Conferences
During the NICE 1 and NICE 2 projects, four international conferences have taken place in Częstochowa (Poland), Heidelberg (Germany), Jyvaskyla (Finland) and Istanbul (Turkey) up until now.

Working Groups Meetings
NICE 2 consists of a row of projects. The various working groups have regular meetings.

FAST FACTS
86 experts
The NICE network brings together 86 career guidance experts from all over Europe

45 partners
45 Higher Education Institutions are active in NICE, representing various academic disciplines relevant for career counselling – including educational sciences, applied psychology, economics, sociology, business administration, social work and anthropology.

INTERESTING INFO
✓ NICE has recently published an article on how guidance and counselling can support student mobility by Sauli Puukari from the University of Jyväskylä.
✓ You can download it here:
   http://www.nice-network.eu/349.html

Mobility does not happen without a good reason and therefore it is of the greatest importance that those persons interested in NICE mobility can anticipate that their expectations regarding the mobility experience will be met. Hence, we have come up with the idea of an online catalogue of mobility experiences that would of course vary in contents, form and duration. This online catalogue or database would then provide hosting, sending partners as well as participants with various documents facilitating their mobility experience. A NICE mobility coordinator - possibly a group of NICE partners, would then have the task of “matching” the mobility offers with the demands for mobility.

We have also elaborated a questionnaire that will shortly go out to all the partners. This survey will allow us to gauge the interest for a NICE mobility programme, to gather ideas on possible contents (e.g. thematic, work shadowing), on the duration, on the validation (ECTS etc.) as well as on specific NICE mobility objectives.

Finally, we will present our ideas in detail at the NICE conference in Canterbury as well as the first results of our survey.

TIG is working on a suite of projects examining how the Common Points of Reference developed in NICE 1 might most effectively be applied in practice.

There are three strands to our activities. The first strand involves listening to student voices, and incorporates two studies. One explores career guidance students’ thoughts about the NICE core competency of Professionalism. The second study takes one particular technique from the teaching learning and assessment resources (TLAR) and asks whether this particular pedagogical approach (learning by teaching) has a positive impact on career coaching students’ learning of career theories.

The second strand from TIG highlights the use of psychometric tests within career guidance practice and aims to identify a range of effective psychometric tools that practitioners can use with clients.

In the third strand, the group are putting the spot light on quality, developing a checklist, based on the NICE CPR to guide trainers looking to quality assure their career guidance training programs. We are looking forward to presenting the findings of these studies in Canterbury.

Photo 2: Mobility Meeting in Brussels, March 2014, featuring Monika Kukyte, Jan Woldendorp, Sauli Puukari and Jean-Jacques Ruppert (from left to right)