

**Short-Cycle Higher Education in the United States and Europe:  
Addressing Social and Economic Needs**



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### **1<sup>st</sup> International Conference**

**Recognition and Accreditation of Short-Cycle Higher Education Programs in Europe and the U.S:  
Aligning Educational Systems**

Golden Sands, Bulgaria  
June 15-17, 2009



#### **Post-Conference Site Visit**

June 18, 2009

Includes a tour of International University College, a visit to key companies in North-Eastern Bulgaria, and sessions on partnerships between business and institutions of higher education

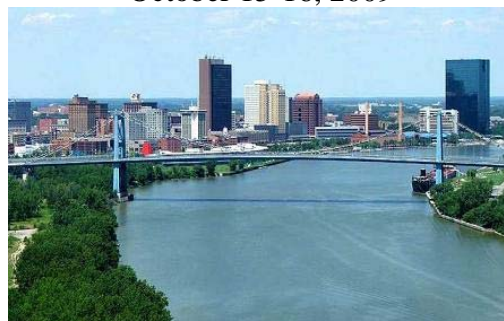


**International University College  
Dobrich, Bulgaria**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference**

**Strategic Partnerships between 2-year and 4-year Institutions of Higher Education in Addressing Social and Economic Needs**

Toledo, Ohio, USA  
October 15-16, 2009



#### **Post-Conference Site Visit**

October 17, 2009

Includes arranged visits of UT, OCC, and local industries.



**University of Toledo  
Owens Community College  
Toledo, Ohio, USA**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference**

**The Contribution of SCHE to Life-Long and Life-Wide Learning Systems: Best Practices from Europe and the U.S.**

Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
June, 2010



#### **Post-Conference Site Visit**

June, 2010

Includes arranged visits



**National Innovation & Expertise  
Center for Lifelong Learning**

### **The EU-US ATLANTIS Program**

The ATLANTIS Program is a joint project of the US Department of Education and the European Commission that supports transatlantic cooperation between institutions of higher education in the United States and Europe. The objectives of Atlantis include the facilitation of student and faculty exchange programs, the development of joint/dual degree programs, and an exchange of best practices in higher education administration.

### **Our Team Project**

The University of Toledo and Owens Community College team project focuses on the study of short-cycle higher education degree programs (SCHE) in Europe and the United States, and on the role of short cycle education in addressing social and economic needs. Our European partners are the International University College, in Bulgaria, and LEIDO in the Netherlands.

**Short-Cycle Higher Education** encompasses the level of studies beyond secondary education which can lead to a qualification recognized on the labor market (OECD) such as the associate degrees or certificate programs.

### **Our Partnership**

All project partners will organize three international conferences designed to build bridges and strategic alliances between 2-year and 4-year institutions of higher education in the US and Europe. The first conference in Golden Sands, Bulgaria, will focus on the recognition and accreditation of SCHE programs and the alignment of educational systems to facilitate student exchange and meet global workforce needs. The second conference in Toledo, Ohio, highlights the role of SCHE in regional economic development. The third conference in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, focuses on the contribution of SCHE to life-long learning systems and the education, training, and development of knowledge workers in a global economy.

<http://atlantis.utoledo.edu>

For more information regarding the program or the conferences, please go to

<http://atlantis.utoledo.edu>

or contact:

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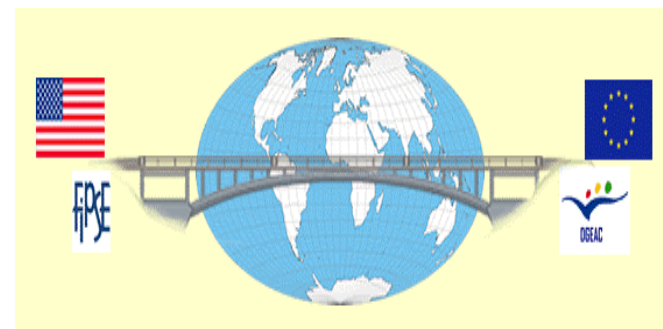
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## **Short-Cycle Higher Education in the United States and Europe: Addressing Social and Economic Needs**



### **A Joint Project of:**

**The University of Toledo**  
Toledo, Ohio

**Owens Community College**  
Toledo, Ohio

**International University College**  
Dobrich, Bulgaria

**and LEIDO**  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

<http://atlantis.utoledo.edu>