

Report on visit to Østfold University College

by Ing. Martin Borůvka

On April 20th to 23rd, our group (Vice-Dean for International and Public Relations doc. Ing. Karel Fraňa, Ph.D.; students David Svoboda and Tomáš Kořínek and me) from Faculty of Mechanical Engineering - Technical University of Liberec (TUL) visited the Østfold University College (OUC). This was second meeting based on future collaboration between both institutions. Meeting was undertaken with financial support of the project: Education collaboration in mechanical engineering.



Østfold University College is split between two campuses, one located in Halden, for business, social sciences, foreign language, computer science and education. The other in Fredrikstad, for engineering, health and social studies, and theatre. We begin our meeting in OUC Campus at Fredrikstad and got a warm welcome when we arrived. Campus is nicely situated next to the river and close to the city centre. After our initial information meeting with Associate Professor Hong Wu in a lobby we had a commented campus walking tour.



Norway study system is highly participative and based on team work. Students are forced to solve projects and problems at interdisciplinary team-based groups. Every member of a team is like a gear in gearbox and when the gears fit together everything works well. All around the university is small study rooms which can be squated for team meetings.

Workshop on Green Energy and Sustainable Development started after tour through university and lunch. Associate Professor Hong Wu gives open speech and Vice Dean doc. Ing. Karel Fraňa, Ph.D. started with presentation about TUL and collaboration project openings. After that follows Prof. Nicu Bizon from University of Pitesti (Romania) with his presentation about Fuel Cell Hybrid Power Source for Pulsed Current Loads. Next was Lill Therese Michaelsen, student of 3rd year student with presentation The importance of concept development – a student Shell-Eco Marathon car racing project case. After lunch presented Prof. Mihai Oproescu from University of Pitesti (Romania) with his work on Shadows and temperature effects on solar panels functionality. Last presentation was mine and about Green Cellulose Nano Composites. At the end gives speech Dean of OUC Fredrikstad Dr. Kamil Dursun with reflections, feedback and summaris for the day and further steps for collaboration.



At the evening we had guided tour through Old Town. Fredrikstad is so called to be the best preserved fortress town in Scandinavia. Fortress was constructed according to Dutch architectural models, with wide water-filled moats and high earth ramparts. On its eastern side, facing away from the river, there are three bastions and two counterscarps, ideal positions for cannons.



Second day we visited company LECA, important producer of building blocks in Norway. After that we went to OUC campus located in Halden and by the way we stopped to visit born house of Roald Amundsen, leader of first expedition which reached the South Pole. Last visit of that day was Incubator Institute near by Halden campus. Institute collaborate with both academics (or students) and companies and focuses efforts to build up new and interesting ideas into existence.



Overall and according to our meetings I hope that for both TUL and OUC would be future collaboration beneficial.

