



Efficient student exchange using networked innovation centers

Network • Arrangements • Ease • Innovative environment • Attraction • Infrastructure for other collaboration



Two needs



1. How to get more of our students to study abroad so that the exchange time supports graduation?

- We need easy arrangements – our students don't like any hassles.
- There must be good learning situations that really build our students' skills.

2. How to attract the best international students to Tampere? And how to arrange this in an easy way.

- Students usually study in other countries via exchange programs, like Erasmus (**E**u**R**o**e**p**e**an **C**ommunity **A**ction **S**cheme for the **M**obility of **U**niversity **S**tudents).
- Many universities are not in the Erasmus Network.

Approach: networking with innovation centres

- Networking between universities, innovation centres, innovation teaching centres and companies.
- In each location: universities and an innovation centre form a "hub".
- Arrangements, routines, compatibility make things easy.
- Important Finnish innovation centre is Demola.
 - Demola is already very popular among exchange students because of its international atmosphere.
 - The other parties need to fit Demola projects to their curriculum and make them be part of exchange students study plan.
 - There are already many Demolas: Tampere, Oulu, Vilnius (Lithuania), Budapest (Hungary), and more will be established in near future. Those can form a part of the infrastructure and show a model to the other locations / countries.

Benefits



- Students
 - Easy for students – desirability. Proven learning environments.
- Universities
 - Efficiency – contracts, routines
 - Teaching international and cultural
 - new kind of students.
- Research
 - Synergy with research, easy to produce demos and proof of concepts.
- Companies
 - Great students to projects
 - Contacts to universities and to talented students.
- Society.
 - New innovations and start-ups.

Alternatives



- Do nothing:
 - Best students go elsewhere
 - Our students don't go abroad
- Erasmus enhancements
 - Demola and innovation stuff as only a part of it.
- Aalto and other Finnish universities offer competition in luring the foreign students
 - High visibility and attraction
 - Unique benefits for students