

WELCOME TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO THE PERSPECTIVE OF COLLEGIATE STUDIES IN THE CONTEXT OF CHANGING SOCIETY, LABOUR MARKET AND HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM”,

ORGANIZED BY ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, KAUNAS, LITHUANIA!

8, 9 and 10 of November, 2022

Conference venue: online / Vilniaus str. 29, Kaunas, Lithuania

The aim of this conference is to create an open platform for discussion and new perspectives on the evolution and development of the higher professional studies in Lithuania and the European Union. Today higher professional studies in Lithuania and in many foreign countries are facing the challenges caused by the demographic, social, economic, technological, ecological and political change in society.

The ageing of the population and the declining enrolment rates, which have an impact on the whole education sector, encourage colleges and universities of applied sciences to review their activities and the content of their studies in order to attract new groups of students and to develop lifelong learning-oriented studies. The intensification of international migration creates additional opportunities to attract new students, but at the same time requires a fresh look at the content of studies, student support strategies and other aspects of college operations.

Changes in the world of work and in the qualifications' system are also shaping the agenda for the development of higher professional education and its outcomes. The digitalisation of work processes, the 4th industrial revolution and the development of the green economy are increasing the demand for highly skilled professionals able to apply higher competences, technological knowledge and practical professional skills. Colleges and universities of applied sciences can and must make a significant contribution to the training of creative innovators and developers of technological, environmental, social and cultural innovations, particularly in the regions. The digitalisation of work processes and the 4th Industrial Revolution require a holistic understanding of work and technological processes, including the social and ethical dimensions of work processes. Vocational skills are increasingly combined with academic knowledge, and there is a growing demand for qualifications corresponding to level 5 of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework and the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning. This creates new opportunities and challenges for higher professional studies.

Rapidly globalising, complex, ageing and increasingly alienated societies are facing growing demand of professionals who are able to solve sensitive social and psychological problems and

provide personal, accessible spiritual and psychological support to different groups in society. The Covid-19 pandemic has forced a reassessment of the relevance and necessity of such activities.

These circumstances call for a holistic approach to the content, forms and qualifications provided in the higher professional studies.

We therefore invite scholars, practitioners and students to participate in this conference, which commemorates professor Rimantas Laužackas from the Vytautas Magnus University (Lithuania) who was one of the pioneers of educational science in Lithuania. Professor Laužackas made a significant contribution to the development of higher professional studies in Lithuania, especially for the development of the curricula of the higher professional studies, and in his works he emphasised the importance of a holistic approach to the content of vocational training and studies.

We are looking for the research articles and conference presentations in the following research areas:

- 1) Assumptions, expression and perspectives of a holistic approach to the design of the curricula of higher professional studies. What are the features of a holistic approach to the design and development of such curricula and what is needed to attain such holistic approach?
- 2) Value paradigms and their changes in the content of higher professional studies. What are the values underpinning the content of the higher professional studies and how are they changing?
- 3) A new approaches to the permeability between the higher professional studies, vocational education and training, university studies and lifelong learning.
- 4) The place of qualifications provided by the higher professional studies in the national system of qualifications: problems, challenges, future scenarios.
- 5) Ensuring the sustainability of the teacher training for the higher professional studies and their professional development.
- 6) Scientific research results that reflect the cohesion of studies and applied research and your institutions's specifics.

The proposed articles may cover more than one of the proposed topics.

Participation in the conference is free of charge.

Registration for conference participants only with conference presentation:
<https://forms.office.com/r/rV0jpfSZAE>

Registration for conference participants with articles: <https://forms.office.com/r/PWcK5srGBG>

Requirements to articles

Articles can be written in both Lithuanian and English.

Article requirements for Lithuanian article is here:

Article requirements for English article is here:

The length of the article is up to 5000 words, 10 pages.

Selected and peer-reviewed articles will be published in the conference proceedings.

Deadline for submission of articles: **30 of September 2022.**

Sending articles, *authors's guarantee* and all the inquiries regarding the conference:
conference@ilk.lt