

PERSONAL INFORMATION



Paraskevi GIOURKA

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Date of birth 31 August 1981

WORK EXPERIENCE

01/11/2011 – Present

Researcher & Doctoral Thesis Supervisor

School of Management (Grenoble Ecole de Management), Grenoble (France)

- Supervise scientific work, follow developments in research, and participate in societal interaction and international cooperation in the field.
- Supervise one PhD student

01/09/2012 – Present

External Expert – EUROPE DIRECT XANTHI & Unit of Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Democritus University of Thrace, Xanthi (Greece)

- Design and implement seminars on entrepreneurship and innovation applying innovative teaching methods and techniques
- Upgrading methods of vocational education in entrepreneurship in order to improve its attractiveness
- Increase higher education students competences and equip them with necessary skills to initiate entrepreneurial activity and advance their career opportunities
- Redefining the role of initial vocational education and training in entrepreneurship and innovation enriching its content with practice based teaching techniques
- Create effective links between the educational system and the labour market

The program is funded by the ESF - Education and Life Long learning Program, Priority Axis 4: Upgrading the systems of initial vocational training and vocational education and linking education with the labour market

01/06/2007 – Present

External Expert – EU Project Manager

University of West Macedonia, Kozani (Greece)

- Manage, coordinate, monitor and implement tasks and activities of EU funded projects
- Design, initiate, and carry out research in the field of innovation entrepreneurship, and entrepreneurship education
- Draft Action Plans and policy recommendation papers for supporting entrepreneurship and innovation at a regional level
- Promote and disseminate projects' and research outcomes to key stakeholders and policy makers
- Contribute to implementing procurement, administrative and financial procedures in compliance with the national regulations and the regulations applied for EU projects.

Other activities:

- Work with the Rector of UOWM for Research and Innovation in scoping, developing and

- implementing the School's Research Strategy
- Responsible for the full pre and post award grants administration process.
- Maximise external funding within the School by identifying significant new opportunities nationally, in the European Union and prepare project proposals
- Build strong links with other School's Research and Innovation Managers to share knowledge and best practice
- Evaluate funding opportunities, potential collaborations and partnerships and their fit with the strategic objectives of the School and their relative strengths and priorities
- Build close relationships with academic staff and research directors to understand the nature of their research and their research strategies
- Attend external workshops to gather strategic intelligence on national policies, and research strategies on entrepreneurship and innovation
- Assist in the identification and development of large interdisciplinary and collaborative funding proposals

Engaged in the following EU projects:

- **SMEs GO Global Networks – SMEs Go NET.** Funded by Interreg IVC, ERDF. Connect regional organisations representing interests of local SMEs as well as R&D institutions on a global basis; provide a basis to implement, coordinate, foster and promote the collaboration, communication and resource sharing between network members; support advancement of life sciences and development of technologies and innovations; support the creation and advancement of businesses; develop teaching material for developing the skills of adult entrepreneurs.
Total Project Budget: 268,170.00EUR
- **Digital Local Agenda –DLA.** Funded by Interreg IVC, ERDF. Explore and assess local government activities and services provided with the use of ICT, design a common methodology for a Digital Local Agenda to increase the ICT competences of EU public authorities; Promote the Digital Local Agenda to regional stakeholders.
Total Project Budget: 145,718.00 EUR
- **ENTREDI, Entrepreneurial Diversity.** Funded by Interreg IVC, ERDF. Design a methodology for supporting entrepreneurship at a regional level efficiently and effectively, develop a Regional Action Plan for creating regional entrepreneurship support mechanisms and inform relevant policies, transfer and dissemination of Good Practices for creating Entrepreneurial Diversity in EU regions, co-edit a Mainstreaming Guide for creating entrepreneurial diversity, promote the Regional Action Plan and the Mainstreaming Guide to policy makers and key stakeholders.
Total Project Budget: 212,700.00 EUR
- **ERIK ACTION.** Funded by Interreg IVC, ERDF. Investigate SMEs competences to innovate, transfer and disseminate Good Practices on increasing innovation capacities in SMEs, develop a Regional Action Plan for upgrading the SMEs competences to innovate and promote policy shaping, develop a methodology for importing and integrating Good Practices on increasing innovation competences of SMEs in EU regions, promote the Regional Action Plan and the Mainstreaming Guide to policy makers and key stakeholders.
Total Project Budget: 120,260.00 EUR
- **Regional Innovation Pole of West Macedonia,** Co-Funded by General Secretary of Research and Technology, Ministry of Development and ERDF. Explore the prospects of the Energy Sector at a global and regional context, conduct a SWOT analysis for the Energy sector in the Region of West Macedonia, development of an Energy Observatory, design and implement Pilot Actions for the creation of an Energy Cluster, conduct a Technology Foresight analysis.
Total Project Budget: 560,000.00 EUR
- **European Forest Fire Monitoring using IS – EFFMIS.** Funded by Interreg IVC, ERDF. Exploitation of the usage of information systems in order to early detect, efficiently manage and handle forest fires

and assess the damage caused as well as ways of regeneration, develop a Regional Action Plan for effectively managing and handling forest fires, developing a Mainstreaming Guidebook for forest fires management and techniques, and promote the Regional Action Plan and the Mainstreaming Guide to policy makers and key stakeholders.

Total Project Budget: 1,772,030.00 EUR

01/09/2012 – 31/08/2013

Hourly Paid Lecturer

Democritus University of Thrace, School of Business Administration, Komotini (Greece)

Teaching to 4th year students the modules of :

- Change Management and Innovation
- International Management
- Business Strategy
- Project Management

01/11/2011 – 31/06/2011

Hourly Paid Lecturer

Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham Business School, Nottingham (United Kingdom)

Teaching the modules of:

- Competitive Strategy and Innovation
- Governance, Business and Development in EU Regions

01/03/2010 – 30/03/2011

Researcher in Entrepreneurship Education

Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham Business School, Nottingham (United Kingdom)

- Dissemination of knowledge and good practices in teaching entrepreneurship in higher education
- Investigate practice based activities for teaching entrepreneurship
- Develop a practice based activity Guide for Teaching Entrepreneurship
- Explore case studies of entrepreneurship success stories
- Co-edit a Case Study Book on Entrepreneurship Success Stories

The program was funded by the DG Enterprise and Industry under the call "Entrepreneurial culture of young people and entrepreneurship education"

01/02/2009 – 30/07/2008

Hourly Paid Lecturer

Technical Educational Institute of West Macedonia, Kozani (Greece)

Teaching the module:

- Forecasting Techniques - Statistics

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2007 – 2011 **Doctor of Philosophy** EQF level 8
 University of Leeds, Leeds (United Kingdom)
 Innovation Management
 Occupational:

- have demonstrated a systematic understanding of the field of study and mastery of the skills and methods of research associated with innovation and management techniques;
- have demonstrated the ability to conceive, design, implement and adapt a substantial process of research with scholarly integrity;
- have made a contribution through original research that extends the frontier of knowledge by developing a substantial body of work, some of which merits national or international refereed publication;
- capable of critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis of new and complex ideas;
- able to communicate with peers, the larger scholarly community and with society in general about the area of expertise;
- able to promote, within academic and professional contexts, technological, social or cultural advancement in a knowledge based society.

2003 – 2004 **Masters in Business Administration (MBA)** EQF level 7
 University of Portsmouth, The Business School, Portsmouth (United Kingdom)

- demonstrated knowledge and understanding that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in developing and/or applying ideas, often within a research context;
- apply knowledge and understanding, and problem solving abilities in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to the field of study;
- have the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity, and formulate judgments with incomplete or limited information, but that include reflecting on social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of knowledge and judgments; and
- can communicate conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these, to specialist and nonspecialist audiences clearly and unambiguously

2002 – 2003 **Masters in Civil Engineering** EQF level 7
 University of Portsmouth, School of Civil Engineering, Portsmouth (United Kingdom)

2002 – 2003 **Bachelor of Science (Hons)** EQF level 6
 University of Portsmouth, School of Civil Engineering, Portsmouth (United Kingdom)

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) Greek

Other language(s)	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Certificate of Proficiency in English, The University of Michigan					
French	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1

Levels: A1/A2: Basic user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2: Proficient user
[Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)

Communication skills

- Confident, articulate, and professional speaking abilities (and experience)
- Strong problem-solving and analytical skills
- Thrive in a team environment and work well with others
- A genuine desire to achieve, excel and evolve
- Self-motivated, hard-working individual
- Exceptional abilities to compile and analysing data

Organisational / managerial skills

- Equipped with strong interpersonal skills that are combined with, advanced personal motivation and a proven ability to build and work collaboratively, results in exceptional rapport with people.
- Ability to initiate, promote and maintain strong interpersonal relations within a strong team concept environment, and independently. Excellent planning, budgeting, goal setting, and scheduling abilities is providing understanding and appreciation of the importance of a job well done as well as abilities to coach and guide others in high-demand situations. Ability to deal courteously and professionally, with the general public and or stakeholders in a variety of circumstances.

Job-related skills

My strong abilities to design, initiate and carry out research and comparative analysis were advanced during my research for obtaining the title of the Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Leeds, UK. During my professional career at the University I was heavily involved in drafting high - quality scientifically robust and policy relevant reports and papers for the Regional Authorities and its stakeholders as milestone deliverables of several EU projects. I advanced my abilities in the promotion and dissemination of the research outcomes and policy reports as dissemination of results to groups, networks and policy makers were among the key tasks within the context of the European projects I was involved in.

While managing and coordinating EU funded projects in which the University of West Macedonia was a Lead Partner I have always developed and still maintaining good working relations with all project partners from the different member states as well as with regional stakeholders and also the European Commission and the JTS's.

Implementing effective working methods with the use of innovative tools and applications have enabled me to communicate effectively and timely with project partners, stakeholders, and the European Commission managing the sharing of knowledge, tasks and responsibilities.

While working for several European projects I was also involved in the implementation of the procurement procedures within the institution for subcontractors which made me familiar with national and EU program implementation procurement rules and regulations.

Computer skills

Cambridge International Diploma in IT Skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Internet Applications)

- MS Windows 2010, MS Access, MS Project
- MAC OS
- SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Scientists),
- Amos 6 (Structural Equation Modeling),
- E-views
- Minitab
- AutoCAD 2004, CADware

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications

1. Giourka, P., Bakouros, I., (2013). Bridging the gap between business support providers and business practitioners, from theory to practice. 6th International Conference for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development. ICEIRD2013, 20-21 June, Istanbul, Turkey.
2. Samara, E., Giourka, P., Bakouros, I., Innovation and SMEs in the new entrepreneurial environment of crisis. 5th International Conference for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Regional Development. ICEIRD 2012, 1-2 June 2012, Sofia, Bulgaria.
3. Giourka, P., Tutesigensi, A., Moodley, K. (2012). A holistic model for managing innovation in the construction industry. Research Policy. In Submission.
4. Bakouros, Y., Giourka, P., Jaeger, H.C. 2011. Entrepreneurial Diversity Guidebook. The process of Good Practices transfer. ENTREDI, Kompass Zentrum für Existenzgründungen, ISBN 978-960-93-3450-1, Thessaloniki. (English Edition)
5. Bakouros, Y., Giourka, P., Jaeger, H.C. 2011. Entrepreneurial Diversity Guidebook. The process of Good Practices transfer. ENTREDI, Thessaloniki. ISBN 978-960-93-3964-3, (Greek Edition)
6. Bakouros, Y., Matiaki, E., Giourka, P. (2012). European Forest Fire Monitoring using Information Systems, Mainstreaming Guidebook, EFFMIS, University of West Macedonia, Thessaloniki
7. Giourka, P. (2011). Managing innovation in the construction industry. Thesis (PhD). University of Leeds, UK.
8. Sarri, A., Samara, E., Bakouros, I., and Giourka, P. (2011). Innovativeness in SMEs: Exploring the role of Marketing Innovation. 16th International Conference on Corporate and Marketing Communications, Athens.
9. Galanakis, K. and Giourka, P. (2011). Enhancing Creativity. In: Galanakis, K. and P. Gkiourka, eds. Practice Based Activities for Encouraging the Entrepreneurial Mind. Ruse: Startent, p.19.
10. Giourka, P. and Galanakis, K. (2011). Auction Simulation. In: Galanakis, K. and P. Gkiourka, eds. Practice Based Activities for Encouraging the Entrepreneurial Mind. Ruse: Startent, p.17.
11. Giourka, P. and Galanakis, K. (2011). Pulse Student Network Limited: Be there - the rest will happen. In: Kunev, S., K. Galanakis and P. Gkiourka, eds. Case Study Book on Entrepreneurship and Innovation & Business Creation and Management. Ruse: Startent, pp.200-202.
12. Giourka, P. and Galanakis, K. (2011). View to success. Knowing when to let go! In: Kunev, S., K. Galanakis and P. Gkiourka, eds. Case Study Book on Entrepreneurship and Innovation & Business Creation and Management. Ruse: Startent, pp.193-196.
13. Galanakis, K. and Giourka, P. (2011). Regenerate: A fashion Entrepreneur has a flair for fighting poverty. In: Kunev, S., K. Galanakis and P. Gkiourka, eds. Case Study Book on Entrepreneurship and Innovation & Business Creation and Management. Ruse: Startent, pp.174-177.
14. Giourka, P. and K. Galanakis. (2011). The beginning is half the battle. The HIVE support. In: Kunev, S., K. Galanakis and P. Gkiourka, eds. Case Study Book on Entrepreneurship and Innovation & Business Creation and Management. Ruse: Startent, pp.48-54.
15. Bakouros, Y., Giourka, P., 2010. Upgrading the Innovation Capacity of Existing Firms. Mainstreaming Guide. Learning from a Capitalisation Experience within Interreg IVC, Erik Action, Thessaloniki, ISBN 978-960-6706-45-5, (Greek Edition)
16. Giourka, P., Tutesigensi, A., and Moodley, K., (2010). A holistic conceptual model for managing innovation. Paper accepted in ARCOM 26th Annual Conference, 6th-8th Sept. 2010, Leeds Metropolitan University, UK
17. Giourka, P., (2008). Complexity and innovation in organisations – The construction Industry. 4th National Conference of the Hellenic Society for Systemic Studies. Managing Systems of IS and Innovations, University of Ioannina, Greece.
18. Giourka, P., (2007). Developing a Model of Innovation in the Construction Industry. Proceedings of the Department of Management Science & Technology, 4th Doctoral Workshop. Management Science, Technology and Corporate Social Responsibility. Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece.
19. Bakouros, I., Giourka, P. and Fallas, I., (2007). Technology platform, technology watch and technology foresight. Innovation tools for regional development. The case of West Macedonia. Journal of Aeixwros, 6(2), 108-133.
20. Giourka, P. (2006). Managing Innovation in the Construction Industry. Proceedings of the Association of Researchers in Construction Management Doctoral Workshop. Public Private Partnerships/Private Finance Initiatives (PPP/PFI) (pp. 1-6). The School of Built & Natural Environment, Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland, UK.