U-Multirank
– Contributions of higher education institutions to society and how to measure this with indicators

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Why another ranking?

Transparency

• Universities need to be transparent towards their multiple stakeholders w.r.t. their contributions to society
• Rankings provide a snapshot of performance

Diversity

• The popular global university rankings that suggest a comprehensive performance measure cannot display the wide variety of societal contributions by different types of higher education institutions (HEIs)
• Those rankings contribute to the myth of an ideal type of university and disregard differences in mission across HEIs

U-Multirank

• Allows its users to select comparable institutions and then compare their performances on selected activity domains (Teaching, Research, Knowledge Transfer, International orientation, Regional Engagement)
U-Multirank

- **Multidimensional ranking - Going beyond the traditional focus on research excellence**
  - No summing across indicators (no single “winner”)
  - No pre-defined weights on individual indicators

- **User-driven ranking**
  - Personalised ranking allows users to rank by their own preferences on dimensions and indicators
  - Flexible web tool

- **Comparing like with like**
  - First: identification of institutions with similar institutional missions, and then ‘rank’

- **Multi-level ranking**
  - Combining institutional ranking (whole institutions) and field-based rankings

- **Stakeholder-oriented processes**
  - Inclusion of stakeholders in development of U-Multirank
Iceberg Model

- Patents
- Copyrights
- Know how
- Research tools

Ocean of Knowledge

- Intellectual Property available for licensing
- Contract Research
- Spin-offs
- Collaborative Research and Knowledge Exchange Opportunities
Knowledge Transfer within the Innovation Ecosystem

[Diagram showing the flow of knowledge transfer from research outputs to economic activity and impact, with nodes for networks, consultancy, CPD, collaborative research, contract research, licensing, spin-out formation, teaching, spin-outs, SMEs, and other factors.]
Example: Research indicators in U-Multirank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Institutional ranking</th>
<th>Field-based ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Third party funding for research (per fte)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Doctorate productivity</td>
<td></td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Research publication output (per fte)*</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Art related output</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Field-normalised citation rate*</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Highly cited research publications *</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Interdisciplinary research publications*</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Research orientation of teaching (student survey)</td>
<td></td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Number of post-doc positions</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Knowledge transfer indicators in U-Multirank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge Transfer</th>
<th>Institutional ranking</th>
<th>Field-based ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Income from private sources (service contracts, consultancies, licenses, royalties, trials, etc.)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Joint research publications with industry*</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Patents filed (per fte academic staff)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Co-patents with industry (per fte academic staff)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Number of spin-offs (average over three year period)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Patent citations to research publications*</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Revenues from Continuous Professional Development</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
With this approach U-Multirank will create performance profiles respecting mission diversity

**International orientation**
- International orientation of programmes
- Student mobility (study abroad)
- Percentage of international academic staff
- Percentage of PhDs by foreign students
- International joint publications
- International research income (of department)

**Regional engagement**
- Percentage of graduates working in the region
- Student internships in regional enterprises
- Degree theses in cooperation with regional enterprises
- Regional joint research publications
- Income from regional sources
The Web tool: see: [www.u-multirank.eu](http://www.u-multirank.eu)
In summary

• An enhanced understanding of diversity and performance requires a new ranking tool
• Existing transparency instruments do not reflect this diversity adequately and tend to focus on a single dimension of university performance – research
• U-Multirank addresses most of the major shortcomings of existing ranking instruments, such as
  – Language and field biases
  – Exaggeration of small differences in performance
  – Arbitrary effects of indicator weightings
• Relation between university and society is multi-dimensional, and not a one-way process of putting university research to use, in exploitation, ...
• but rather a two-way interaction in which inspiration is also provided from practice - in exploration
• U-Multirank’s tools allow for a broader view of these interactions and the university’s capacity to have an impact on society
Information / Contact

• Information about U-Multirank (e.g. registration of HEIs)
  www.u-multirank.eu
  also on FaceBook, LinkedIn, Twitter
  a book

• Final report of the feasibility study

• Contact/Expression of interest in participation
  info@u-multirank.eu

Publication of first ranking: early 2014
Start of data collection: June 2013
No fees for participation