



Report

The public lecture, within the framework of LaManche: Leading and Managing Change in Higher Education, took place on December 21, 2013; at Gavar State University. The public lecture was conducted by the rector of the university, prof. Ruzanna Hakobyan; and during the training the following topics were covered: Grassroots Leadership; the strategic plan of a European higher education institution - implementation and challenges .

During the discussion of the first topic amongst other efficient factors contributing to the efficient leadership processes it was also strongly emphasized the significance of students being involved in the process of implementing changes and management. Student engagement is concerned with the interactions between the time, effort and other relevant resources invested by both students and their institutions intended to optimise the student experience and enhance the learning outcomes and development of students and the performance, and reputation of the institution. It was mentioned that by developing more meaningful relationships with students, the university can benefit from enhanced reputation and competitive advantage, but of equal importance is the growing body of evidence of a connection between engagement and learning outcomes and higher levels of achievement and increasing employability emerging in academic literature.

During the discussion of the second topic the main question was the creation of such conditions in which a process for developing a participative institutional project would become a real management tool for change. The conditions for success were listed and among them the most important were: working on mental representation, building a common set of values, building a common vision for future, promoting a systemic approach, problematizing, involving as many actors as possible and communicating to enable stakeholders to participate at all levels.