



Ghent

Brussels (and Ghent...), here I come !

Annual Conference CHAIN5, (7)-8-9 March 2018

Go to: <https://www.ucll.be/content/registration-annual-conference-chain-5>
and fill in the necessary details. You will receive automatically a confirmation by e-mail.

Let the European Level 5 Area Drive Change and Connect Talent

**How to make qualifications at level 5 future-proof
and function well with the needs of the world of work and the challenges for all learners**

8-9 March 2018, Brussels

***There will be a social programme (visits to institutions in Ghent, Flanders)
on the 7th of March 2018***

1. Dates of the conference: 8 and 9 March 2018
2. Thursday 8 March: lunch / 13:00 – 17:00 / dinner in Brussels
3. Friday 9 March: 09:00 – 13:00 / lunch
4. Date of the visits to institutions in Gent: 7 March, 10:00 – 17:00 / possibility for having dinner in Ghent
5. Venue: Hogeschool Odisee (University College), Brussels
6. The conference is a good opportunity to harvest good practices for the use of the 'Level 5 Area', and the qualifications that are used at the international level, being important for the national settings of learning pathways. Short Cycle HE is one of them, to feed the discussion about the use of this qualification and also Higher VET as a challenge for VET providers to offer vocational qualifications parallel to the higher education area.
7. Brussels is easy to reach by plane and train, and the venue is within walking distance of the Central Station: <https://www.odisee.be/en/campus-brussels-en>.
8. We recommend that you find a hotel by yourself, knowing that it is difficult to make a general arrangement for the whole group.

Costs

- Fee for the conference: 175 euro (a reduced fee for participants from selected countries – see the registration page for more information about this)
- Dinner on Thursday evening: 40 euro
- Social programme (visit to Ghent): 40 euro.

General meeting CHAIN5

On Thursday morning from 10:15 till 11:30 there will be our general meeting for the members of CHAIN5. The meeting room will also be in the venue of Hogeschool Odisee.

The agenda and documents for this meeting will be sent to the members in the week before the conference.

Programme

Thursday:

- 12:00 - 13:00 Lunch buffet and Registration
13.00 - 13.15 Opening session
13.15 - 14.40 Key-note speeches
- Level 5 in Flanders
Machteld Verbruggen (Flemish Platform Graduaats-opleidingen)
 - Short Cycle HE and Higher VET: two pillars in the European Level 5 Area – and in the European Higher Education Area
Hans Daale, CHAIN5
 - Looking back at 5 years of CHAIN5, and what the future will bring us
Short presentations by the members of the Steering Group, CHAIN5, about national developments since 2013
- 14.40 - 14.45 Short introduction of the Journal of Pedagogic Development
14.45 - 15.15 Coffee break
15.15 - 16.05 Workshops, round 1
16.05 - 16.10 Short break
16.10 - 17.00 Workshops, round 2
- 19.30 Cocktail + dinner (Restaurant Scheltema, in the center of Brussels)

Friday:

- 09:00 - 09.45 Key-note speech
The role of the labour market in the Flemish Level 5 Area
Fons Leroy, VDAB, Flanders
- 09.45 - 09.50 Kick-off for the sessions
09.50 - 10.20 Sessions, round 1
10.20 - 10.25 Short break
10.25 - 10.55 Sessions, round 2
10.55 - 11.20 Coffee break
11.20 - 12.00 Interactive plenary session, based on the outcomes of the sessions – having a panel with employers, students and policy makers for ‘feedback’
12.00 - 12.30 A summary... by the Steering Group of CHAIN5
12.30 - 13.00 Closing session: interactive – for setting the scene for the future of the community
13.00 - 14.00 Lunch buffet

Social activity: Visit to Ghent

On Wednesday, March 7, there is the opportunity to visit in the morning and afternoon some educational institutes, related to level 5 in Flanders. Lunch is provided by one of the institutions. In the second half of the afternoon Flemish students will act as a guide for a tour in the center of Ghent. Then there is the possibility to dine in Ghent (where we will recommend a few restaurants, and also reserve one of them for a group).

There will be collected around 9:30 at Brussels Central Station, to take the train to Ghent. Transport is provided in Ghent. The return journey is by train again.

Workshops and sessions

Here a list of topics for the workshops and sessions, using four themes. You can make your choice during the registration procedure, on the 8th of March.

We will publish them, for the three rounds, a week before the conference.

The work field as a partner in education

1. The 'three parties concept' – the importance of all three stakeholders in flexible learning pathways at level 5 (NHL-Stenden, the Netherlands)

Collaborating with employers for education based on learning outcomes. A concept based on:

1. Personalized learning
2. Co-creation

Getting started with the 'Euroduale framework' in which the role becomes visible of the three stakeholders: student, world of work and educational institution

2. RealDolmen - a Belgian listed company, active as an ICT product and service provider (RealDolmen, Flanders).

Advice on ICT, support for business plans or the creation of new business models. It is about how to examine together how major technological innovations will make the difference. There will be discussed how the cooperation with the education providers works...

3. BEEHIVES: the results so far – and how to use them (AoC, UK)

See for information: <https://beehives.de/>

Curriculum development

4. Level 5 programmes in Flanders (Flemish Platform for level 5)

From professional qualification to learning outcomes

5. Higher VET, an interesting concept for flexible lifelong learning – but how to link this type of qualification to the higher education framework (CHAIN5)

There will be a discussion going on this year about the role of HVET in having more status for the VET-sector. The growing need for more higher skilled people, having more than a VET level 4 qualification is important for VET providers.

But... what do we mean by HVET? Just level 5 or based on the definition by the national authorities? And how to deal with the Higher Education Area: what does it mean, to be 'higher'?

We will talk about the most relevant and effective definition for HVET....

6. The dual purpose of some EQF level 5 qualifications - vocational en-skilling and articulation into advanced years of Bachelor's study (SQA, Scotland)

Pros and cons, inherent contradictions, tensions, etc., along with how government policy and funding can act as key levers.

7. Another brick in the level 5 area: how to deal with ECVET and ECTS (Leido, the Netherlands)

There are discussions about connecting ECVET and ECTS, for several reasons. One of them is to have more possibilities for permeability between VET and HE. But also the idea of having more flexible learning pathways is interesting. In this session we will discuss the opportunity to introduce a new instrument for the European Level 5 Area, to combine ECVET and SCHE...

Give your opinion...

8. Work-based Learning in general – and how to start with new concepts in the European Level 5 Area (CHAIN5)

In the UK there are new opportunities for work-based learning, using new concepts. The basis for the programme is the bundle of professional competences, at certain levels – not all at the same level (looking at the profession, and the lifelong learning opportunities). For this kind of study programmes we need new formats, also looking at the quality assurance. In this session we will provide information about those concept. And we need your feedback...

The student as the key figure in the programme

9. Diversity and level 5 qualifications (UCLL, Flanders)

A dialogue: exchange experiences with colleagues

10. Journal of Pedagogic Development' (University of Bedfordshire, UK)

We will have the possibility to write about work-based learning and the most important aspects for providing qualifications at level 5. During this session information will be given about making a contribution for this Journal – using your experiences, projects and research programmes.

Teaching staff

11. Experts in level 5 issues: how to start this year with networking (CHAIN5)

The community of practice for level 5 is growing. The contacts with other associations, in HE and VET, are good. There is a need for regional and national activities, organised by the members of CHAIN5, to talk about aspects of the national level 4 area. It can be important to have experts from other countries for presentations, workshops and sessions to give input for the regional and national developments.

The question to be raised in this session will be: who is willing to be such an expert and if so, under which conditions?

12. Internationalisation for teaching staff (UCLL, Flanders)