Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) Reflections

'Celebrating collaboration' - COST Action 15221 – We ReLaTe

STSM recipient name   Bojana Ikonić

STSM recipient institution and country   University of Novi Sad, Serbia

Host institution and country   Technische Universität Wien, Austria

Dates of visit   01/08/2019 to 09/08/2019

STSM Title Analysis of institutional support in the fields of writing, research, learning and teaching at the TU Wien – Example of good practice and possible application at the University of Novi Sad

The goal of my STSM was to analyze centralized support for four key higher education activities – research, writing, teaching and learning, at the Technische Universität Wien (TU Wien), with the aim to apply acquired knowledge and experience to the development of institutional support at the University of Novi Sad. Using different research tools, such as a questionnaire and focus group, the valuable information relevant to the success of the host institution in the field of education and research was collected in order to identify existing centralized models. Also, the analysis of the current state at the University of Novi Sad was provided and compared with the proposed models and their possible application.

The most significant thing that I learned from my STSM was the necessity of collaboration for successful learning and progress. One of my mentors in the host institution told me that he always tries to meet as many people as possible within the University, in order to speak with them about their work and to share information, pointing that as the only way for success.

I very much enjoyed conversations with colleagues about the problems and opportunities. They gave me valuable advice based on their experience and showed good will for future cooperation.

My advice to colleagues considering an STSM is to apply, definitely! It is a precious experience in many aspects.

And finally, I am very happy to be part of this COST CA 15221 story. I have met wonderful people, learned a lot and had an opportunity to realize my STSM.