

Title: Aspects of multiculturalism in mentoring

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The number of international students have been continuously increasing at the Faculty of Informatics since 2019 and the mentoring system has been evolving alongside the change of needs, population and new intercultural situations.

When introducing a mentoring system in an intercultural environment, we experienced the following aspects of multiculturalism play a role in the effectiveness of mentoring: How close are the host culture (in our case the Hungarian and European culture) and the culture of origin to each other? Is the mentor from the host culture or from a different culture? Do both mentors and mentees have the interpersonal interactions not in their native language?

Mentoring in a group setting can mean that the mentor meets students from 10 different countries from 2-3 continents at a time. The group has students with scholarship and who are self financed. There are groups who have a preliminary semester in order to prepare for their BSc studies. Many master groups have Hungarian students as well.

The mentoring system has evolved in several steps over 5 years and the changes were based on the regular feedback from mentors, mentees, psychologist trainers as well as regular data collection of psychological scales and academic data taken into consideration the needs and institutional opportunities for different populations.

In our poster we would like to give an overview of improving a multicultural mentoring system between 2019 – 2024 and highlighting the methodologies used and materials produced for supporting the members of mentoring. We also find it important to keep in mind the field of education, namely computer science. When our students enter the job market and need to use their hard and soft skills quickly and efficiently, thus we have an emphasis on continuously improving our materials.

Services to students: <https://dtk.elte.hu/main-page/>

Research website: <http://dropoutprevention.inf.elte.hu/index.php/en/171-2/>

Graph 1. An overview of the mentoring system.

