The Quality Culture Project of the European University Association

Round III

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Quality Culture Project

• General features and aims of the project

• Network 4 on Teaching and Learning: Implementing Learning Outcomes

• Results
The Quality Culture Project had its origin in the EUA's action plan 2001-2003.

The aim is to give member universities the opportunity to work together across Europe by:

- stimulating internal capacity for self reflection and change;
- promoting the exchange of ideas, experience and good practice;
- strengthening the European dimension of their activities.

The project is based on two main principles:

- in issues of quality assurance, the point of departure must be the universities' capacity for developing a robust internal quality culture,
- this capacity is integrally linked to institutional autonomy and public accountability.
• What does “internal quality culture in universities” mean?

• It means:
  – Improve quality levels, without stifling diversity and innovation
  – Strengthen institutional autonomy
  – Promote non-intrusive external QA procedures, i.e., institutional audit
Method: Key features

- Six small networks
- Institutional self-evaluation based on SWOTs
- Engaging the whole institution at key phases of the project
- Results in action plans tailored to specific institutions: no single recipe approach
The EUA Quality Culture Project is pan-European

50 institutions participated in the first round of the Quality Culture Project.

They represented 29 countries that covered the geographical span of EUA membership.

They were grouped into six small networks.

For the second round of the Quality Culture Project, EUA selected 45 institutions from 24 European countries and grouped them in networks.

For the third round of the project EUA selected 44 institutions from 23 European countries and grouped them in networks.
• Research Strategy and Industrial Partnerships,
• University Leadership and governance,
• Implementing Bologna Reforms,
• Teaching and Learning: Implementing Learning Outcomes,
• Women in Universities,
• Joint Degrees.
Teaching and Learning: Implementing Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes are increasingly important for HEIs as a means to design student-centred and competence-based curricula and to evaluate them.

The network focuses on the identification and implementation of learning outcomes in curricula and how these can be used to improve the learning experience of students.

Special interest is given to the integration of learning outcomes and ECTS.
Quality Culture Project

Network participants

- University of the Aegean, Greece – coordinator
- Université de Liège, Belgium
- University College Winchester, United Kingdom
- National University of Ireland Cork (UCC), Ireland
- University of Camerino (Unicam), Italy
- The University of Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
- Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania
- South East European University, FYROM
One project – Two Objectives

Network

- Discussion of common understanding of QC
- Identification of common issues
- Good practice examples for report
- Synthesis action plans to common network report
- Finalising network report

Institution

- Internal discussion: Creation of an internal QC group
- Internal discussion: Analysis of the institution
- Feedback on SWOT analysis
- Internal discussion: Action plan on how to implement QC
- Implementation of action plan

Reports as a guideline for HEIs on how to implement quality culture

Institutional presentation

1st network meeting

2nd network meeting

SWOT Analysis

Institutional action plan

Draft network report

3rd network meeting

Internal implementation of quality culture

Institutional presentation

- Reports as a guideline for HEIs on how to implement quality culture
Quality Culture Project

- Internal quality culture: Introduction, operation, decision-making & feedback loops: P. Cardew
- The role of students and other stakeholders: K. Pukelis
- The role of leadership and staff: I. Jedlickova
- Strategy, policy and planning, information and analysis: C. Miceli
- Process, product and service: A. Hyland