

CARDS 2002

Higher Education Mobility: *Diploma Recognition Policy and Legislation*

Re-Introducing a Culture of Change

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Knowledge Society

- Post-industrial
- Post-service economy
- Knowledge exists in application only
- Knowledge production is non-linear and multidimensional (Mode 2)
- No knowledge monopolies



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The New Production of Knowledge (M Gibbons)

Mode 1

- generated within the context of disciplines
- disciplinary
- homogen
- hierarchical
- quality: peer review

Mode 2

- generated within a context of application
- transdisciplinary
- heterogeneous
- heterarchical and
- accountable to society and market (highly reflexive)



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Universities in a knowledge society (1)

- Depend on their immediate surroundings
- Multi-dimensional models of knowledge production
 - role of the market re-emphasised in research
 - recognition of the impact of application
 - research characterised by non-linearity and complexity
 - democratisation of knowledge production and innovation systems



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Universities in a knowledge society (2)

- Competition among universities and other knowledge producers
 - => changes in the organisation of learning
 - => new and diversified student populations
 - => transparency in definition of objectives



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Universities in a knowledge society (3)

- Academic pluralism is intensified by social pluralism
 - studying as a socialisation process into academic culture
 - concentration on generic competences



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Universities in a knowledge society (4)

Universities still train most of the future knowledge workers, BUT

- More and more knowledge will not come from universities
- Future knowledge workers will not aim at specific or existing career patterns
- University courses are still based on input (teaching), not on output, learning outcomes
 - are teacher oriented, not student centred



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The Creative University – 3Ts

- **Technology:** *Universities are centers for cutting-edge research in fields from software to biotechnology and important sources of new technologies and spin-off companies.*
- **Talent:** *Universities are amazingly effective talent attractors, and their effect is truly magnetic. By attracting eminent researchers and scientists, universities in turn attract graduate students, generate spin-off companies and encourage other companies to locate nearby in a cycle of self-reinforcing growth.*
- **Tolerance:** *Universities also help to create a progressive, open and tolerant people climate that helps attract and retain members of the Creative Class.*



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Therefore ...

- Universities need to change the ways in which they assess knowledge
- They need to recognise learning paths chosen by individual students
- Universities must focus on competences, not on staff-defined curricula
- A „change of emphasis” is needed (Eli Noam)



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A Culture of Change (1)

- University education
 - => a socialisation process into academic life
 - => focus on learning paths
 - => heterogeneous student body
- University research
 - => free, basic research and collaborative research
 - => collaboration with surrounding communities
 - => focus on areas of strength and excellence



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A Culture of Change (2)

- University planning

- => institutional profile
- => institutionalised system of quality care
- => agreed strategic goals
- => corporate identity



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Can we create a Creative University?

- Defined by a culture of change
- Embracing differences, heterogeneity, new knowledge
- Attracting students and researchers
- Co-operating actively with the surrounding community, stakeholders and partners all over the world
- Making conscious institutional choices, establishing priorities and corporate identity



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As long as I have a choice in the matter, I will live only in a country where civil liberty, tolerance, and equality of all citizens before the law are the rule.

(Albert Einstein, 1933)

Thank you for your attention



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