

The QUACE Project

The QUACE project - Quality Management in Cross-border Education -, funded under the EU Socrates Programme, is a common project of the universities of Saarbrücken, Luxembourg and Liège. Its core concern is to determine the dimensions influencing the quality and evolution of double and joint degree programmes. It aims at developing quality guidelines and recommendations for actors responsible for the conditions framing these programmes at different levels.

[Http://www.quace.eu](http://www.quace.eu)

Project Consortium



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Registration

To register for the conference please use the registration form on the website www.quace.eu.

Further information on accommodation, travelling etc. is available on the website.

Registration will be open **until 27 May 2008**.

Free entrance.

Conference languages

Plenum: German, English and French
(with simultaneous translation)

Workshop/Discussion Groups: English

Moderation:

Reinhard Karger, M.A.
Head of Corporate Communication
German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI)

Venue

Saarland University
Campus Saarbrücken
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Double and Joint Degree Programmes in Cross-Border Regions:

Opportunities, Challenges, and Prospects

QUACE PROJECT FINAL CONFERENCE

29 - 30 May 2008
Saarland University
Saarbrücken



The project is funded under
the Socrates Programme
of the European Community



Context

Double and joint degree programmes are widely considered as a valuable contribution to the development of the European Higher Education Area. According to educational policies on different levels they should be implemented on a larger scale. Higher education institutions in border regions have particular opportunities to deploy cross-border education. In the region Saar-Lor-Lux-Wallonia, as in other euro-regions, there are a couple of longstanding experiences with double and joint degree programmes dating back before the Bologna declaration. In addition, numerous recent initiatives are showing up which attempt to comply with the Bologna reform from their very inception. These programmes, whether time-proved or in preparation, can be considered as a micro-cosmos of the possibilities of synergies and the challenges of European harmonization. Little is known, however, about their organizational and operational successes and failures. With regard to the less prominent pillar of the Bologna reform - co-operation and convergence in quality assurance - they seem to be still largely caught, among other challenges, between national schemes and practices.

Objective

The conference will explore the enabling conditions for creating excellence in higher education across borders. The results of the QUACE project will be presented, current and future challenges and good practices in cross-border higher education will be discussed and documented.

Pre-Conference Workshop

European Experts from different domains and organisations are invited to join the Pre-Conference Workshop on thursday morning. The main objective of this workshop is to critically review the draft recommendations resulting from interviews with initiators or coordinators of double/joint degree programmes on the Bachelor, Master and PhD level in the Greater Region Saar-Lor-Lux-Wallonia. The participants of this workshop will be asked to jointly write a revised version of recommendations to be submitted to the audience of the conference for approval.

Programme 28/29 May

Wednesday, 28 May

18.00 - 20.00 Arrival and general registration of expert participants (Informal Welcome Reception)

Thursday, 29 May

09.00 - 10.30 Pre-Conference Workshop

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee/Tea Break

11.00 - 12.30 Pre-Conference Workshop

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 14.30 Official Opening

Welcome Addresses:

- President of Saarland University, Prof. Dr. Volker Linneweber
- Head of the Directorate-General Science, Research and Institutions of Higher Education, Ministry of Economics and Science, Saarland, Dr. Wolfgang Bach

14.30 - 15.15 Lecture 1:

Dr. Peer Pasternack
Research Director at the Institute for Higher Education Research Wittenberg (HoF Wittenberg)
Martin Luther University Halle Wittenberg

15.15 - 15.45 Coffee/Tea Break

15.45 - 16.30 Lecture 2:

Dr. Achim Hopbach
Managing Director
German Accreditation Council

16.30 - 17.15 Lecture 3: Presentation of QUACE Project

Dr. Sascha Neumann
President's Office and Central
Saarland University

Dipl.-Psych. Markus Molz
Unit for Sociocultural Research on Learning and Development
University of Luxembourg

17.15 - 18.00 Poster Session: Transnational Bachelor, Master and PhD Programmes in Saar-Lor-Lux-Wall

Programme 30 May

18.00 - 20.00 Free time

20.00 Dinner at the Casino restaurant am Staden

Friday, 30 May

09.00 - 11.00 4 parallel discussion groups

Discussion Group 1:

Models of Cooperation between Universities in Cross-Border Regions

Speaker: Elena Nikonchuk
St. Petersburg State Polytechnical University (SPSPU)

Discussion Group 2:

Quality Assurance of Cross-Border Study Programmes

Speaker 1: Prof. Dr. Dieter Leonhard
President
German-French University

Speaker 2: Axel Aerden
Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie (NVAO)

Discussion Group 3:

Bologna-Process and Cross-Border Programmes

Speaker 1: Dr. Ute Lanzendorf
International Centre for Higher Education Research (INCHER), Kassel University

Speaker 2: Marina Steinmann
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

Discussion Group 4:

Added Values of Double and Joint Degree Programmes

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Gabriel Michel
ETIC (Equipe Transdisciplinaire d'Interaction et de Cognition), Paul-Verlaine University, Metz

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee/Tea Break

11.30 - 13.00 Final Plenary Discussion

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 Closing and Departure