

Feedback from the UNIZA Grants Week 2017

In total, 18 questionnaires were submitted. Some questions received many similar answers. In order to keep the length of this report reasonably brief, the latter have been clustered into one answer, indicating in parentheses how many respondents gave such feedback.

Summary

All the participants who filled the survey were generally satisfied with the Grants Week event. In particular, most of them appreciated the practical information given during the presentations and the practical activities proposed by the lecturers or organised by the ERAdiate team.

Speeches from Seán McCarthy, Hands-On training and the networking activities were the most quoted sessions in the survey.

The participants found the atmosphere of the event positive and favourable for productive discussion and exchange of views, thanks to the good organisation from ERAdiate team and to the constructive attitude of contributors.

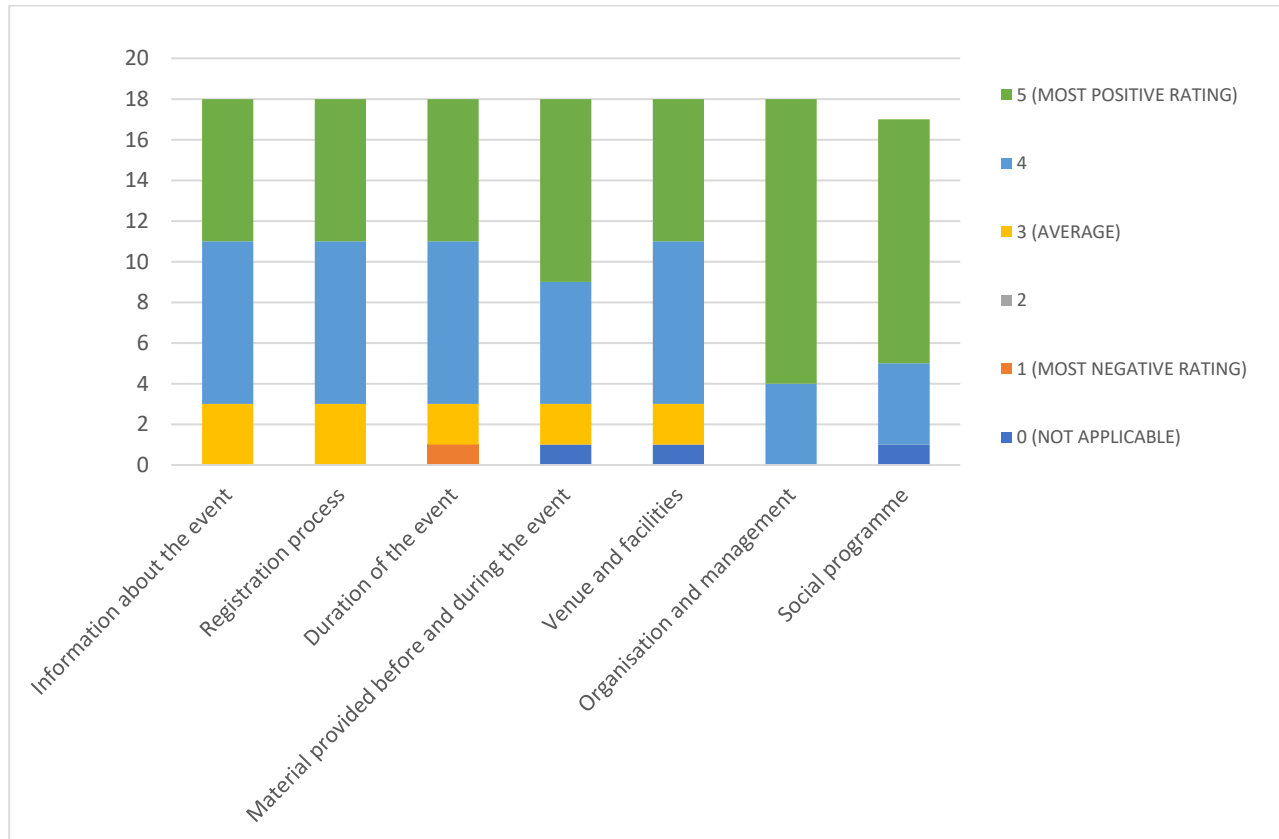
As suggestions of improvement for future Grants Week events, it could be taken into consideration to reduce the duration of the sessions; some respondents commented that the daily programme was somehow long.

Even if the event was open to a wide audience, respondents noted the lack of international participants, as well as the lack of high management staff from faculties.

Some comments underlined the necessity to have more/longer hands-on sessions to strengthen the participation from the audience. Additional information would be appreciated to better understand how to go from theory to practice into proposal writing and research.

It was also suggested that ERAdiate could help the internationalisation of the University by organising new seminars and networking activities with foreign partners.

Q1 - How would you rate the following:



Comments:

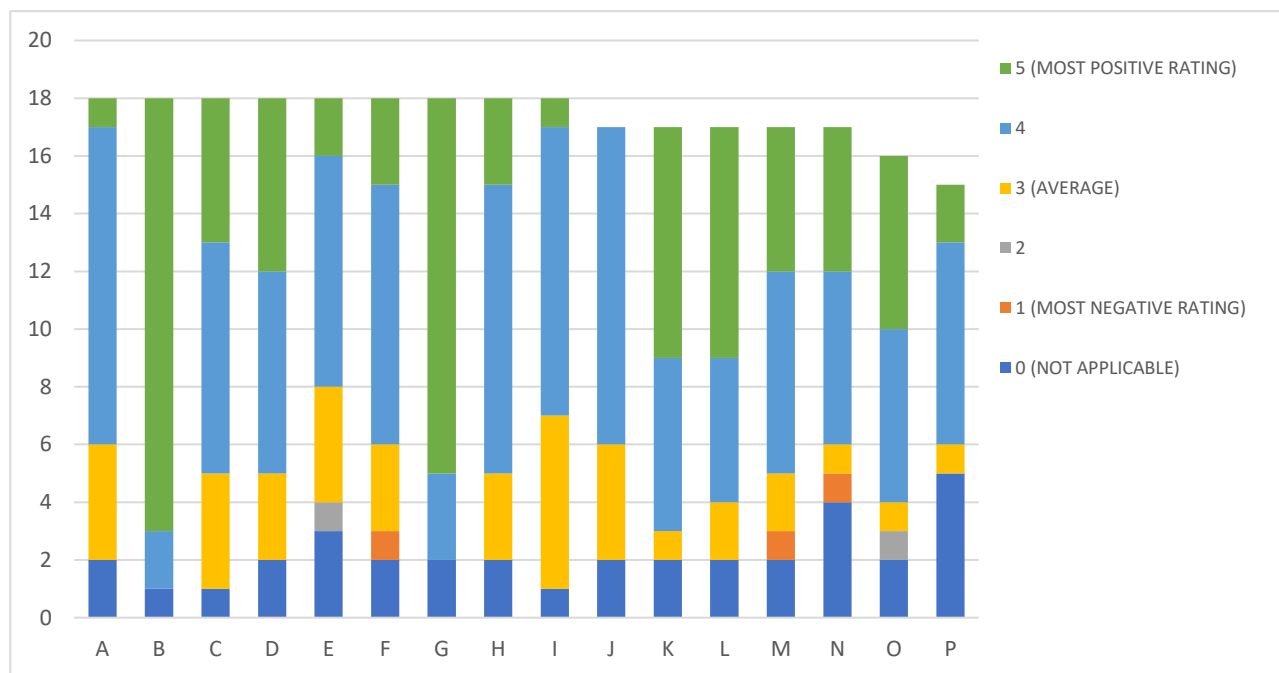
Three days was quite a lot for me, I would prefer two days maximum in the future.

Some lecture blocks lasted over time and so there wasn't time left for the practical exercise.

In the registration process there wasn't an answer to understand if the registration was successful or not.

At the beginning, on ERAdiate website, there wasn't any information about the person responsible for registration, it could have been an important service. It could be helpful to add tax number of the Institution for receipts.

Q2 - How would you rate the following:



- A. H2020 Individual funding opportunities Session 1: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships by Ing Peter Beňo (Day 2)
- B. How to write a competitive proposal for H2020? by Seán McCarthy (Day 1)
- C. Collaborative projects in H2020 – focus areas Session 2: Smart, Green and Integrated Transport by Prof Tatiana Kovačiková (Day 1)
- D. COST - Fostering career opportunities of Early Career Investigators (Day 2) by Prof Milan Dado, Dr Giuseppe Lugano, Dr Peter Počta
- E. Protection and exploitation of research results by Dr Viera Petrášová and Ms Katarína Svitková (Day 1)
- F. H2020 Individual funding opportunities Session 2: European Research Council (ERC) grants by RNDr Soňa Ftáčniková (Day 2)
- G. How to write the Impact of a H2020 proposal? by Seán McCarthy (Day 2)
- H. Project management: how to successfully manage a consortium? by Mr Roman Behul (Day 2)
- I. Collaborative projects in H2020 – focus areas Session 1: Information and Communication Technologies by Prof Martin Klimo (Day 1)
- J. Collaborative projects in H2020 – focus areas Session 3: Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy by Dr Peter Bracíník (Day 1)
- K. Hands-On training to enhance researchers' skills (Part I), presentation by Ms Valentina Zuri (Day 3)
- L. Hands-On training to enhance researchers' skills (Part I), presentation by Ms Valentina Zuri (Day 3)
- M. Hands-On training to enhance researchers' skills (Part II), workshop by Mr Ömer Ceylan and Ms Valentina Zuri (Day 3)
- N. Ethics Requirements in H2020 by RNDr. Soňa Ftáčniková (Day 3)
- O. Panel discussion: Providing support for academics at all stages of their career at UNIZA (Day 3)
- P. Reception with companies (Day 1)
- Q. Research Funding in Slovakia by Assoc. Prof. Ľuboš Buzna and Prof. Ing. Róbert Hudec

Comments:

In the "Reception with companies", I felt like there wasn't so many companies which can be addressed for collaboration in H2020 or national projects.

Especially panel discussion was very interesting because people discussed openly. Ethics was very involving as well. I'm sorry that I left last presentation to reach last train connection but there was a delay in sessions of about 40 minutes.

Hands-On-Training: the practical part was good and discussion was interesting with inputs of participants. Issues and planned tasks to discuss were too many, so the "impact" part and some conclusions haven't been discussed. I think this was caused because lot of time was spent to read and to summarize the text, maybe only one little short extract from the call example would solve problem.

Q3 - What did you find most positive about the event?

All the practical information and presentations from Seán McCarthy. (6 respondents)

I found very positive the networking activities, they gave the opportunity to create new contacts and social interaction. (7 respondents)

The Hands-On training to enhance researchers' skills, and in particular the presentation by Ms Valentina Zuri. She and her colleague created a friendly atmosphere, favourable to dialogue. (4 respondents)

The opportunity to gain a lot of knowledge about how to write a proposal and to get additional

information about COST, ERC and background of H2020 evaluation process. It was useful to have interesting presentations and great speakers from different fields; it gave a different perspective to project writing. (4 respondents)

The openness of the whole ERAdiate Team. The organisation was also excellent. (3 respondents)

There was a positive and open atmosphere that made it easier to talk with people. It was great to see so many people with motivation to change something in future research. It was open for people not only from Uniza.

Q4 - Was there a relevant topic/issue not covered in the programme? What would you have done differently?

I would prefer having a shorter afternoon session, each day the programme was very long and in the end, it was difficult to concentrate properly.

It could be interesting to know more about how to write proposals for VEGA, KEGA and APVV projects and not just about H2020 programme.

I would add more time for Hands-On training and practical workshops.

It would be positive to have more foreign participants.

More involvement of people from higher management staff as Vice Dean.

Interesting information would be: how to survive the time of project preparation and the time until project would be approved especially if other urgent task must be solved or if there is no current financing. Are there any other possibilities to start with more little project applications?

To help people at the beginning of networking time, it could have been interesting if each participant described a project idea in three or five sentences. Afterwards people with similar ideas or similar goals should try to develop a combined proposal.

I think that the programme was very well balanced and no topic was missing in the programme, I was satisfied. (3 respondents).

Q5 - What topics would you be interested to see presented or discussed at the next ERAdiate Summer School?

More focus on Hands-On training and practical workshops. (3 respondents)

I would like to know more about how to write VEGA, KEGA and APVV proposals because it would be very helpful for PhD students.

Project management

Topics focused on both ITS and ICT together

How to transfer research to practice? How to bridge the gap between theoretical research and practical application of research?

Q6 - Apart from summer schools, which other activities/services relevant to you would you suggest ERAdiate to organise?

Seminars, conferences, workshops with focus on EU programmes.

Workshops on writing proposals (maybe also with evaluators), workshop on ethic and security issues in the project proposal, deeper open access training to address networking also to students.

Networking activities with foreign potential partners.

Meeting with faculty to explain your purpose, to find support or cooperation from faculties' staff.

Because ERAdiate is international, motivated and interested: How to reach poor or less educated people to find the needs for future research relevant for society?

Q7 - Did you know about ERAdiate before?

