research of complexity theory, chaos theory etc.,
- e-commerce, e-business, e-healthcare,
- information and communication technology security – also in various modification as e-society safe and stable, safe e-region, Web services security etc.,
- e-government and public information services,
- information systems for enterprises – ERP systems improvement, business processes, information system architecture,

principles of outsourcing, service level agreements,

- information systems (IS) project management – development new methodologies for IS programming, testing and improvement, new concepts of project management, IS reference models with special accent to processes identification, their metrics definition and measurement and evaluation criteria of processes and system effectiveness, etc.
- artificial intelligence, data-mining, knowledge engineering.

Through common international projects we - all citizens of ALADIN member states – have the chance to build a new character of the Europe – to constitute new Europeans.

**Paolo Inchingolo<sup>11</sup>,  
Walter Ukovich<sup>12</sup>**

## Contributions of ALADIN to eRegion Development: The Perspective of the University of Trieste

Due to its particular geographical position and to the very long tradition of Trieste as an “European integrator”, in recent decades the University of Trieste ([www.units.it](http://www.units.it)) has reinforced its specialization toward research and education as well as training excellence, particularly in the fields of greatest interest for the development of an enlarged Europe, with particular attention to the transformation and integration of the transitional countries of Central and South-East Europe. In this action, a strongly synergistic effect has arisen and it has the continuous growing of national and international

institutions and high-tech companies around the University of Trieste and its Area Research Park [www.area.ts.it](http://www.area.ts.it), which are globally known as the “Trieste System”:

- the National Institute for Nuclear Physics - INFN (section of Trieste) [www.ts.infn.it](http://www.ts.infn.it)
- the International Center for Theoretical Physics – ICTP [www.ictp.ts.it](http://www.ictp.ts.it)
- the International School for Advanced Studies – ISAS (currently an independent University) [www.sissa.it](http://www.sissa.it)
- the International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology – ICGEB [www.icgeb.ts.it](http://www.icgeb.ts.it)
- the International Center for Science and High Technology – ICS [www.ics.trieste.it](http://www.ics.trieste.it)
- the Elettra Synchrotron [www.elettra.ts.it](http://www.elettra.ts.it)
- the National Institute for the Physics of Matter – INFN (sections of Trieste) [www-dft.ts.infn.it/INFN](http://www-dft.ts.infn.it/INFN)
- the National Institute for Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics – OGS [www.ogs.trieste.it](http://www.ogs.trieste.it)
- the CNR Talassographic Institute – ITT [www.itt.ts.cnr.it](http://www.itt.ts.cnr.it)
- the Trieste Astronomic Observatory – OAT [www.ts.astro.it](http://www.ts.astro.it)
- and many other institutions and hi-tech companies (see [www.area.ts.it](http://www.area.ts.it) “companies, institutions & labs”)

These institutes are active in the fields of biotechnology, bioengineering, neuro-science, information and communication technology, agriculture, sustainable development, economics and other fields.

Currently, external researchers and professors and researchers from the University work together in all the institutions of Trieste. This unique feature of the Trieste System allows a high level of research, but also a strong range of academic education and training in most of the

<sup>11</sup> Higher Education in Clinical Engineering (SSIC-HECE) & Group of Bioengineering and ICT, University of Trieste, [paolo.inchingolo@bioing.units.it](mailto:paolo.inchingolo@bioing.units.it)

<sup>12</sup> Group of Operations Research, EEI Department, Faculty of Engineering, University of Trieste, [walter.ukovich@gnbts.units.it](mailto:walter.ukovich@gnbts.units.it)

fields covered by the research, either for professional or R&D formation.

The work of the University of Trieste in fostering the cooperation and the integration within Central and Eastern European Countries has been focused, started from 2000, with the creation of some transnational centers and networks. These include:

- the International Center for Transitional Countries (ICETS) [www.icets.org](http://www.icets.org) (2000)
- the Central and Eastern European University Network (CEEUN) [www.icets.org/ceeun](http://www.icets.org/ceeun) (2001)
- the Virtual University of the Adriatic-Ionian Basin (UNI-ADRION) [www.uniadrion.net](http://www.uniadrion.net) (2001)
- the Adriatic Balcanic Ionian Cooperation in Biomedical Engineering (ABIC-BME) [www.bioing.units.it/ABIC-BME](http://www.bioing.units.it/ABIC-BME) (2001)
- the Higher Education in Clinical Engineering Network [www.ssic.units.it](http://www.ssic.units.it) (2001)
- the Central European Initiative University Network (CEI-UN) [www.ceinet.org/main.php?pageID=81](http://www.ceinet.org/main.php?pageID=81) (2002-2004)
- the Alpe Adria Initiative Universities' network (ALADIN) [www.aladin.units.it](http://www.aladin.units.it) (2002-2005).

If all these initiatives have given an important contribution to the development of the Region, and have been started and grown with many interactions and synergies each other, it is without doubt that the most significant one, ALADIN, has been the driving force for cooperation and growth in the Region under the multiple and integrated view of the universities, governments, diplomacies and industries.

Started the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2002 with an agreement on e-business cooperation between the Universities of Graz (Austria), Maribor (Slovenia), Rijeka (Croatia) and Trieste (Italy), signed in Ljubljana during a meeting of trans-border e-commerce cooperation in the Region organized by Prof. Jože Gričar, ALADIN has grown every year during the an-

nual Bled Conference. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2003, it was extended to Novi Sad Business School (Serbia & Montenegro) and to the cooperation fields of e-Geomatics, e-Logistics and e-Medicine. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of June, 2004, it was recognized by the Medical University of Graz, created from the Medical Faculty of the Karl-Franzens University. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2005, it was further extended to University BW München (Germany), Corvinus University of Budapest (Hungary) and Technical University of Košice (Slovakia), to cooperate in the ICT fields which are crucial for the development of the Enlarged Europe, particularly e-Business, e-Geomatics, e-Government, e-Health, e-Learning and e-Logistics and the interactions among them (e-Integration); It continues to grow with the formal membership in 2006 of Prague (Czech Republic) and of Krakow (Poland) and the external membership (e-ALADIN) of China, Finland, Ireland and USA.

There are many formal activities started and running at the University of Trieste within the cooperation of ALADIN, including:

- The Higher Education in Clinical Engineering Program (SSIC-HECE) [www.ssic.units.it](http://www.ssic.units.it), with its three masters: the 1-year level Master in Clinical Engineering [www.ssic.units.it/MIC](http://www.ssic.units.it/MIC); the 2-year *Laurea Magistralis* in Clinical Engineering [www.ssic.units.it/LSIC](http://www.ssic.units.it/LSIC), with three curricula (hospital, information and management), the 1-year Master-post-Master in Management in Clinical Engineering [www.ssic.units.it/SMMCE](http://www.ssic.units.it/SMMCE)
- The 2-year *Laurea Magistralis* in Management Engineering and Integrated Logistics [www.ssic.units.it/LSIG](http://www.ssic.units.it/LSIG)
- The ALADIN e-learning Agreement with ORACLE
- The multimedia platform of e-learning of SSIC-HECE (E-HECE) [elearning.units.it](http://elearning.units.it)
- The CEI-UN Spring School "ICT, economical and organizational issues for e-health integration in the enlarged Europe", [www.ssic.units.it/ICT-SpringSchool](http://www.ssic.units.it/ICT-SpringSchool) in the

frame of SSIC-HECE (held in Italy, Slovenia and Croatia)

- The "Open Three (O3) Consortium" [www.o3consortium.org](http://www.o3consortium.org)
- The "Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise" (IHE) Transnational Committee for Central & Eastern Europe [www.bioing.units.it/IHE-TCCEE](http://www.bioing.units.it/IHE-TCCEE)
- The INTERREG III A Italia-Slovenia "Italian-Slovenian Cooperative E-learning Space (ISCELS) [iscels.units.it](http://iscels.units.it)
- The STREP-IST FP6 Project "Mobile-Game-Based Learning" (MGBL) <http://mg-bl.com>
- The Excellence Research Center of Teleomatics (GEONETLAB) <http://www.units.it/chegeom/>
- The FP6 European Coordination Action "Collaborative DEMand and Supply NETWORKS" (CODESNET) [www.codesnet.polito.it](http://www.codesnet.polito.it)
- The EuroPACS-MIR in the Enlarged Europe International Meeting <http://www.tbs.ts.it/europacs2004/>
- The Innovaction Fair (Udine) [www.innovactionfair.com](http://www.innovactionfair.com) with the participation of O3 Consortium
- An international ALADIN PhD program on e-integration (work in progress)
- Participation to the academic activities off many ALADIN Universities

Furthermore, the University of Trieste participates in and contributes to the organization of many other activities, sponsored by the other ALADIN Universities, including:

- Merkur Day
- Workshops on LivingLabs
- the Workshop on Safe and Secure eRegion LivingLab
- Cooperation in the Finland & Slovenia eInvoicing LivingLab Initiative
- the MIPRO Conference, the e-BIZ Conference.

In conclusion, in the vision of the University of Trieste, ALADIN has been, is and will be the key cooperative network to develop the Alpe-Adria-Danubian EuroRegion.