

*What is happening on the project currently?*

Activity on the project is current. However, it is largely being undertaken by the grant holder (me) and thus doesn't involve project funding.

- [My activity involves the development of materials for workshops, the trialling of materials in workshops and in intercultural awareness training sessions, and ongoing virtual learning environment research.]
  - There was no need to spend project money on the September 2012 orientation workshops with "incoming" international students because these come under the international office budget. However, we (the intercultural trainer and departmental colleague working on the project with me) used them as an opportunity to trial a modified workshop. It was modified from the project-funded "outgoing" workshop that took place in late June 2012.
  - I am also presenting the results of that first stage of the project at a conference (not part of the agreed budget so not involving project funding) at the end of the month where I hope to get some useful feedback from other delegates.

*Proposed changes to original plan*

- The contract situation remains uncertain. So in order to ensure completion of the project we propose removing the element of students working on assessed projects in conjunction with overseas mentors. In any case, due to having started at a certain time of year it was too late to recruit any of them to this project; they had already made their project choices for 2012-13 only shortly after the funding was awarded in Spring 2012. We will retain the element of students doing intercultural training workshops via Cisco Telepresence with their counterparts overseas, and, having experienced this, contributing to project discussions to the development of the concept design of a future virtual assessment tool.
- We aim to run between 1 and 3 such workshops in February and March 2013, before-and-after the event in mid-March 2013 which sees CAL's Tokyo research partners coming to us for a joint research forum with our Engineering colleagues from Warwick who are supporting intercultural education and those from Belgium, whose methodology we already drawing on in our workshop designs on this IATL project.
- As for the 7 "outgoing" Erasmus lead-learners involved with the project who are currently overseas in various different countries, our original aim was to run virtual debriefing workshops and interviews with them in June 2013. This part of the project could be completed by the intercultural trainer who teaches on CAL's MSc in Intercultural Communication who is already involved with the project (if I am no longer here).