

Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) Reflections

'Celebrating collaboration' - COST Action 15221 – We ReLaTe

STSM recipient name Katrin Girgensohn

STSM recipient institution and country European University Viadrina Germany

Host institution and country Gothenburg University Sweden

Dates of visit 16.04.-20.04.2018

STSM Title Effectiveness, success and productivity of writing centers in Sweden, Ireland and Germany
A collaborative research project on strategic action fields related to teaching, learning, research and writing

My STSM was about ... Initiating a collaborative research project with two other European universities to find out what leads to effectiveness, success and productivity of the centers in terms of purposes, processes, knowledge, values and skills.

The most significant thing that I learned from my STSM was ... how valuable it is to really experience other institutional context and not just reading about it. I also got to know a new model of organizational structure that might serve in parts as a model for my own institution.

What I enjoyed most about my STSM was ... having the opportunity to meet colleagues and having the opportunity to work together in a very structured way and very intensively, because the STSM allowed us the time for this.

My advice to colleagues considering an STSM is ... use the opportunity to work hard on your project or mission, because it is not easy to get back to it when you are back to usual working routines. Also, planning STSM with several parties is a good idea, not only for the value of extended collaboration, but also for the unit you visit to invest in scheduling meetings and so on.

And finally, ... the STSM gave me the opportunity to dig much deeper in our COST Action's ideas and plans, it is a great tool, thank you!