

BEST EDUCATIONAL INVOLVEMENT



BEST

Board of European
Students of Technology

Table of contents

About BEST	4
Core Services	5
Educational Involvement	6
Collaboration Opportunities	8
Gathering Students' Input	8
BEST Symposia on Education	8
Scientific & Position Papers	9
Testimonials	10
Contact us	11



About BEST

Board of European Students of Technology (BEST) is an international, non-profit student organisation, founded in 1989 with the aim to provide technical students opportunities to reach their full potential, realize and share their ideas, and develop themselves in an international environment.

Our priority is to offer high quality services for students all over Europe: through events on education, academic courses and engineering competitions, we manage to bring all the partners in the "students - companies - universities" triangle closer.

Vision

Empowered
diversity

- Understand and respect different cultures
- Reach full potential
- Acting responsibly

Mission

Developing
students

- International mindset
- Capacity to work in diverse environments
- Personal development



Our Local Groups are responsible for a well organised, powerful, and innovative student network that develops and grows thanks to the free will of its members to move forward, and represents only the voice of its constituent parts: European Students of Technology.

Core Services

Complementary Education

Bringing students a significant added value to the education provided by universities.

Career Support

Connecting students with their future employers.

Educational Involvement

Increasing the students' awareness on topics related to STEM education and improving it through their input.

Services

Our Core Services are represented by our Services: BEST Courses, European BEST Engineering Competition, BEST Career Day, BEST Career Centre and BEST Symposia on Education.



BEST Courses are academic events where around 25 students from all around Europe gather together to learn about STEM related topics, develop soft and entrepreneurial skills, improve their curricula, and acquire an international mindset.



The European BEST Engineering Competition (EBEC) is organised in a pyramid structure, composed by Local, National or Regional, and Final Rounds where students are able to challenge themselves and acquire skills such as teamwork, communication and critical thinking.



BEST Symposia on Education (BSE) will be described in the section "Collaboration opportunities".



BEST Career Day (BCD) is an European career fair which gives students the opportunity to meet companies and universities.



BEST Career Centre (BCC) is an online career-oriented set of tools that enables STEM students and recent graduates to interact with their future employers, both universities and companies.

34
Countries

97 Local
BEST
Groups

+3800
Members

+1.3M
Students
reached

Educational Involvement

Education is a continuous process of development which involves several actors; as an organisation run by students and working for students, educational matters are very important for us.

Through the Educational Involvement Department, BEST strives to gather students' ideas on what can be changed in their universities and to debate topics of interest in European Higher Education.

The department contributes to our mission, developing students, by increasing the awareness on STEM education, gathering students' opinion and disseminating their input to the relevant stakeholders.

41 Events related to education organised



1

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS

- Students
- University Representatives
- Company Representatives
- Teachers

In order to achieve these goals every year, the Department members, with inputs of institutional partners and relevant stakeholders, define the main topic we want to research on.

To collect input, we create surveys that are disseminated to and through our Local Groups, to raise the concerns of the European STEM students.

The results of the surveys define the main issues to tackle during the BEST Symposia on Education (BSE), where around 25 students from all over Europe are gathered to discuss and propose solutions about the defined topics.

2

GATHERING INPUT AND DISCUSSING SOLUTIONS

- BEST Symposia on Education
- Surveys
- Workshops

The surveys' results and the BSE reports provide the information and statistics to write scientific and position papers, which are presented in conferences and shared among the relevant educational actors: in this way, student's opinion is taken into account in the process of changing the future of Higher Education.

3

ANALYSING AND DISSEMINATING RESULTS

- Reports
- Scientific Papers
- Position Papers
- Posters & workshops at conferences

23 Papers & Publications



Explore our work at: www.issuu.com/BESTorg

Collaboration Opportunities

Gathering Students' Input

BEST gathers quantitative data regarding Engineering Education issues through surveys, which are shared with our network and partners across Europe. These surveys can be highly customised, target different student groups from BEST network and fulfill different purposes.

Educational Workshops are events that are usually organised during BEST General Meetings with the purpose of gaining a deeper knowledge by solving case studies related to Engineering Education.

Past examples include topics such as "Education for Sustainable Development" and "Student Involvement in Higher Education Institutions".

BEST Symposia on Education

A BEST Symposium on Education (BSE) is an event where students, local and international professors, experts from higher education institutions and companies discuss educational matters and collect input from technology students so that the outcomes of the event can have an impact, helping to shape the educational system both locally and at European level.



Examples of topics tackled

- MOOCs
- Project Based Learning
- Online Universities
- Diversity in STEM Education
- Soft Skills in STEM Education
- Learning Methods
- University Curricula

Event format

- 6 - 12 Days
- 25 Students from different universities and backgrounds
- 1 Content Team
- Debates
- Case studies
- Group discussions

Scientific & Position Papers

Scientific and Position Papers are published documents regarding our activities in order to make the external world aware of our work in the educational field.

Through papers, we want to promote the work of BEST in the field of STEM education and share our findings

with professors, universities, institutions, NGOs and other relevant organisations in order to improve STEM Higher Education and make the students' voice heard.

The outcomes presented are inferred from surveys' results and the input gathered in our BSEs.

Papers can be done in collaboration with other organisations, institutions and universities or be part of a long-term project on education which involve various institutions.

Some of our latest publications:

Time and Place	Conference	Paper
November 2017 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	World Engineering Education Forum 2017	Skills Gap and Interdisciplinary Curriculum Students' Perspective
September 2018 Kos Island, Greece	ICL International Conference 2018	Assessment in Higher STEM Education: the Now and the Future from the students' perspective
September 2018 Copenhagen, Denmark	SEFI Annual Conference 2018	A students' perspective on entrepreneurship and innovation in European STEM Education

Testimonials

Alfredo Soeiro
Associate professor
University of Porto

"I have been working with BEST for more than 15 years. I was invited with other professors to an event at the University of Zagreb concerning cooperation between university and industry. I was impressed by the dedication professionalism and organization of BEST.

This impression has solidified throughout the years due to the events that I have been involved and to those activities I have observed. It is indeed a serious organization that is interested in the future of engineering, in student development and in engineering education. Although the students vary along the years the organization has kept its structure and procedures allowing a consistent contribution to the members and to other engineering stakeholders. For me it is always a pleasure and a learning experience when I am invited to cooperate with BEST.

I hope they can produce more materials and documents with the accomplishments of BEST allowing better learning and teaching experiences. The BEST students acquire, through debates and hands-on experiments, competences that will be useful and helpful in their professional lives.

The BEST approaches could be extended to university activities allowing a richer education for their graduates. Keep up the good work!"

Julian Lo Carlo
International Officer
National Union of Students in
Denmark (DSF)

"The experience has been great. People seemed very engaged and many seemed very interested in a topic that is rather complicated. I also got different critical questions that opened up a good possibility for reflection. I hope some people will bring some of the concepts forward to work with them in the future in their activist work and their educations. It has been a fantastic experience!"



Jens Myrup Pedersen
Associate Professor
Aalborg University

"I really enjoyed working with you in my session about The Future Digital University. It was a very interactive session with lots of discussion among students regarding opportunities, pitfalls and ways to realize digitization, and I was impressed with how dedicated, interested and active the students were throughout the session.

There were many good discussions, and the outcomes were interesting and useful for me. I am sure the students will be a big asset for their home universities in developing the digital agendas as well.

I believe the value of bringing students together from different countries to discuss topics like this is very high, and I am happy that BEST chose to focus on this topic during their symposium."

Contact us



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