

**TEMPUS project \* Athens meeting \* Wednesday \* 30.3.05 \* 09.30a.m.**

**"Department of Informatics – T.E.I. of Athens : Senior Seminar"  
Alexandros Tomaras**

The "Senior Seminar" is a two hours per week gnostic subject of the last semester of studies in the Department of Informatics of the Technological Educational Institution (T.E.I.) of Athens. Its philosophy aims to empower students to :

- \* Conceptualize Technological Education against vocational training.
- \* Define sectors in informatics, in which they are particularly interested and where they are cognitively strong.
- \* Orientate themselves to information technology applications, which are at the forefront of the job's market.
- \* Be specialized in information technology methods, which would enable them to be adapted in diverse working environments.
- \* Be informed on the state of the art of informatics.
- \* Consider further academic accomplishments, by doing post-graduate studies towards M.Sc. / Ph.D. degrees.
- \* Integrate themselves within society, as conscientious citizens and successful professionals.

The means, to achieve the goals of the Senior Seminar, are the following :

- \* Lectures on organizational behaviour and communication skills, including subjects from cognitive engineering; a special appropriate book is provided.
- \* External lectures, given by scholars and professionals, distinguished in their particular fields, related to informatics.
- \* Informative presentations of new products and innovations in the domain of informatics, where opportunities of interaction between industry and academia are given.
- \* Productive discussions on the applications of informatics in various industrial sectors.
- \* Encouragement to search in the modern informatics bibliography and obtain useful references.

- \* Reports on current research in informatics and analysis of selected research papers, where applicable.

During the Senior Seminar, the following are cultivated and strengthened :

- \* Individual skill to search in the bibliography of informatics and to acquire familiarity with the relevant research results.
- \* Individual ability to combine synthetically existing knowledge, to create innovation and possibly new knowledge.
- \* Scientific and technological argumentation.
- \* Oral communication.
- \* Written communication.
- \* Correct and accurate use of scientific and technological terms.

The Senior Seminar is optional in the Syllabus. At the end of each semester, the students are asked to evaluate it and give comments on whether it was beneficiary to them and how. Up to now, judging from the comments of the students and from the large attendance, the Senior Seminar can be considered as very successful, while every effort is made to maintain its high academic standard.

-----