

ENOTHE 2023 Highlights: Fostering Collaboration and Digital Competence in Occupational Therapy Education

From 26 to 18 October 2023, the 27th annual meeting of [ENOTHE](#) (European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education) took place. ENOTHE is a non-profit network association where European occupational therapy schools can interact with each other.

Reninke De Koker from [ODISEE](#) (Belgium) and Pavlina Psychouli from [European University Cyprus](#) (Cyprus) presented a poster of the co-creation, purpose and design of the [EHECADI](#) project. The focus on interdisciplinarity from the EHECADI project was considered interesting by students and teachers. However, it was agreed that there is still a long way to go to coordinate these kinds of projects. Programmes which promote international collaboration between students on common issues can be complicated to coordinate as different universities, or national programmes have different structures.

Flexibility and efficient working are a challenge for all Institutions of Higher Education. One can only achieve this if this vision is supported by institutional policy.

Participants recognised that the project's initiative is a step in this direction. EHECADI addresses topics such as the current need for digitalisation, sustainability, ecology, and responsible citizenship in the collective professional reasoning of occupational therapy.

Keynote speaker Salvador Simó referred to key competencies for lifelong learning in his presentation "3D Printing an Occupational Therapy Eco social present and sustainable future". He included similar topics as the ones offered in the EHECADI course. Although the focus is from occupational therapy, it can certainly be linked to other healthcare professions.

Simó highlighted the importance of digital skills in the evolving job market. As many jobs disappear, the ones that are born often require a certain knowledge of the digital and virtual environment. He underscored the significance of occupational therapists being proficient in emerging digital skills, emphasising that technology, including advancements like 3D printing, is increasingly integrating into the field of occupational therapy.

The full presentation can be followed via [this youtube link](#).