



# Virtual Campus as a Core Information Infrastructure of the European University

Dr. Ognjen Orel, CIO, University Computing Centre, University of Zagreb

Alen Novosel, UNIC VC development lead, University Computing Centre, University of Zagreb



# European Universities

Transnational alliances

Formed under European Universities initiative, part of Erasmus+ programme



Erasmus+



Erasmus+



Erasmus+



# European Universities

Currently:

**44** alliances

with around

**340** HEIs in

**31** countries

European strategy  
for universities goal:

**60** alliances

involving more than

**500** HEIs

by mid-2024

EUROPEAN  
UNIVERSITIES

Erasmus+





over  
**220 500**  
students

more than  
**29 000**  
staff members





**Most common  
goals of European  
universities**



## Most common goals of European universities

Increase **student mobility**

Support student identification  
(a form of a **student card**)

Create and implement  
**joint study programmes**

Promote **research output**, especially  
related to open science

Increase **teacher and researcher  
networking / mobility**



**Virtual Campus  
should support  
those processes**

Increase **student mobility**

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(a form of a **student card**)

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**joint study programmes**

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**Virtual Campus  
should support  
those processes**

therefore it should be an  
**information system**

(database, applications, APIs,  
procedures, organization, support ...)

and **not be**

a website

a news portal

a file repository

...





# Challenges

Limited IT budget

Each partner holds multiple information systems (SMSs, LMSs, ...)

Different levels of technological readiness and organisation

Some standards and systems are in place

Limited IT budget

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**to solutions**

A central hub for data exchange between alliance members, not a comprehensive database

Minimal impact on the existing processes

Provide multiple ways of doing things

Rely on existing standards whenever possible



## Our vision of VC



## **Our vision of VC**

Provides public access to some  
information  
and protected access to authorized  
users

Administrators

Students

Researchers

...



## **Our vision of VC**

Specific alliance European Student Card

Course catalogue

Joint programmes catalogue

Virtual mobility – course selection,  
enrolment, grade exchange

Promoting Open Science

Holds minimal set of data in order to support  
the processes

Heavily relies on data exchange



## **Our vision of VC**

Most of the data coming from local systems

VC connects the dots, builds the top layer on the available data

A small set of actions needs to be done inside the VC apps

An illustration in a sketchy, grey style showing two people in a meeting. One person is pointing at a large screen displaying a bar chart and a line graph. The other person is holding a laptop. There are various icons around them, including gears, a clock, and potted plants.

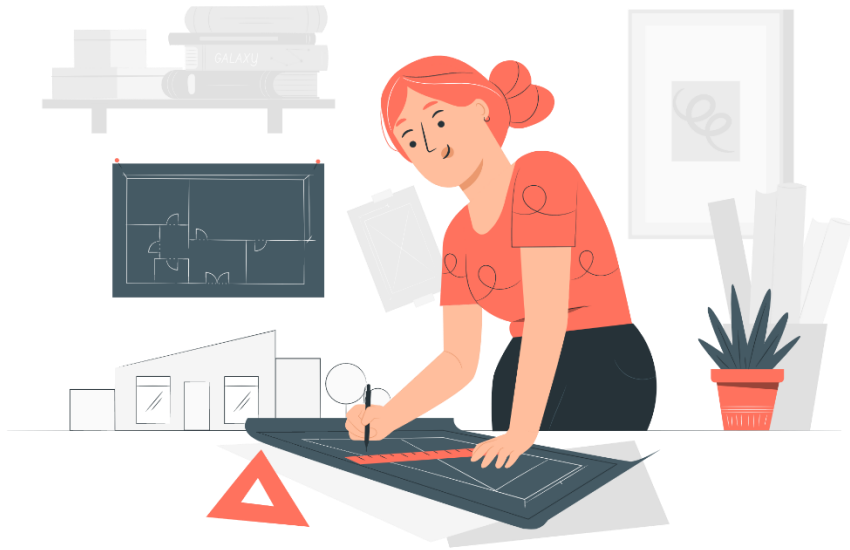
## Basic rules

All have their electronic identity provider (IdP)

IdP is part of eduGAIN

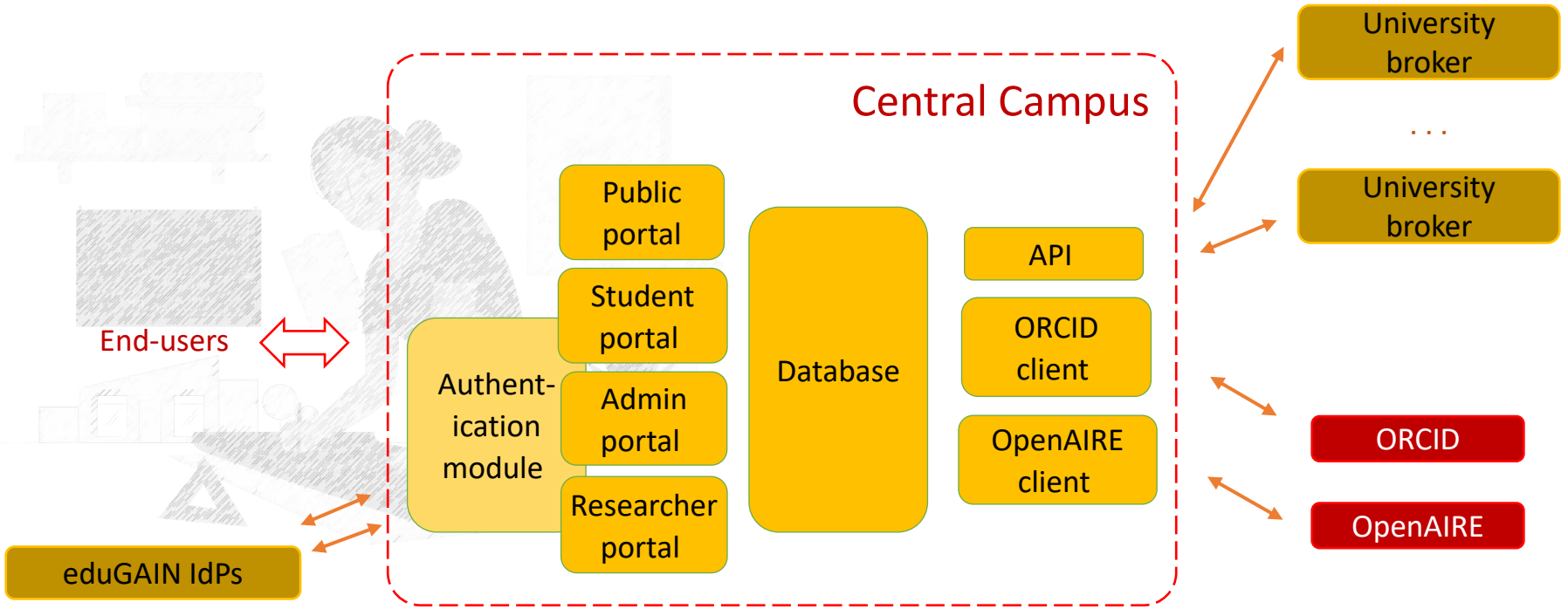
All students have ESI

ECTS grading scale (A-F) is used



**The architecture**





## University infrastructure

Identity  
Provider  
(IdP)  
(eduGAIN)

Current Research Information System (CRIS)  
and/or Institutional Repository (IR)

Learning Management System (LMS)

Student Management System (SMS)

Virtual Campus Broker

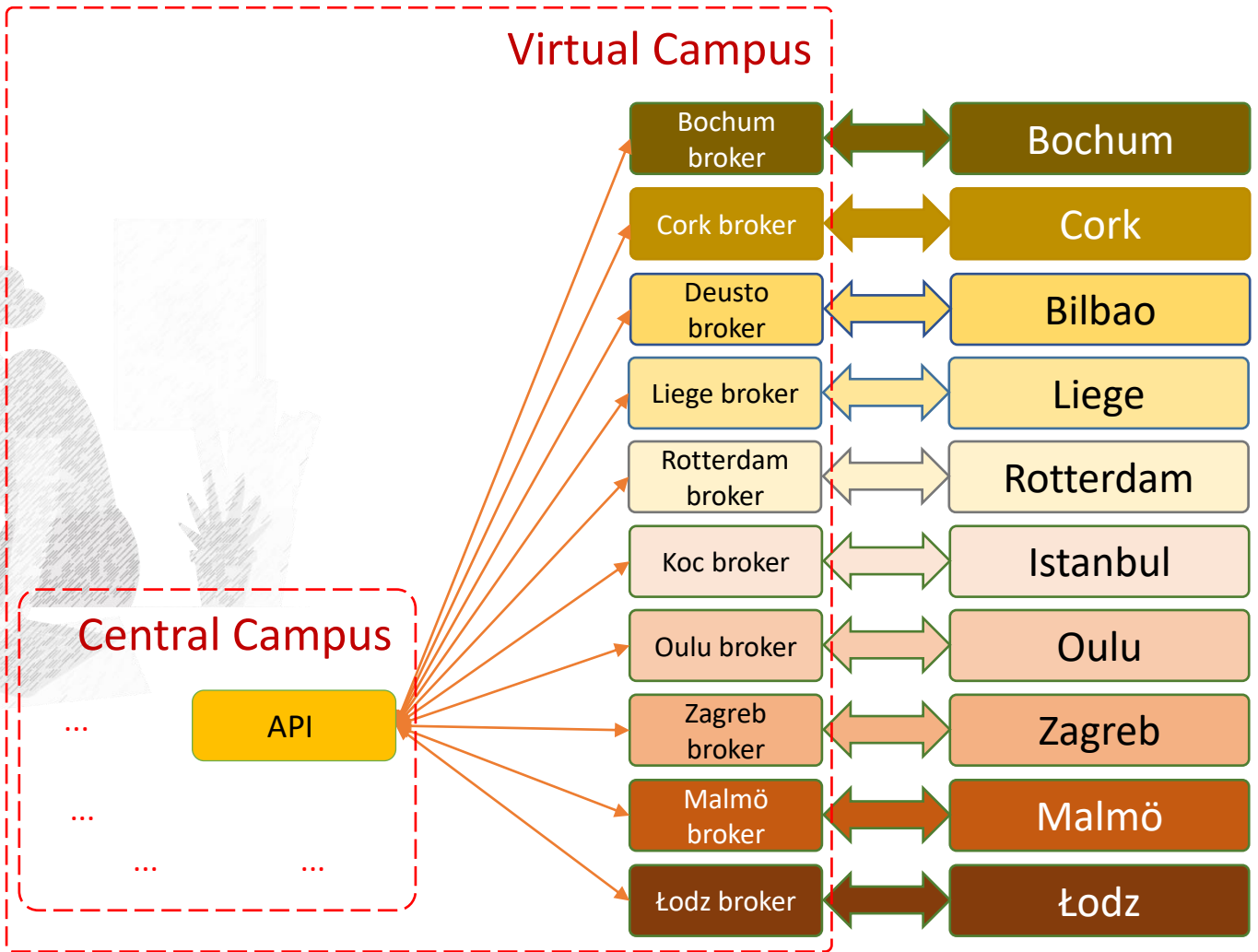
ORCID

OpenAIRE

## Central Campus

API

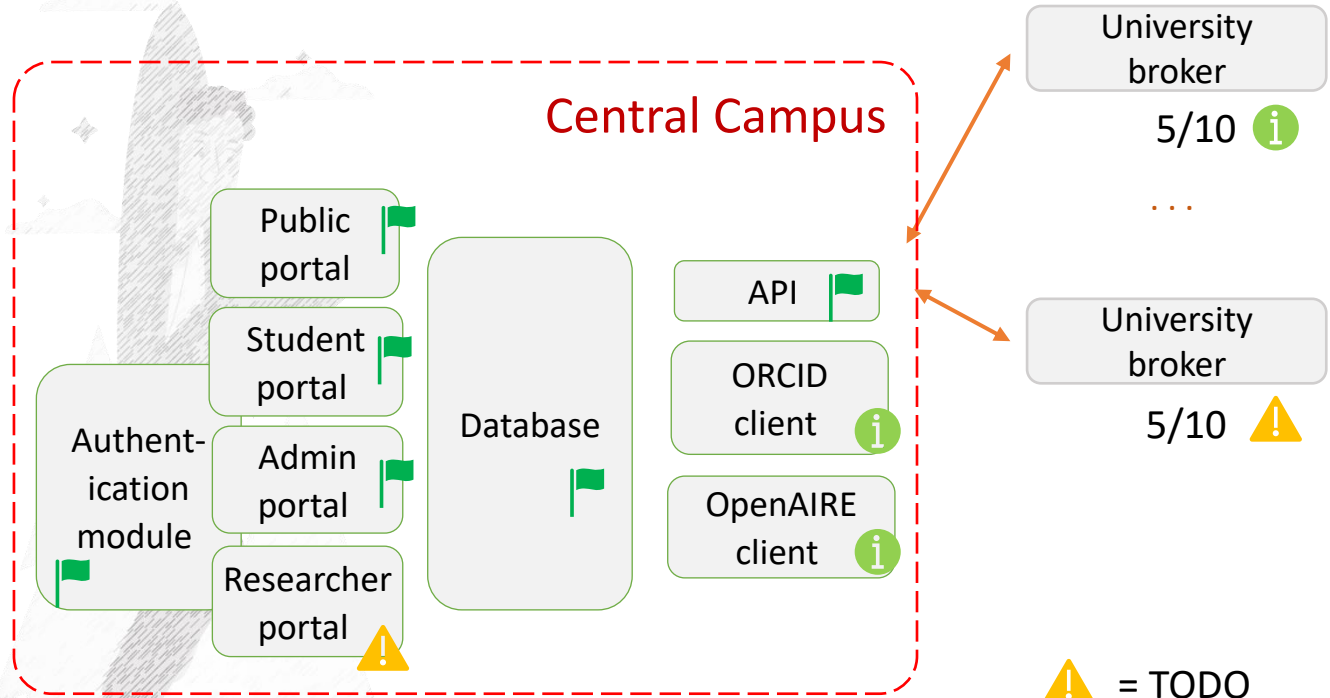
# UNIC perspective





**The present and  
the future**

# Where we are now?



- = TODO
- = In progress
- = In production



## Lessons learned

Continuous communication

Having the right people in the meetings

Inadequate budgeting

IT needs more visibility and inclusion

Not all partners are at the same place



## **Future work**

Finish what we promised to do

Broker development

EWP integration

Basic analytics (dashboards)

UNIC 2.0



**We are open for  
collaboration!**



# Thank you

ognjen@srce.hr



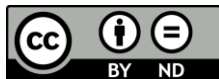
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