

The educational value in higher education of FSPAC Living Lab

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Abstract: Due to the increase in the number and complexity of the challenges faced by our communities, higher education institutions are increasingly looking for ways in which to explore the Third Mission of education, addressing societal and economic challenges by making use of their knowledge and output capabilities as well as look for new educational tools in order improve the quality of education as well as the of the research.

In this context the Faculty of Political Administrative and Communication Sciences (FSPAC) has initiated the program FSPAC Living Lab with the aim of creating an innovative ecosystem in which students working alongside teachers use Living Lab methodology and tools in order to address the challenges launched by the socio-economical partners of FSPAC, including private companies, public institutions and NGOs.

This paper will analyze the progress made in the second edition of the FSPAC Living Lab. The points of interest will be concerning the progress of the teams and challenges themselves, as well as the organization of the program itself and the prototyping and testing processes, the student participation and learning models facilitated by the program as well as the interest of the teachers for integrating the methodology in their day-to-day teaching.