

# AP(E)L and higher education

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# Another nice network I got into...

([www.eullearn.net](http://www.eullearn.net))



# Background policies



- Bologna (mobility, transparency)
- Lisbon goals (increase participation to 50 % HE)
- Lifelong Learning (widening access, flexibility)
- Quality Assessment

# Concept of AP(E)L

- Confusing terminology ...
- RPL (recognition prior learning)
- APL (accreditation prior – formal -learning)
- APEL (accreditation prior experiential – formal, non-formal & informal - learning)



# Mission & target groups



- Mobility, flexibility, widening access!
- Labour market
- New target groups, men & women re-entering LM, migrants & refugees, people with job...
- Diversifying student population

# Stakeholders APEL



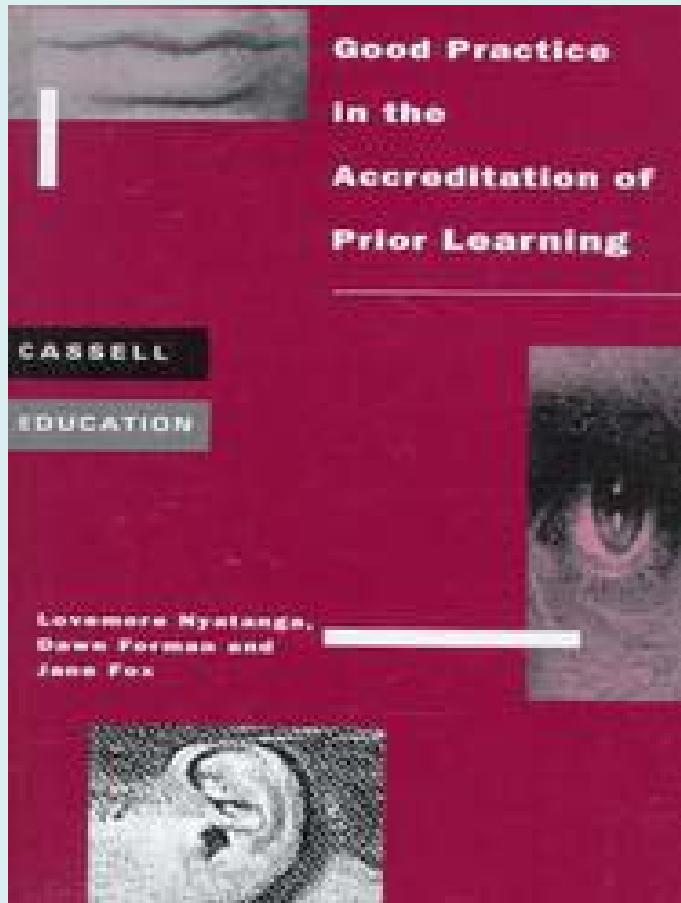
- Policy makers
- Administrators
- Teachers
- APEL assessors
- Applicants
- Regular students
- Labour market (double role)
- Society

# (digital) portfolio



- “a collection of evidence of achievement, including information on assignments or projects developed or implemented and artefacts made by learners during learning programmes or as part of other life and work experiences; all of these can be submitted for formal assessment and accreditation” (Ecclestone, 2005)
- Digital... etc...

# Conditions of APEL



- Reliability
- Validity
- Standardisation
- Transparency
- Embedded in total quality care
- Flexible curriculum
- Institutional rules
- National legislation

# A global model of APEL

- A) dissemination of information to target groups about APEL
- B) compilation of an inventory or a portfolio
- C) selection of an evaluation standard, method & instruments for the learning claimed
- D) assessment of acquired learning with evaluation instruments, determination competences profile, and decision on recognition (certification)
- E) design of tailor-made learning trajectory
- F) eventually, a follow-up in study guidance

# Implementation of APEL...



- Still resistance
- Lack of awareness
- Definitional confusion
- Lack of confidence to apply
- Need of support
- Reluctance on the labour market

# From knowing to doing

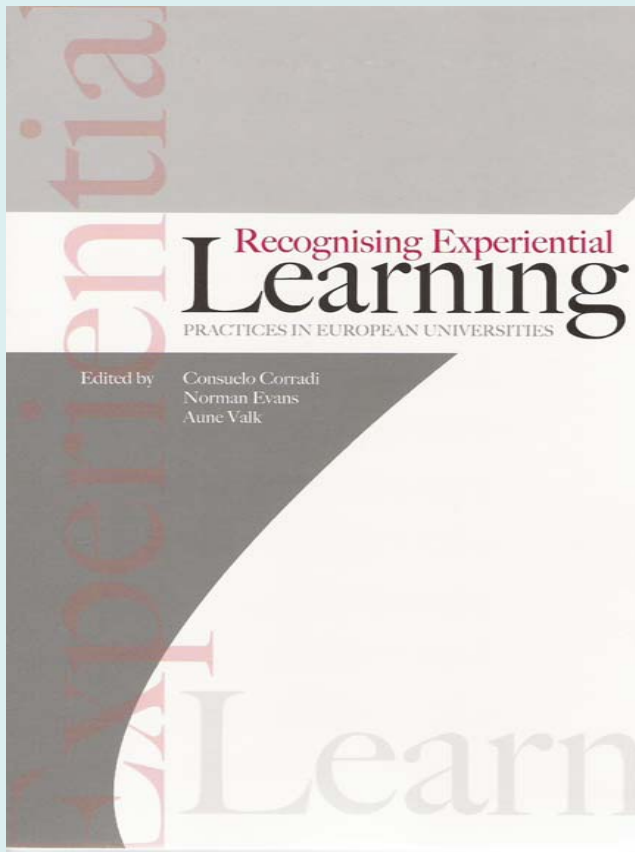
- Better promotion: targeted marketing
- Build links with community
- 'sell' the advantages
- Make APEL simple, not threatening
- Offer on-line options
- Coach candidates on procedures
- Provide support in case of language problems
- Provide staff with skills
- Set up teams of assessors
- Provide resources and assessment kits

# APEL as a research area



- Nature of workplace learning
- Experiential learning and “tacit knowledge”
- Informal learning
- Psychometric research: self-assessment, peer assessment, portfolio,,,
- Impact of APEL

# A small present from the EUlearn colleagues!



- I: A wider context for experiential learning
- II. Practices in European Universities
- III. Meeting Challenges in Lifelong Learning