

Building a Research Environment

Wageningen

15 April 2010

Inge Knudsen

Policies influencing the research environment (1)

Research policies:

- National (excellence initiatives, research council decisions, innovation policies, quality assurance, etc.)
- International (EU initiatives, Framework Programmes, ERC, etc.)

Education policies:

- Bologna Process (intergovernmental, three cycles, ECTS, Diploma Supplement, quality assurance, etc.)
- EU Lisbon Agenda (qualifications frameworks, changes in education programmes, etc.)

Policies influencing the research environment (2)

Institutional policies

- Research strategies, research funding mechanisms, quality assurance, accreditation
- Collaboration and coordination among faculties, institutions, regional clusters, university-enterprise

Faculty / Departmental policies

- Networks, inter-disciplinary collaboration, cross-faculty co-operation, quality assurance, accreditation
- Creating critical mass, coping with growing numbers of doctoral candidates, new study programmes, employability

Challenges

Institutional level:

- Policy changes (general/detailed priorities), detailed policy demands, quality assurance systems, (targeted) cut-backs
- Internal management, changes to funding methods

Faculty/departmental level:

- Evaluation fatigue, curriculum changes, student demands
- Making research/education 'click', making policies serve visions, not the other way round

Coimbra Group

a network of 38 European universities

- high quality research universities
- long – established
- in university-dominated cities outside capital
- comprehensive
- 8 Task Forces:
 - Co-operation with Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe
 - Doctoral Studies & Research; Education, Training & Mobility; Employability & Career Guidance; Culture, Arts & Humanities; E-Learning



- Bergen
- Turku/Åbo
- Uppsala
- Tartu
- Edinburgh
- Aarhus
- Galway
- Dublin
- Oxford
- Cambridge
- Groningen
- Leiden
- Göttingen
- Bristol
- Leuven
- Louvain
- Jena
- Prague
- Würzburg
- Heidelberg
- Krakow
- Iasi
- Poitiers
- Genève
- Graz
- Budapest
- Lyon
- Pavia
- Padova
- Bologna
- Montpellier
- Siena
- Coimbra
- Salamanca
- Barcelona
- Thessaloniki
- Granada

Doctoral Studies & Research

Mission & Action Points:

- To share information about the organisation of doctoral studies and research management structures at CG universities => Survey ongoing
- To facilitate the mobility of doctoral students by disseminating information among Coimbra Group universities concerning doctoral study programmes and topics for PhD theses in the individual member universities => Portal on CG web site
- To facilitate joint supervision of doctoral students between two Coimbra Group partner institutions => Guidelines
- To share knowledge and experience about the transfer of research outcomes to society and economy => transferable skills courses

Recent Coimbra Group activities

Position papers on

- European Institute of Technology (2006)
- Doctoral Studies (2007)
- Research in Europe (2007) [Reply to the Green Paper]
- European Higher Education after Bologna 2010 (2009)

CG Summer School on Transferable Skills

(Bergen, Norway, summer 2007)

Annual Scholarship programmes for young researchers

- Latin America
- Eastern Neighbouring Countries
- ACP-countries