

SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION (STSM) SCIENTIFIC REPORT

This report is submitted for approval by the STSM applicant to the STSM coordinator

Action number: CA15221

STSM title: Exploring the performance of academic institutional model

STSM start and end date: 08/07/2019 to 22/07/2019

Grantee name: Aleksandra Figurek

PURPOSE OF THE STSM:

Quality of the higher education and research is one of the most important resources of today, both in the field of high technology and in all fields of human activity.

If we were to separate teaching activity from research, then the question arises as to how it can monitor the needs of society and the development of scientific knowledge, especially in the face of rapid progress.

Finding an effective model towards cohesive teaching, learning, research and writing (RWLT) development requires studying the individual cases in different countries.

Establishing synergies among RWLT and how these four areas could complement each other towards greater success, productivity for staff and students and capacity building for institutions is crucial for all stakeholders in educational sector.

Universities are important institutions today in the context of creating a knowledge-based society.

Higher education essentially depends on the quality of teaching, since graduates represent a crucial channel of knowledge transfer from the higher education institution to society. Good teaching must meet international standards in the global competition between locations, and must also have career relevance for the tutors (including consideration of work-related periods spent abroad), along side evaluation of their research work.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE STSMS

During STSM, it was planned to identify factors that contribute to success, productivity and quality of research, writing, teaching and learning in Austria educational system.

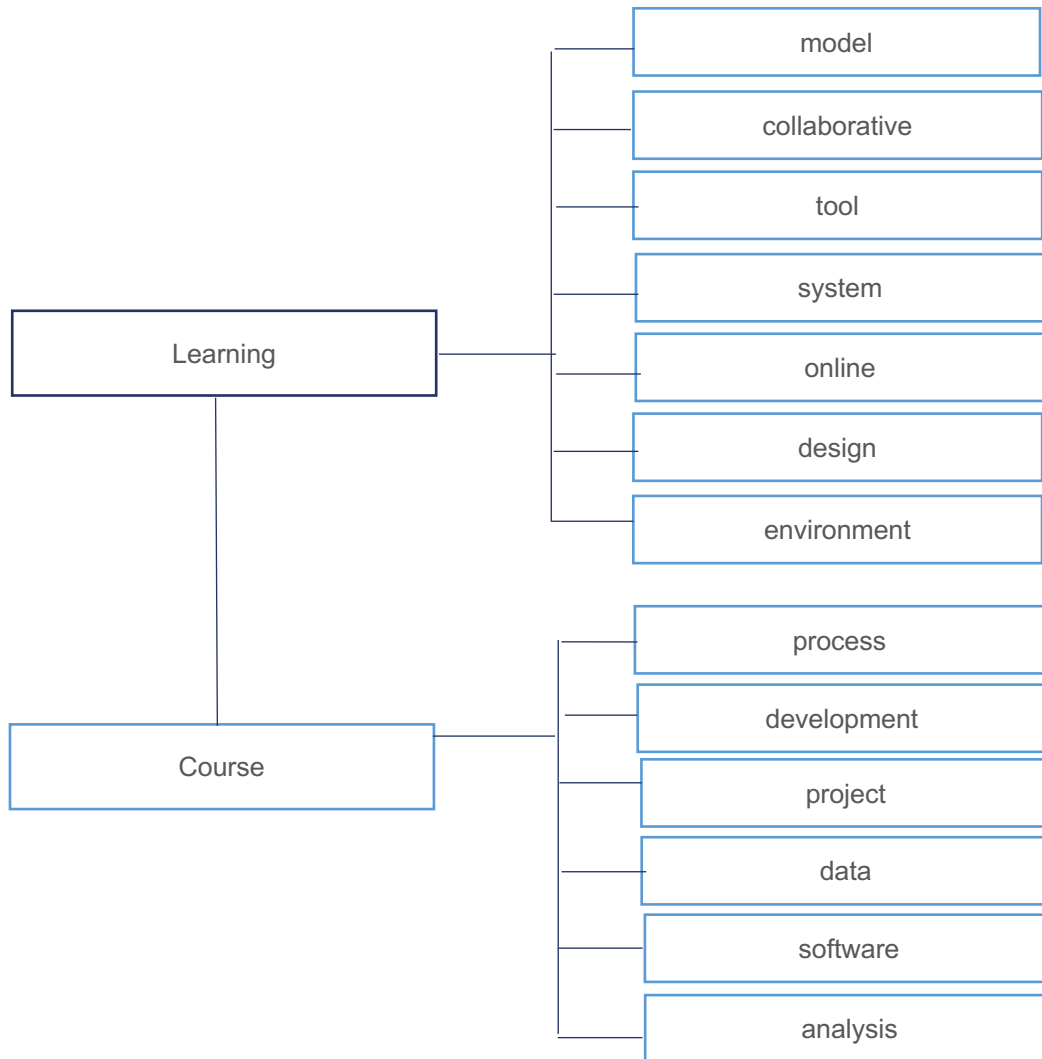
In order to identify the mentioned key factors, it was necessary to become familiar with system of education in Austria. There are 22 public and 12 private universities (*Universität and Privatuniversität*) and by *Fachhochschulen* and Akademien (e.g. teacher training colleges).

Universities are fully autonomous to handle their internal affairs and formulate their statutes.

Austrian universities can be divided into “full-scale” universities (with a full range of faculties) and “specialized” universities such as technical, medical or arts universities. There are pronounced differences among the various types of Austrian HEIs as regards engagement in economic development. Technical and medical universities, although in most cases much smaller than full-scale universities, are by far more successful when it comes to collaborating with firms and to draw financial advantages from such partnerships (BMWf et al., 2012).

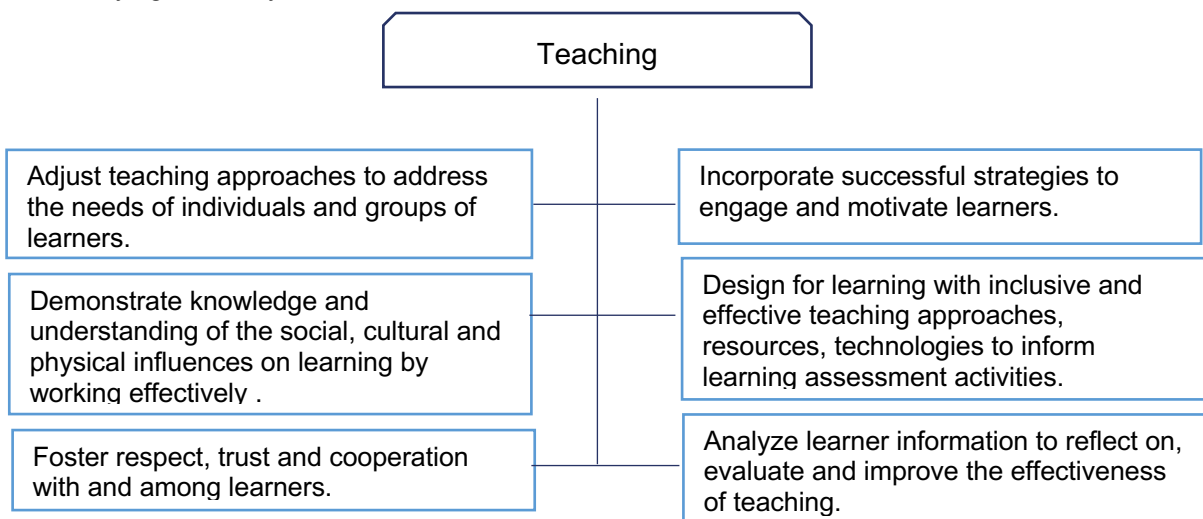
The work of a higher education teacher must be essentially a scientific research activity, but also the transfer of knowledge, learned scientific truths, teaching, learning, guiding the student to the knowledge necessary for his professional engagement, for continuous improvement and living. Therefore, a teacher in a higher

education institution must at the same time possess the competencies of lecturers, teachers, educators, mentors, scientists and researchers.



Improving teaching (didactic method) and organization of courses, including:

- digitalization, student-centered teaching, examinations
- new digital teaching methods (student-centered and accessible)
- didactic skills into consideration appropriately when qualifying and appointing teachers as well as in education and training for university staff
- open educational resources and learning analytics
- studying feasibility.



Implementation of the new teacher training programme (*Pädagog/innenbildung NEU*, Austrian National Development Plan, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research) with its focus on quality, and with particular consideration of higher education aspects which consists:

- multi-pillar model that integrates scientific disciplines and the arts, teaching methodology, educational principles and practical teacher training courses,
- creating cooperative working units for research and development in the scientific disciplines, teaching methodologies and educational sciences as well as for the greater focus on professional development,
- support young academics' careers through qualification programmes (particularly for teaching methodology and the elementary and primary areas),
- skills and existing resources through partnerships between universities and university colleges of teacher education,
- promote and fund projects aimed at developing holistic educational concepts in general education,
- increase international partnerships and mobility in teacher training.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN RESULTS OBTAINED

The benefits of synergy among teaching, learning, writing and research continues with an examination of the nature of successful performance. Identified elements of successful performance in RTWL:

- Quality of course content: a) course readings, b) developed resources, c) class exercises, d) clinical practice, and e) experiments.
- Quality of course development - developing a distance learning component or Web-based learning resources. It is shown by program or departmental faculty review of course syllabi and developed resources, as well as external reviews of course syllabi and resources by experts in the field.
- Quality of curriculum development - designing new courses, certificate programs.
- Designing instructional resources involves creating documents, media, and software.
- Effectiveness in mentoring students - the ability of the faculty member to encourage students and to help them understand the factors that contribute to academic success.
- Mentoring in research and original creative work can include faculty supervision of student research projects, theses, and dissertations, or a student simply assisting a faculty member with a research project as a volunteer, student involvement in their publications, contracts and grants, and presentations.
- Research contributions are most often made through publications and conference presentations, publishing books with well respected publishers, obtaining competitive federal research grants, or performing at prestigious venues.
- Monograph chapters, and books can make an important contribution to research productivity because they provide excellent visibility for faculty members.
- Successful faculty performance in research and original creative work is guided by a series of strategic decisions about what to research or create, how to conduct the work, how to obtain funding for the work, and where to disseminate the work.
- Cooperation in international projects.
- An invitation or commission for an original work from respected individuals or organizations can also show evidence of quality.
- Research expertise in the profession can include service as the editor of a refereed journal or being a member of an editorial board for a refereed journal
- Review panel for federal grants provides another opportunity to apply research expertise in a service activity.
- Create knowledge locations with international profiles through place-based alignment.
- Increasing synergies by establishing or using regional coordination structures between higher education institutions. Implement and further develop the higher education mobility strategy to promote transnational mobility.
- Increase internationalization through: Use of government (e.g. CEEPUS, Scientific & Technological Cooperation) and university bilateral cooperation agreements, Increased utilization of membership in international organizations (e.g. CERN, ESA, Euratom, EUSA/FISU), Participation by the universities in relevant national and international programs, instruments and strategic processes, particularly those of the EU (e.g. EU Research Framework Programme, "Horizon 2020" and the 9th Framework Programme, ERASMUS+), etc.

FUTURE COLLABORATIONS (if applicable)

We are working on the scientific paper.

In the future there is also possibility for cooperation in together project.