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**Report of the WG Mobility/Internationalisation**

The three co-chairs, Luis Delgado, Peter Greisler, and Gottfried Bacher invited the working group members to the first meeting of the WG, hosted by Germany in Berlin on Dec 6/7.

11 countries, 9 organizations and the Secretariat were present for a first discussion of the envisaged tasks and the distribution of work amongst the co-chairs and the WG members. Furthermore, the Terms of Reference of the WG were discussed and finalized. Whether the task to develop a policy proposal for a specific European accreditation approach is feasible will be decided depending on the outcome of a thematic session on quality assurance that could take place at the BFUG meeting in Vilnius (7/8 November 2013).

The German co-chair will be responsible for the following topics: “Current barriers to staff mobility and potential measures to overcome them”, “Increasing the attractiveness of European universities and the feasibility of a benchmark for incoming students from 3rd countries”, “possible common standards for the portability of grants and loans in the EHEA”.

The Spanish co-chair will take charge of “To propose to the BFUG guidelines for further internationalization developments in the EHEA ”, including continuation of the cooperation with 3rd countries in the framework of the Bologna Policy Dialogue and “To explore options of improving the information on European study and admission systems in the EHEA”.

Austria will cover “liaison with the reporting working group”, “contribute to the national implementation of selected measures of the mobility strategy, such as increasing the quality of mobility, balanced/imbalanced mobility flows and promoting mobility of underrepresented groups”.

Members of the Working Group with special expertise on the above topics were identified and agreed to do an inventory on the studies and findings which already exist, before starting any new work. They will also search for and provide case studies and good practice examples to be presented at the next meeting in Berlin on 15/16 April 2013.

It was also agreed that the Austrian co-chair would represent the WG at the Zagreb board meeting.

Three highly interesting and relevant studies were presented at the meeting:

First, a Dutch study on the economic effects of internationalization in higher education was introduced, showing that above a certain stay rate of foreign students (2.5%) the money accrued from taxes and other revenues is higher than the cost of providing a university education to international students. The study does not include the qualitative advantages of benefits like enhanced intercultural and linguistic competences, which are difficult to quantify.

Secondly, the audit “Internationalisation of Universities” was presented by the German Rectors´ Conference. Evaluating the internationalization status of a university, the audit offers an independent and systematic, tailor-made advisory process, considering all the stakeholders, structures, and processes related to internationalisation ([www.audit-international.hrk.de](http://www.audit-international.hrk.de)).

Thirdly, the results of a EUROSTUDENT-related investigation of the plans for and obstacles to temporary enrollment abroad in Austria, Switzerland, Germany, The Netherlands and Poland was presented by HIS-HF, looking at the hierarchy of obstacles, stating the first obstacle to be the “lack of aspiration to go abroad” and only then such deterrents as “separation from partner, children, friends”, difficulty in getting sufficient information” or “expected delay in progress of studies”.

The findings of these studies are relevant for the work of this group and can be used as basis for similar investigations in individual Bologna countries.