

Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

7th National University Research Conference (CNCSIS7)

ROMANIA

Research Assessment - Concepts and Questions -

Dr. Jens-Peter Gaul
Director Strategic Planning
German Research Foundation
Bucharest, 13 May 2005

DFG

What is “Research Assessment” (RA)?

- I. A complex Phenomenon
- II. Two „Levels“ of Assessment
 - a. Project Level
 - b. Institutional Level

Project Level

- I. What is a „Project“?
- II. Fundamental Issues
 - a. Who decides?
 - b. Peer Review
- III. Questions
 - a. Ex ante or ex post-Evaluation?
 - b. Criteria?

Project Level: Criteria within a science driven System

I. Quality of the Project/Qualification of the Applicant

- Soundness of the preliminary Work, Quality of Publications
- Originality
- Expected Advancement of Knowledge (also in Relation to the Costs)
- Scientific Significance (in ist own Field and/or across different Fields)
- Broader Impact (Science Policy, Social Policy, economic or technical Reasons)

II. Working Environment / Scientific Environment

- Staff, institutional, room and instrument Requirements and Resources

III. Objectives and Work Programme

- Clear Working Hypotheses
- Reasonable Limitation of the Topic
- Appropriateness of the Methods
- Ability to complete the Project within the proposed or overall expected Time Frame

Project Level: Challenges

- I. Multidisciplinarity?**
- II. Use inspired Research?**
- III. Collaborative Research?**

Institutional Level

- I. General Remarks**
- II. Why do we need Research Assessment on an institutional Level?**
 - a. Accountability**
 - b. Competition**
 - c. Ressources**
 - d. Blueprints**

Institutional Level: A Worldwide Movement

- I. Across the Borders:**
 - a. The Shanghai University Ranking**
 - b. The Times Higher Education Supplement Ranking**
 - c. New Plans**

- II. National Examples**
 - a. United Kingdom**
 - b. Germany**

Institutional Level: Methodology

- I. Guidelines: Facts and Judgements**
- II. Shared Responsibility: Self Reports**
- III. Criteria**
 - a. Research**
 - Quality
 - Effectiveness
 - Efficiency
 - b. Promotion of Young Researchers**
 - Programmes
 - Success
 - c. Knowledge Transfer**
 - Relevance
 - Economic Implementation
 - Further Education
 - Public Understanding of Research

Institutional Level: More Aspects of Consideration

- I. Bibliometrics (Open Access, Data Markets)**
- II. Formally organized System vs. ad hoc Assessment?**
- III. Effects of „Full Cost of Research“ on Research Assessment?**
- IV. Strategic Tool or Funding Instrument?**
- V. Scientific Side vs. Policy Side?**
- VI. How to communicate the Results of RA?**

Institutional Level: The European Perspective (1)

- I. Universities in Europe**
 - a. Research or Teaching?**
 - b. EUA, LERU etc.**

- II. Intergration of National Research Systems**
 - a. The EU-Commission: A driving Force**
 - b. Instruments**
 - aa. European Research Council (ERC)**
 - bb. ERA-Net**
 - cc. European Institute of Technology (EIT)**

Institutional Level: The European Perspective (2)

- I. Convergence of national Research Systems?**
 - a. The EU-Commission: A driving Force?**
 - b. Convergence of National Research Funding Systems**

- II. University vs. Academy vs. Independent Research Institute?**
 - a. History and international Debate**
 - b. The German Discussion**

Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Thank you for your Attention!

Dr. Jens-Peter Gaul
Director Strategic Planning
German Research Foundation
E-Mail: Jens-Peter.Gaul@DFG.de

▶ Infos unter www.dfg.de

DFG