



UNIVERSITY RANKINGS: A TRANSPARENCY TOOL OR “SMOKE AND MIRRORS”?

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NKUA: GENERAL FACTS AND FIGURES

- The oldest University in Greece : founded in 1837, few years after Greece became an independent State.
- 2.200 members of teaching staff, 1.500 members of administrative staff.
- 130.000 students. 10% postgraduate and 6% International.
- 32 Faculties, 110 Postgraduate programs, 158 Laboratories, 69 Clinics.
- 6 big Central Libraries, the Modern Greek Language Teaching Center (currently with around 1.600 students), the Center of Foreign Languages and many new modern study areas.
- 2 new and 2 renovated Student Halls, more than 35 new multi-media centers with free access to students, a new modern swimming pool and 2 Sports Centers.

ERASMUS:

- 690 Bilateral Agreements with 350 European Universities from 30 countries (2012-13).
- 1987- : 8.600 students sent to partner Universities and 4.100 have been received by UoA. Also 500 professors have used the TS mobility Erasmus program for teaching abroad.
- The University of Athens is a member of International Associations (EUA, IAU, EAIE) and University networks (UNICA, UNECC etc).

<http://www.interel.uoa.gr/dpt-intern-eu/inter-bil.html>
<http://en.uoa.gr/the-university/welcome-note-from-the-rector.html>



RESEARCH: FACTS AND FIGURES

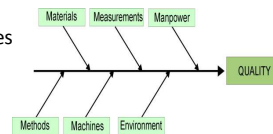
- Greece's scientific Publications (2007): 820/1million residents → 17th /OECD countries.
- 2004-2008: 3,82 citations per publication (lower than the EU/OECD average:> 5).
- 2006-2010: 4,49 citations per publication.
- % cited publications : 65,5 for Greece, 66,3 for EU and 66,5 for OECD.
- FP: More Euros/researcher than any other European country.
- Major Scientific Fields: Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Medical and Health Sciences, Agricultural and Social sciences.
- 1993-2008: More than 80% of the publications are carried out from/with the Universities.
- In 2008 NKUA published 2.400 scientific papers.
- NKUA: No of publications/citations (2006-2010) → 11.311/58.803.
- NKUA : 27,8% of the Greek University Publications and 33,2% in citations.
- International collaboration: From 47,2% (1993) to 65% (2008).
- Major Partners: USA, UK, Germany, France Italy.
- NKUA: International coauthored publications accounts for more than 50%.
- Field in which NKUA is scientifically more active (more than 60%): "Medical and Health Sciences".
- Ranking : Top 500. Between "201-300".
- 5 Universities in the world's best 3%, 8 in the best 5% and 1 in the best 1%.
- Highly cited researchers: 247 in the world.
- SCIE & SSCI Papers: 160/1.181 institutions.

www.ekt.gr
 Nature, Vol.475, 7/7/2011
<http://www.shanghairanking.com/ARWU2011.html>
 Webometrics 2012



POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN ADOPTING RANKING FOR ASSESSING QUALITY IN HE

- Quality is a depended variable! It is the result of several causes
- Is Ranking related to Quality? How?
- Measuring or "Building" Quality in Education?
- Is the Ranking process scientifically solid?
- Polls/Reputation or Publications/citations?
- Relative Weight of the factors used in Rankings?
- Can one Number address Quality in Education?
- Is Ranking a (beauty) type contest?
- Is Ranking a marketing tool easily swallowed: Over-commercialization?
- Is Ranking a business type stock market approach copied for/from the HEI?
- Is HE a leader in innovative thinking or a follower of outdated business practices?
- Does Ranking weaken diversity?
- How many of the stakeholders are using ranking as primary factor when selecting a HEI?
- Would it be more appropriate if suggesting to the stakeholders to gather the "raw" data for each HEI directly from the web and focus our efforts on "building-in" Quality in HE?
- Is it more important for "Quality in Education" to discuss about improving "student-engagement" within the learning process or about how to climb higher in the football type HE ranking league?





“Innovation comes from freedom. It comes from those who are obligated to no one”

W.E.Deming , www.deming.org

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!
QUESTIONS?**

<http://en.pharm.uoa.gr/staff/educational-personnel/pharmaceutical-technology/rekkas-dimitrios.html>

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