



SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN TIME OF CRISIS

Visit in Rome 20 Nov. 2024



Co-funded by
the European Union



unimed

**How to engage
students in social
entrepreneurship ?**

**UNIMED lessons learnt
& proposals**

Topics

- Students engagement and student-centered learning approach
- UNIMED lessons learnt & proposals



Students engagement



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- Student engagement is a **multi-faceted** concept
 - The main sense usually given concerns the **level of satisfaction in the learning environment** and the way for a university to involve and increase their students feedback on the learning outcomes
 - Also related to **student representation** in the university bodies through an elective process, or be linked with the participation in university life through **clubs or associations**.
 - Key element in university life as it creates a **positive impact both at personal level and at university level** and it is part of the university responsibility to strengthen student engagement and give more space to student's voices and actions within the university



StEER-Leb

Training Curriculum
Ways to Engage Students in Activities





UNIMED Award at the Venice International Film Festival

- ❑ A contest of entrepreneurial ideas developed by university students enrolled in one of the universities around the Mediterranean.
- ❑ This competition aims to encourage participating teams to present innovative ideas in the field of entrepreneurship.
- ❑ Jointly organized by UNIMED and the Lebanese University, coordinator of the SubNetwork, with the collaboration of the European Training Foundation and the support of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie – Moyen Orient.
- ❑ 3 days summit among Mediterranean university students to increase their mutual awareness and understanding and to support the development of competencies that help them to work together on societal challenges and to establish meaningful connections.
- ❑ Our ambition is to give more space and to make students' voices heard and to convey students' recommendations to all stakeholders as a contribution for boosting the Higher Education sector in the Mediterranean.
- ❑ Jointly organized by UNIMED and Erasmus Student network
- ❑ The UNIMED Award, collateral prize of the Venice International Film Festival, is assigned by a jury of international students coming from UNIMED associated universities to the competing movie that best reflects the value of cultural diversity, promotes freedom of artistic expression and cultural exchanges.
- ❑ The aim of the UNIMED Award is to encourage cultural exchanges among students and highlight the value of cultural diversity in art.
- ❑ Jointly organized by UNIMED and International university in Rome (UNINT).

MSS students recommendations

The Future of Higher Education in the Mediterranean
The Student's Perspective

MSS
Mediterranean Student Summit
2023

Recommendations issued during the Summit held in
Tangier (Morocco), September 20-22, 2023

Employability

Challenges

- Lack of and limited access to job opportunities
- Lack of transparency

Recommendations

- Strengthen University Career Offices
- Foster entrepreneurship through training

Greening/Sustainable Development

Challenges

- Lack of campus initiatives to foster a green mindset within the university

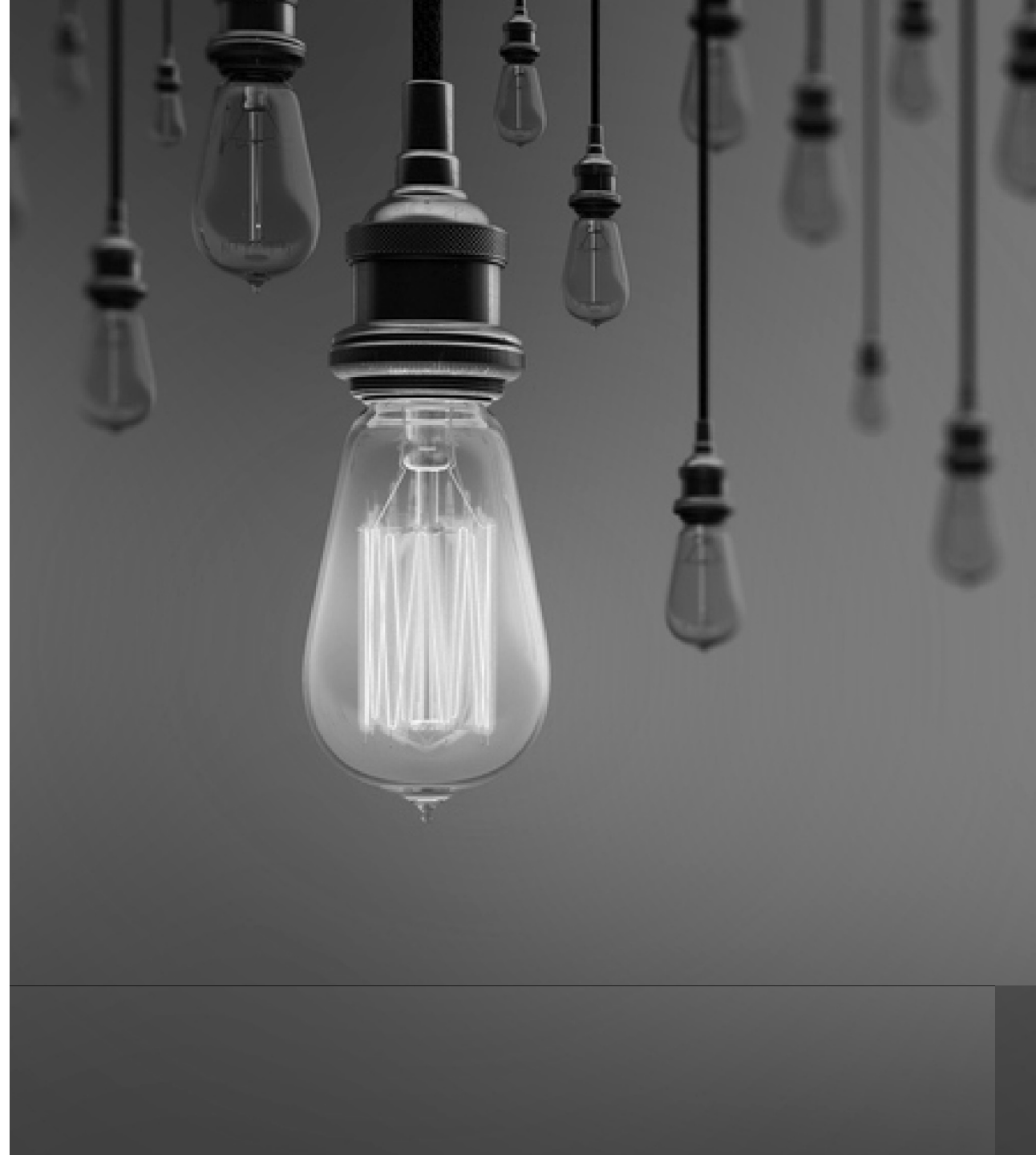
Recommendations

- Raise awareness through educational programs and campus initiatives
- Funding for student-led projects

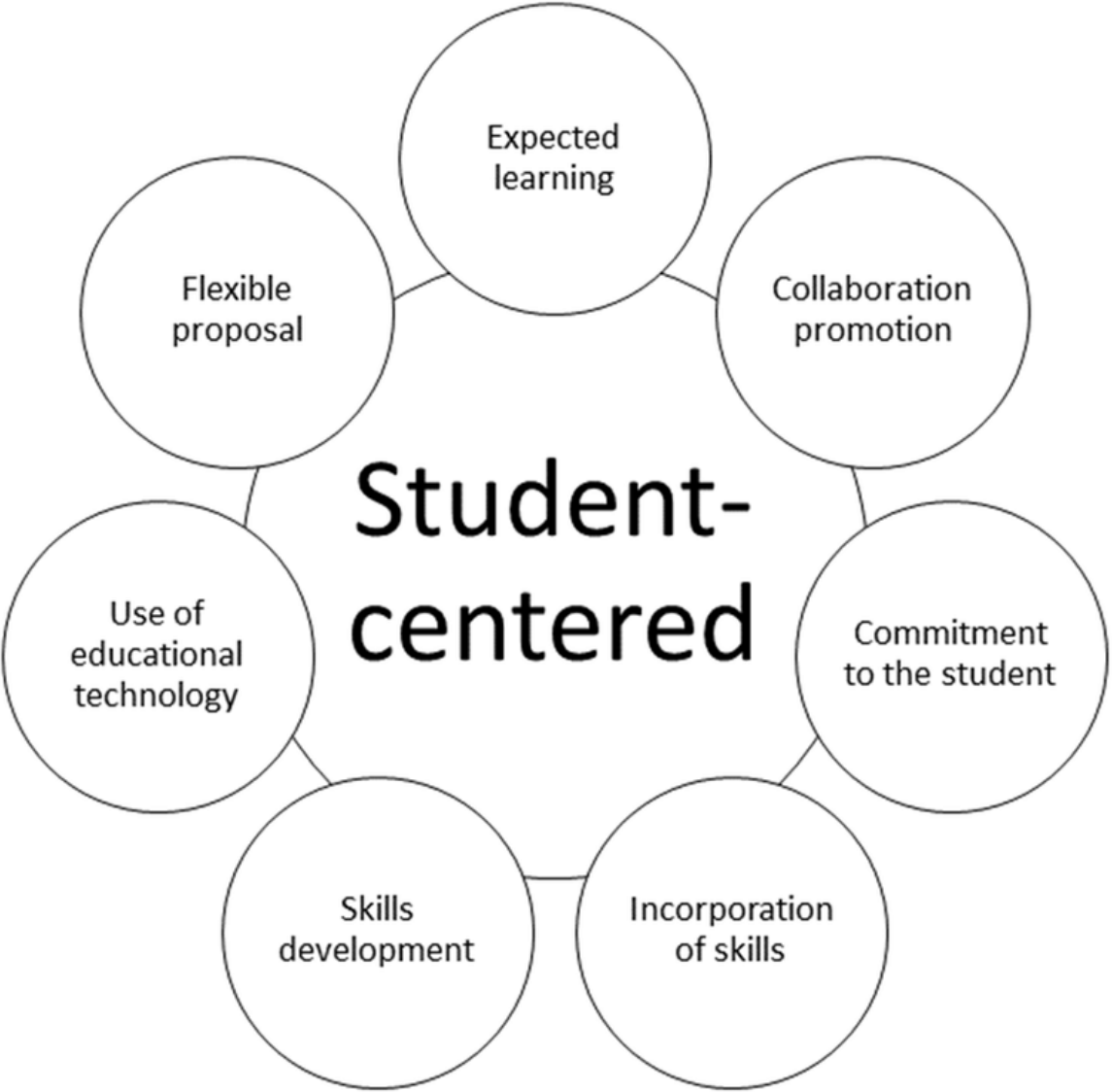
Some characteristics of UNIMED commitment to students' engagement

- Activities/initiatives involving the students **always through a university service** (ex: international relation office, career office...)
- Strengthening students' engagement means also **strengthening the university service**
- **Collaboration with students' organisations** to reach the objectives as the peer-to-peer dimension is a key element
- **Cooperation with institutional partners** that aim to reinforce and encourage students' capacities

**How much do you
involve students in
academic matters?!**



Student-centered learning



Benefits



☐ For students

- Making students an integral part of the academic community
- An increased motivation to learn
- Independence and responsibility in learning
- Higher consideration of student needs

☐ For teachers

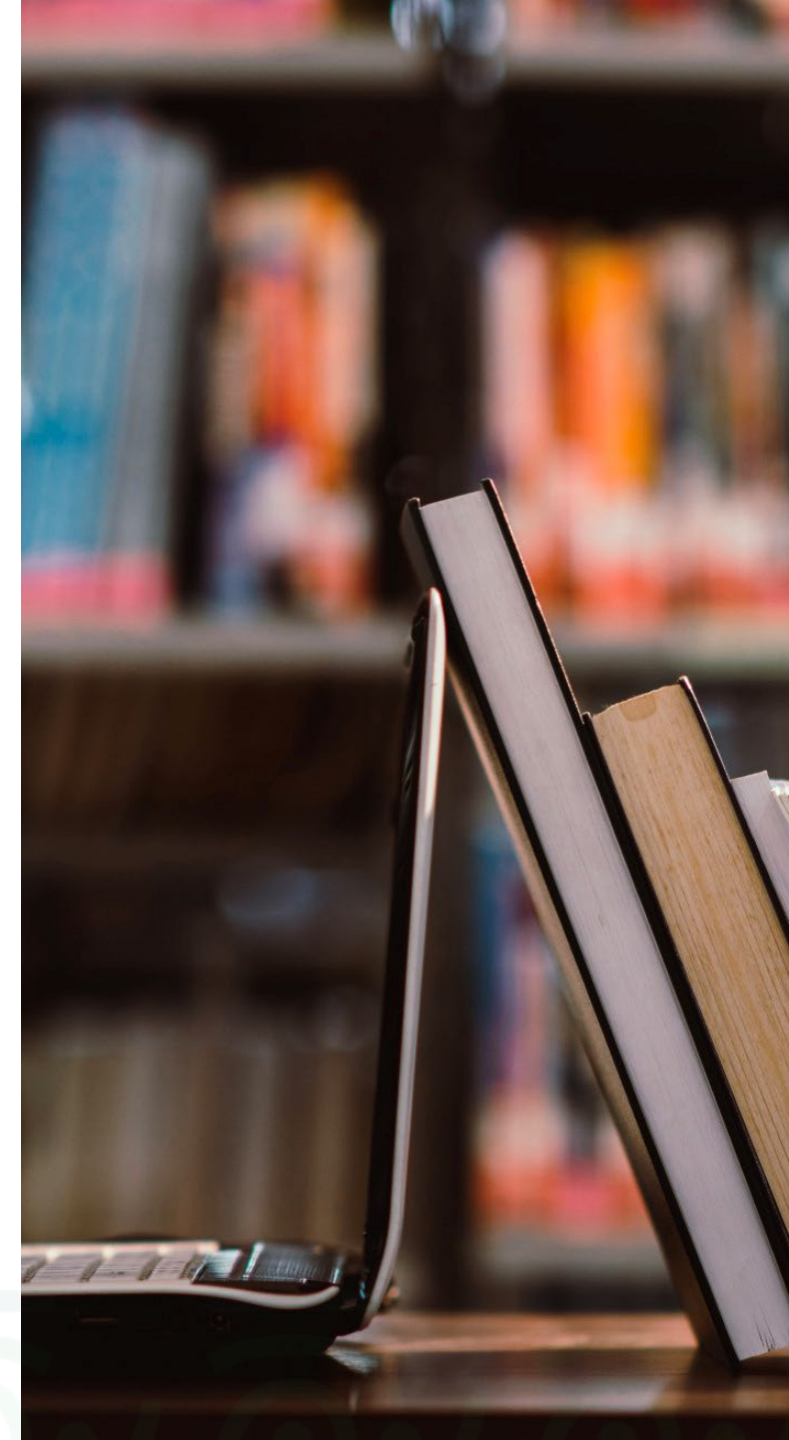
- A more interesting role for the teacher
- Solutions to tackling massification and diversity
- Positive impact on working conditions:
- Continuous self-improvement
- Increased learner motivation and engagement
- Professional development for academia

☐ For universities

- Quality Enhancement
- The Status of the teaching profession
- Increased representation in governance structures

Lessons learnt & proposals

- Assess the students' needs & perspectives on social entrepreneurship (clear definition of social entrepreneurship?)
- Map the social enterprises and create links: inviting professionals to deliver lessons, offer internship and provide «real word opportunities»?
- Map the student organisations and build a bridge/strengthen the relations between a university service and a students'organisation
- Recognise the student'engagement in social activities
- Encourage the exchange of good practices among students
- Organise a collective action within the lifetime of the project: identify one social challenge and brainstorm to identify a social solution



Thank You

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