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## **PROGRAMES D'ACOLLIDA PELS ESTUDIANTS DE GRAU: EXPERIÈNCIA ALS PRIMERS GRAUS DE LA UDL**

### **Abstract**

The Spanish university system is currently in the process of convergence towards the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), thus fulfilling the challenge emanating from the agreement signed by most of European education ministers in 1999 and known as the Bologna Declaration. The implementation of the proposed reform and the new degree, imply an improvement in the quality of university teaching. Therefore we can say that the development of appropriate mechanisms for counseling and tutoring are the basic plan to start the students and teachers in this new stage.

At the University of Lleida, during the 2008-09 academic year, 4 new degrees were implemented in the framework of the convergence of the new EHEA. For new students starting this degree the university organized a welcome program with a schedule established for the institution. The program included workshops for the students to acquire those basic skills that would be useful to confront the new training process at the university.

As important as the implementation of welcome program is its monitoring and its evaluation, in order to collect data to help better planning and take into account the real needs of new students. Therefore, after implementation of the welcome program, this was assessed through questionnaires to students and teachers participating in structured interviews.

The results of the study show that university culture does not exist in the implementation of welcome activities. In general, both teachers and students are reluctant as to the usefulness and effectiveness of the welcome program. Students participated massively and finally the evaluation was positive, although they noted some improvement proposals. For the faculty, it is clear that this acceptance of those new activities within the parameters established institutionally but not they are critical of the need to implement these programs. It was also interesting to note that teachers consider important to promote the active participation of students of higher courses in different phases and actions of the welcome program.