

The EUA Learning & Teaching Forum

Meeting Challenges Together

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Setting the Stage

- Increasing attention given to Learning & Teaching
 - EUA TRENDS: identifies universities developing L & T strategies
 - EFFECT, a project to enhanced collaboration in L & T
 - The EU Modernization and Renewed Agenda
 - Governmental pressure on HE, often connected to funding cuts

Setting the Stage

- The Forum, an EUA initiative to foster
 - Exchange of good practices and new L & T initiatives
 - Through pan-European university collaboration
 - A European dialogue setting the priorities of HE for Europe, 20 years after the Bologna Accords

Profound Changes to Society

- Globalization
 - Seen as a threat, jeopardizing our cohesion, more than an opportunity
 - Loss of confidence in science and technology
- The Digital Revolution
 - Transformation of all activities and processes
 - Overwhelming volume of information directly on the Internet
- The Post-Factual World
 - Difficulty of having an informed public discussion

New Demands on Universities

- Manage the massive increase of students in HE
 - From 1999 to 2005, enrollment in HE worldwide increased from 14 to 32% of the student-age population
 - Much greater diversity of student populations
 - Much greater range of education opportunities needed
- Prepare students
 - To be agile and efficient in the knowledge society
 - Where the nature of jobs is rapidly evolving
 - And requires life-long learning

The European Learning & Teaching Forum

- A bottom-up process with 4 thematic peer groups
 1. Building a link between research and teaching missions
 2. Empowering students in preparation for their future professional life and civic engagement
 3. Addressing larger and more diverse student bodies, ensuring student success
 4. Fostering engagement in the development of learning and teaching in institutions

Main Challenges

- For students:
 - Learn how to learn and expect continued learning and adapting throughout their careers
 - Develop critical thinking to intelligently sort through the avalanche of digital information
 - Acquire conceptual skills and processes, rigorous foundations in disciplines
 - Increase international experiences to become acclimated to the larger world around them

Main Challenges

- For higher education institutions:
 - Build a conducive culture on L & T
 - Learn how to teach students how to learn to learn
 - Incorporate the broad range of tools and approaches to education
 - Enable more customized ways of learning
 - Offer orientation services from day-one until graduation
 - Favor and acknowledge the investment of staff in L & T

Main Challenges

- For national governments:
 - Ease the regulation to reinforce academic and staffing autonomy
 - Promote university-driven initiatives
 - Allow experimentation
- For national governments and the EU:
 - Be aware of the contribution of L & T to facing European challenges and acknowledge university achievements
 - Develop policies, measures and instruments to support L & T
 - Provide the appropriate funding to enable and sustain experimentation

A Continuous Dialogue to Follow Up

- A new set of thematic groups to identify best practices in 2018
- Next L&T Forum planned in 2019
- Development of informed recommendations to policy makers and stakeholders to set a new stage for the Bologna Process



Thank you !

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