

Interdisciplinary Program

Creative Living Lab (IS CreaLab) Annual report 2011

Projects

CreaLab projects are interdisciplinary. They involve researchers coming from minimum two departments of Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts (LUASA), as there are: Technology & Architecture (T&A), Management & Economics (M&E), Design & Arts (D&A), Social Work (SW) & Music (M).

FabLab

Between January 2010 and December 2011 the project, sponsored by the Gebert R uf Foundation, has successfully built up Switzerland's first fabrication laboratory (FabLab: <http://luzern.fablab.ch/>). The FabLab is a high-tech manufacturing site, equipped with machines that enable the fast assembly of prototypes. This service was well received by its target audience as well as the media. An operational concept was set up which served as basis for the decision of the department Technology and Architecture at LUASA to fund the FabLab further after the end of the project from January 2012 on. In 2012, the IS CreaLab will promote, in coordination with the FabLab manager, new projects in the FabLab environment.

(Manager: M. de Angelis; Departments: T&A, M&E, D&A).

TINA

The project «Tools for Innovation Actors» (TINA) tests tools in information- and

communication-technology which have proved as instrumental in European Living Labs, in respect to their application quality for the Swiss Living Labs setting. Between September 2010 and June 2011 a study supported by the SWITCH Foundation was conducted about «challenges in the technical support cross-organisational cooperation». Currently, a mobile application on the subject of «Cooperation in the idea gathering process» is being developed. In addition, these findings contribute to the current development of distance learning and virtual teamwork in successor projects.

(Manager: J. Meissner; Departments: ME, T&A).

Meet2Create

This project does research in the area of components and configurations of meeting rooms in the field of innovation processes. The first CTI-application was rejected although the general project



idea was well received. After consultation with the CTI, the project idea will be adjusted to a new concept in the field of rentable innovation-spaces for corporates. The new CTI-application will be submitted in March/ April 2012.

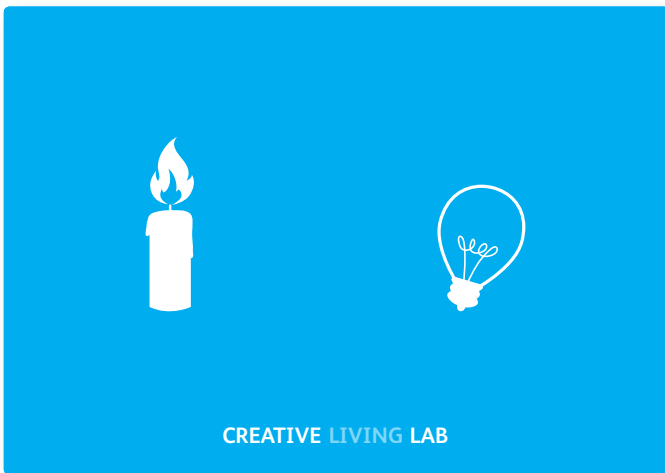
(Manager: S. Amstutz; Departments: T&A, ME).

Method Factory

In the context of this project, innovation methods that are used to create new ideas in the different departments of the LUASA are documented, discussed, and developed. In an interview session with the research managers of the different departments, a first overview was gathered on what is understood as innovation from the perspectives from the different disciplines as well as on the innovation methods applied in the

European
Network of
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Knowledge Center



different departments. In February 2012, a workshop within the IS CreaLab core team will take place during which this overview will serve as the basis for a in depth conversation as well as for identifying strategic research areas for future IS CreaLab projects. In addition, during the months of February and March researchers of all departments will be interviewed and innovation methods will be documented in a compendium of methods.

(Manager: J. Meissner; Departments: ME, D&A, T&A, M, SW).

Just architecture?

During a conference, this project endeavours to analyse the competition procedure in architecture in respect of

its potential to support processes which enable creative thinking and acting. The conference will take place in the museum of architecture in Bale in November 2012. The state of the art research is completed and the call concept has been finalised for the planned conference. The call will be distributed by video and requires a video application.

(Manager: R. Hardliz; Departments: D&A, T&A, ME).

Starting Up a Company in the Creative Industries

The project first run a study of existing offers for people wishing to fund their own company in the creative industries (domestic and abroad) including a literature research. From this, requirements

of those willing to found or those in the process of founding a company were analysed and so-called «pilot clients» were identified. The link was established to the entrepreneurship initiative of the LUASA. The pilot projects started with five start-up candidates on 13 December 2011.

(Manager: C. Acklin; Departments: D&A, ME, M, T&A).

Urban Vision Lab

The project has completed the state of the art literature study and negotiations with the city of Lucerne (group for overall planning of the city administration) were conducted. It was decided that the pilot project will take place in the city of Lucerne. In January 2012 the research team will develop the method of the Urban Vision Lab platform during a workshop. In addition, first contacts were established with «Urban Labs» in Vilnius and Tallin.

(Manager: A. Willener; Departments: SW, ME, T&A, D&A).

The Impact of Resources in Respect of New Forms of Labour

This project, started in October 2011, establishes an effective model intended to derive the physical and social impact





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of mobile working manners for the deployment of resources for companies of varying sizes. The project is financed by the initiative «Home Office Day», the development fond Ernst Basler & Partner and the federal department for energy; Microsoft Ltd. is a further cooperation partner. (Manager: J. Meissner; Departments: ME, SW).

Teaching and further education

IS CreaLab offerings for teaching

Bachelor: In the IS CreaLab two ISA-modules were created: «Design Thinking for Social Innovation» (SW & D&A) and «The Future of Labour» (ME & SW). In addition, IS-Questions were integrated into the existing ISA-modules: «relax-concentrate-create» (SW), «Systematic thinking – innovation acting» (SW & ME) and «Open Innovation» (T&A). In the

autumn of 2012 a CreaLab lecture series will be held on the topic of Innovation. (Manager: M. L. Nigg, D&A). Master: CreaLab has developed a master module, which will be offered in the master courses «Business Administration» as well as «Banking and Finance» as of autumn 2012 (Managers: U. Sury and J. Holzer, ME). Interdisciplinary are also the students who have various majors (from finance to public management) as well as the lecturers who come from all departments.

Didactics-offering

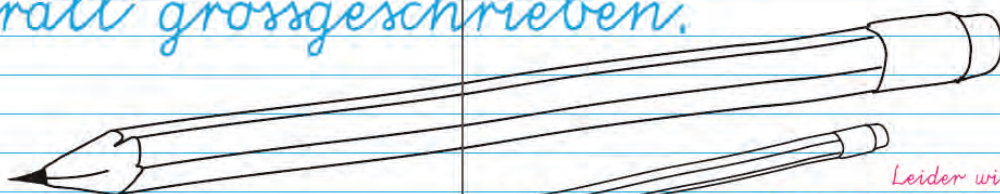
The CreaLab is currently developing a didactics offering, which should introduce lecturers to methods and procedure aimed at mediating innovative and creative contents. (Manager: M. Doerk, SW).



Services

At the LUASA each of the different departments Management & Economics, Technology & Architecture, Social Work, Design & Arts, as well as Music professionally apply methods for supporting innovation, problem solving approaches, as well as creativity methods. These disciplines now come together in the CreaLab and form effective teams for productive working, applied sciences, and innovative teaching. In a similar manner to the legendary German Bauhaus-laboratories, education and

Innovation wird heute fast überall grossgeschrieben.



Leider wird sie nicht überall gross gefördert.

research, as well as theory and practice shall be able to collaborate here. With the emphasis on practice: The CreaLab team strives for developing and designing innovative solutions for and with its clients coming from industry, politics, culture, and education.

Presentations

CreaLab will perform the 4th quarterly forum of the event series «How bring something new come into the world? Unusual perspectives upon innovation and teaching» at the centre for university didactics and adult education of the Pedagogic University of Zurich in November 2012.

Working Methods

The IS CreaLab has a core team, consisting of 12 members from all departments, that meet on a regular basis, which ensures effective collaboration. The IS CreaLab programme is based on a business plan, which consists of the common vision and mission statement of the core team.

Every IS project has a project manager, who represents his project towards the IS CreaLab manager. Students are also involved in the project work.

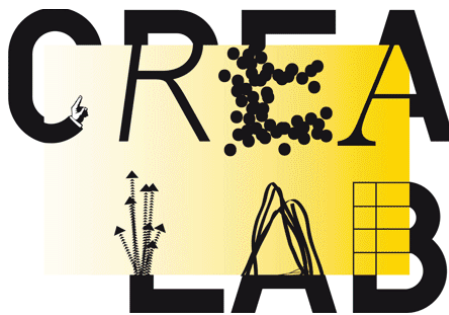
Funding money for research projects are distributed internally during two competitive calls (spring 2011 and 2012) for project proposals. The interdisciplinary project teams are coached in workshops before the proposal hand-in.

The IS CreaLab workshops and events generally use methods of creating during its meetings and workshops, which

are documented, reflected, and further developed. The work of the core team itself is being monitored in a study.

Networking und collaboration

The network of the IS CreaLab is steadily growing. Throughout all projects and activities in 2011, a total of 54 lecturers and researchers were involved in CreaLab activities. Of these, 18 were from the department of Management and Economics, 14 from the department of



Technology & Architecture, 13 from the department of Design & Arts, 6 from the department of Social Work, and 3 from the department of Music. Moreover, 46 students from all departments were involved, either through being an assistant or through project dissertations and bachelor theses. This involvement will dramatically increase in 2012 due to the events planned and activities in the field of teaching and further education.

During the first year of the IS CreaLab, a common understanding of the topics innovation, creativity, and change was developed between the different departments. During the process of collaboration, conflicts can arise through contrary work cultures, which, however, carry the potential to lead to a diverse

end product. One can already talk of an own dynamic which is created through the IS projects as well as through the collaboration between the four IS of the LUASA. The importance of interdisciplinary research across departmental boundaries is growing continuously. Mediated through research projects, presentations and publications in scientific and praxis oriented media, the external network is steadily growing too. The FabLab for example owns a list of 200 potential partners who wish to receive information on a regular basis.

www.hslu.ch/iscrealab