ANNUAL REVIEW 2023
TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD .................................................................................................................. 3
2023 – A TIMELINE ..................................................................................................... 4
2023 IN REVIEW ......................................................................................................... 6
2023 IN NUMBERS ..................................................................................................... 7
SEA-EU VOICES ....................................................................................................... 8
OUTLOOK 2024 ......................................................................................................... 11
SEA-EU FOR YOU ................................................................................................... 11

IMPRINT
Published by: SEA-EU Project Office at Kiel University
Koboldstr. 4, 24118 Kiel, Germany
Editorial team: Rosemary Wilson, Jonathan Durgadoo
Layout: Rainer Baumann
Published: 2024
About SEA-EU: Kiel University is one of nine SEA-EU partners. All together, the SEA-EU community consists of over 150,000 students, 10,000 academic and 7,000 employees in technology and administration. The SEA-EU alliance, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, aims to strengthen collaboration in education, research and innovation beyond campus and nation borders. Kiel University is also a member of the “European University Networks (EUN) – national initiative” from the DAAD. The EUN is an accompanying national programme for German higher education institutions in the context of the EU pilot call for “European Universities”.
FOREWORD

2023 began with the much-anticipated start of the second phase of SEA-EU – The European University of the Seas. As someone who believes strongly in the vision of this truly European endeavour and the benefits such an Alliance can offer us all, I look back with pride at what we have achieved over the past twelve months. Our work has gone beyond establishing the foundations of a shared campus to filling SEA-EU with life and energy. Together we have motivated more people than ever to participate in a growing range of SEA-EU activities, supporting both students and staff to travel to and from Kiel; in 2023 Kiel University facilitated 154 mobilities across the Alliance. In addition, we have organised events here too – in total 11 events were run in Kiel in 2023.

In return for the hard work, it has been inspiring and rewarding to hear from those who have engaged and participated in the events, many for the first time. The acquired skills, insights and friendships endure long after the participants return to their daily routines. Thanks to our collective dedication to SEA-EU, we have transported the collaborative and international spirit out into our communities and networks. I look forward to continuing on this journey with you in 2024.

Thank you for being a part of SEA-EU.

Dr. Jonathan Durgadoo
Office Manager for SEA-EU at Kiel University
2023 – A TIMELINE

In 2023 the SEA-EU at Kiel University calendar included several Staff Weeks and outreach activities, engaging with more people than ever before.

JANUARY

**SEA-EU 2.0**

The SEA-EU Alliance grew from six to nine partner universities and officially started the second phase of SEA-EU.

Beginning of second phase
http://tinyurl.com/5dnn2446

FEBRUARY

**Kick-off**

SEA-EU at Kiel University celebrates the start of the second phase with a kick-off event.

MAY

**Staff Week**

Fourteen participants from across the Alliance meet in Kiel for the Staff Week on “Erasmus without paper”.

SEPTEMBER

**Staff Week**

During the Staff Week on Micro-credentials: implementation and teaching, 39 experts from across the Alliance discussed their vision for the future of higher education in Europe.

Skills for a changing world
http://tinyurl.com/bde8ub6c

Photo: Jonathan Durgadoo

Photo: SEA-EU at Kiel University

Photo: SEA-EU at Kiel University

Photo: SEA-EU at Kiel University
SEPTEMBER
Science Day
On the 29th September SEA-EU at Kiel University took part in European Researchers’ Night. In the SEA-EU tent visitors could test their knowledge of European geography and languages, take a virtual cruise around the Baltic Sea, as well as learning more about SEA-EU. Meanwhile doctoral candidates from across the SEA-EU Alliance entertained a captive audience with short, compelling talks about their research projects in two “SEA-EU Science Shows”.

SEA-EU at the Science Day
http://tinyurl.com/3maue7ex

OCTOBER
Freshers Week
At the annual Freshers Welcome event at Kiel University, new and not-so-new students had the chance to learn about SEA-EU.

NOVEMBER
Staff Weeks
Two Staff Weeks on “Research Integrity and Open Science” and “Developing a training program for students as course assistants and peer coaches” attracted a total of 31 participants.

DECEMBER
Webpage launch
In December the SEA-EU at Kiel University webpage was launched, providing local audiences with information, news and offers.

https://www.uni-kiel.de/en/international/sea-eu
2023 IN REVIEW

Across Kiel University people have engaged with SEA-EU on many different levels. Here some of those involved in shaping SEA-EU at Kiel University reflect on their highlights of 2023.

“I have had the pleasure to be part of SEA-EU and its establishment at Kiel University since day one. The Alliance offers an unprecedented framework and network for us to enhance mobility, not only for students, but also for staff members. The partnership has great potential for us to develop innovative measures for an European campus by piloting pioneering ideas. As vice president of Kiel University, responsible for internationalization and early career researchers, I am delighted to experience the different activities of SEA-EU. For example, last September we welcomed experts of the Alliance in Kiel to discuss the implementation of micro-credentials and joint degree programmes and had the opportunity to network at Seeburg with a beautiful view of the Kiel Fjord.”

Prof. Dr. Ralph Schneider, Vice President for International Affairs and Early Career Researchers at Kiel University

“What I am particularly pleased about is that we have succeeded in making SEA-EU better known within Kiel University and motivating many people in very different areas to get involved or take advantage of the offers. Engagement by the CAU community in 12 Staff Weeks (of which 4 were hosted in Kiel) and a total of 154 staff mobilities to and from Kiel, are impressive proof of this. A personal highlight for me was the closing event of our “Governing week” in Gdańsk in June. It took place in a very atmospheric setting in the National Museum. But what could not have been planned was the little party with lively dancing that developed spontaneously. It is an expression of the personal relationships that have developed in the SEA-EU community. And these form a very special basis for all current and future projects that we want to achieve together.”

Dr Martina Schmode, Head of the International Center at Kiel University

“My absolute highlight so far is the SEA-EU Science Show. It is a brilliant example of how SEA-EU made it possible to bring early career researchers together from across Europe, allowed them to develop new skills and put them straight into practice as well as let them build new networks. At the same time it was a great opportunity for Kiel University to share our best practice in science communication with our SEA-EU partners and present SEA-EU to the citizens of Kiel during the European Researchers Night in September 2023. The icing on the cake was the invitation to present the SEA-EU Science Show at the SEA-EU Global Congress in Faro, Portugal in January 2024 in front of rectors, researchers and policy-makers from 27 countries and 5 continents.”

Linda Piálek, Head of Research Funding EU and International at Kiel University, Work Package 3 Lead SEA-EU 2.0
2023 IN NUMBERS

154 MOBILITIES

In 2023, Kiel University facilitated 154 mobilities across the Alliance.

75 mobilities from Kiel to our partners comprising:
- 44 Administrative Staff
- 4 Academic Staff
- 19 Students

79 mobilities to Kiel from our partners including:
- 44 for Staff Weeks
- 9 for Networking Events
- 15 for Expert Group Meetings
- 11 for Science Communication Activities

SEA-EU at Kiel University hosted:
- 4 Staff Weeks
- 2 Networking Events
- 1 Expert Group Meeting
- 1 Science Communication Event

and supported:
- 1 Open Lecture
- 1 Conference
- 1 Theme Week

11 EVENTS

10 TRAINING ACTIVITIES

organised at Kiel University with a total of 219 registered participants including:
- 6 Micro-credential courses
- 1 Virtual Marine Open Elective Module
- 2 Skills Workshops
- 1 Citizen Science Activity
SEA-EU Voices

SEA-EU has enabled people from across the Alliance to connect over shared interests and passions. Here some of those who travelled to and from Kiel in 2023 share their experiences and thoughts.

“What I appreciated about the course was that all participants came from different fields, so we had to break down the science to make our topic understandable for everyone. The teaching team for this class, as well as the location, were great, which make this experience even more memorable.”

Doctoral candidate Pauline Bodson from the University of Gdańsk, who took part in the “Show your Science” workshop and SEA-EU Science Show at Kiel University.

http://tinyurl.com/ShowYourScience

“It was just a great opportunity to get feedback, input and inspiration from such a diverse bunch of people, entrepreneurs and judges alike, and to see what other young start-ups from around the world are doing. It was a really valuable experience for our future development.”

Kiel Student and young entrepreneur Julius Wenzel, on his experience as a participant at the International Student Start-up Competition (STup!).

http://tinyurl.com/StupRewilding

“This was my first experience of working in a public authority and my first work placement abroad. I am really thankful for this opportunity. Attend information events put on by the university and stay curious – you never know what opportunity and connections will materialise. Working in a multicultural environment is an opportunity to share your experience and build your career. In two words, just go.”

Loig Rius from Brest on his experience as an intern in Kiel City council and his advice for other students.

http://tinyurl.com/SEA-EUInternship

“It was a once in a lifetime experience which I can only recommend.”

Participating in such a program is highly recommended. I thoroughly enjoyed the stay, nurtured old connections, and forged new ones. I would participate again in a heartbeat.”

Jacqueline Hartmann and Felix Bahr on their participation in the SEA-EU football tournament in Malta.

http://tinyurl.com/SEA-EUFootball
For organisers too, a SEA-EU event is an opportunity for growth and new impulses. Here several members of Kiel University talk about their experiences planning and hosting SEA-EU events.

“As the SEA-EU Open Science Staff Week organiser, I had the privilege of planning an event that fostered collaboration, insight, and discussion around the crucial topics of Open Science and Research Integrity. This process was a roller-coaster of intriguing ideas, vigorous planning sessions, and, ultimately, witnessing the seamless execution of it all. This experience taught me various universities’ perspectives, contributions, and alignments towards Open Science and Research Integrity. It was often enlightening to see similar challenges faced across institutions and the creative solutions employed to address them. As a coordinator, facilitating these exchanges and ensuring a conducive environment came with much help from the SEA-EU CAU staff. It was a very rewarding experience. It offered me a multi-university event, staging a platform for meaningful dialogue and driving our mission towards fostering a culture of openness in scientific research. As for the highlight, it was, without a doubt, seeing the 20 dedicated staff members from five universities within our alliance actively engage, learn, and contribute to the discussions. Every keynote (from the University of Split), workshop, and breakout session breathed life into the event, making it a melting pot of knowledge, opinions, and ideas.

However, the cherry on top was the participant-led summary of the events, beautifully encapsulated in a drawing (right) by Tim (Kiessling / Kieler Forschungswerkstatt). It re-emphasized the essence of our sessions and served as a testament to the collaborative, innovative, and inclusive atmosphere we desired to create.

As we continue on this journey, I am excited about the possibilities of future staff training events and further strengthening the SEA-EU Alliance with Open Science and Research Integrity at its core.”

Julia Priess-Buchheit, Open Science Ambassador at Kiel University.

Plans are now underway for an additional training in Split. For more information about Open Science at Kiel University go to https://www.datamanagement.uni-kiel.de/de/aktivitaeten/open-science.
SEA-EU VOICES

“The staff week enabled us to all sit together in a room and dig into topics in detail. We came to a common definition of what a micro-credential is, but we also discussed common formats, quality control, how to create a lean administrative process and smooth recognition of educational offers across the Alliance. It was great to be able to discuss common understanding and best practices on these issues.”

http://tinyurl.com/SEA-EUmicrocredentials

“It is very important to the Alliance that the idea of a common European campus reaches lecturers, researchers and, above all, our students. What’s more, we want students to be directly involved in the activities of the Alliance, to contribute their ideas and help shape teaching, research and campus life. That is why I am delighted that this year we have been able to launch a Fund for student-led projects, which will provide students with funding to carry out their projects. The fund has been designed with the help of experts from across the Alliance and with the support of students who have been able to set their themes in the Call. We want to use the fund to promote innovative and creative approaches to important issues of our cooperation and coexistence – from interculturalism to sustainability – and to strengthen international cooperation. And the call itself is also a good example of how cooperation can work. The experts in the working group have different backgrounds and experiences in teaching, study and research. We first had to learn to speak “the same language” and reach a consensus on the process, the topics and the modalities of the call. All opinions and experiences are important, and open dialogue is a top priority. In the end, we succeeded in creating a comprehensive offer for our students.”

Giovanna Putortì, head of the department for Quality Development, and call-coordinator for Student Led Projects at Kiel University

https://tinyurl.com/StudiProjects
"I am Isabel Murillo Wilstermann, member of the Department of Quality Development at Kiel University, where together with the BEAT-Be a Tutor team I co-develop training modalities for students as course assistants. Early 2023 I had the opportunity to meet the SEA-EU team and to know more about this fertile international campus. During that meeting, many questions started going through my mind, questions such as: are there teaching development departments at the other partner institutions? Do other partner universities offer training modalities for students with teaching duties? How can we enrich our training courses at BEAT-Be a Tutor collaborating internationally? These inquiries turned into ideas, which subsequently led to meetings, online research, contacting international colleagues and finally the decision to host the BEAT-SEA-EU-Staff Week "Developing a training program for students as course assistants and peer coaches" from November 14th to 16th 2023.

By organizing this event we aimed at exchanging examples of practice and gather current challenges regarding the training of course assistants. Furthermore, we wanted to explore possibilities for international cooperation and further exchange beyond the staff week. Designing and executing this three-day meeting brought numerous challenges, many of which I had not anticipated. These hurdles spanned various aspects including content and activity planning, knowledge of project management, and the agile facilitation of the working sessions. Overcoming these obstacles required iterative steps of content creation and revision, creative processes, flexibility, and self-reflection. Organizing the BEAT-SEA-EU-Staff Week together with my team was a personal and professional milestone. It provided me with insights into areas where I aspire to enhance my competencies while allowing me to use my expertise and experience in teaching and learning, international collaboration, self-reflection, and personal development. This event also served as a catalyst for further international joint efforts within the framework of a two-year project that has been submitted by the University of Gdańsk."

Isabel Murillo Wilstermann, left, together with participants from the BEAT Staff Week.

OUTLOOK 2024

Where will SEA-EU take you in 2024?

“For 2024, I hope that we will be able to motivate even more scholars who are specifically looking for suitable partners in our SEA-EU alliance to implement their own innovative ideas in research or teaching.”

Martina Schmode, Head of the International Center

“In 2024 I am looking forward to further enhancing the visibility of SEA-EU at Kiel University as a network where collaborations and piloting of ideas can be made possible.”

Jonathan Durgadoo, Office Manager for SEA-EU at Kiel University

“Over the coming year I look forward to discussing the further opportunities and direction for the Alliance, both here at home and with my fellow colleagues, presidents and vice-presidents, of the SEA-EU Alliance.”

Ralph Schneider, Vice President for International Affairs and Early Career Researchers

SEA-EU FOR YOU

We are:

Deborah Hincapie Perilla, Project Office Assistant
dhincapie-perilla@uv.uni-kiel.de

Jonathan V. Durgadoo, Project Office Manager
jdurgadoo@uv.uni-kiel.de

Katrin Käis, Accreditation
kkaeis@uv.uni-kiel.de

Leah Schroedter, Marine Modules coordination
lschroedter@uv.uni-kiel.de

Rosemary Wilson, Communications
rwilson@uv.uni-kiel.de

Stefanie Altemark, Research
saltemark@uv.uni-kiel.de

Quentin Sohet, Education
qsohet@uv.uni-kiel.de