

**SMART PROJECT –Fourth International Meeting in Pécs ( Hungary)**

The fourth International Meeting was held in Pécs ( Hungary) from 6th to 9th September 2015 at Radnóti School.

**Radnóti Miklós Economic Vocational Secondary School** has been at the forefront of the region in the development of economic culture for nearly 100 years (it was founded in 1912), implementing several economic projects and events. Today the school is still a dominant training centre for the economic professionals of the area. Owing to the modern and practical approach to teaching methods the further education and employment opportunities for its graduates are still good. Their labour market competitiveness is outstanding. In the nineties the large-scale modernization of education took place with the World Bank Human Resources Development youth program. The school got involved in the development with two trade groups, trade marketing and information technology. As of the 1992/1993 academic year we shifted to a five-(or six) year-long training structure. Since then there has been a professional foundation in the course of the first four years – in the fields of economics, trade marketing, business administration and management – and then after the general final examination a professional training takes place in grade 13 and 14.

The majority of economics teachers worked in the business sector for several years so they can impart their professional knowledge in an authentic and practical way. Resulting from the profile in the curricular structure of the school an important place is occupied by training firm office practice, where students are introduced to business processes in a modern environment.

One of the major professional events organised every year is the International Business Week. This is a series of programs, during which students from national and foreign partner schools work on business projects and participate in a trade fair. The school has maintained steady, well-functioning relations with these foreign schools for many years.

The school is located in the county seat of Baranya, the southernmost county of Hungary. It is the only institution which operates as a purely economic-profile secondary school. Both the county and the city were seriously and adversely affected by the socio-economic changes of the nineties. The majority of large enterprises ceased to exist, as a result of which many people have lost their jobs. Even today, the unemployment rate is significant. The 15-24 age group is particularly affected, with a 26.7%

## The University of Pécs

The University of Pécs was founded in 1367, when the Anjou king of Hungary, Louis the Great established the first Hungarian university in Pécs. The history of Hungarian Higher Education goes back to this date.



With its ten faculties the University of Pécs plays a significant role in Hungarian Higher Education. The University offers a broad range of international training and degree programmes, ensuring high-level knowledge-transfer and research. With its 26,000 students and nearly 2,000 teaching and research staff, the impact of the University of Pécs extends well beyond the borders of Pécs

Pécs is the fifth largest city of Hungary, located on the slopes of the Mecsek mountains in the south-west of the country, close to its border with Croatia. It is the administrative and economical centre of Baranya County. Pécs is also the seat of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pécs



The city was founded by Romans at the beginning of the 2nd century, in an area peopled by Celts and Pannoni tribes. By the 4th century, it became the capital of Valeria province and a significant early Christian centre. The early Christian necropolis is from this era which became an UNESCO World Heritage Site in December 2000. Its episcopate was founded in 1009 by Steven I, and the first university in Hungary was founded in Pécs in 1367 by Louis I the Great. (The largest university still resides in Pécs with about 34,000 students). Pécs was formed into one of the cultural and arts center of the country by bishop Janus Pannonius, great humanist poet. Pécs has a rich heritage from the age of a 150-year-long Ottoman occupation, like the mosque of Pasha Qasim the Victorious on Széchenyi square

Pécs always was a multicultural city where many cultural layers are encrusted melting different values of the history of two thousand years. Hungarians, Croatians and Swabians still live in peace together in economic and cultural polarity.



In 2010, Pécs was selected to be the European Capital of Culture sharing the title together with Essen and Istanbul. The city's motto is: "The Borderless City". After receiving the title, major renewal started in the city. Renewed public places, streets, squares and neighbourhoods, new cultural centers, a concert hall, a new library and center and a cultural quarter were designed.



### The Hungarian city in the Middle Ages



Pécs under Ottoman rule

### The SMART Project Meeting

During the meeting, examination of the results of the training in the schools and validation of all the results and materials produced during the first project year were performed.

The teacher training which took place in June consisted in four sessions of one hour each on the project platform. Teachers of Science and Mathematics of the three schools took part: the Hungarian Radnoti School, the German St. Thomas Gymnasium and the Italian Carlo Anti School. The topics were about how to use Maple, how to use ACE Maple and how to use Maple TA with some examples.

A *Report on the needs analysis* was illustrated by Prof. Marina Marchisio (University of Torino); the report will be published in booklet form by the Accademia delle Scienze of Turin. Moreover, two reports about *Pedagogical and disciplinary topics and Standard competences* were drawn and illustrated by Chiara Mancinelli (Accademia delle Scienze).

A format for Science, which homogenizes the different scientific subjects and some examples of lessons in Biology and Chemistry, were presented by Carlo Meneghini (University of Roma Tre). The materials were for teachers but they could be adapted and used also in the class with the students.

Before leaving Hungary, all partners visited the Science Department of Pécs University and some highlights of the town.