

# Internationalization Strategic Development & Implementation

**MODERN Peer Learning Workshop May 2010** 

Florian Feldbauer University of Vienna



## **Synopsis**

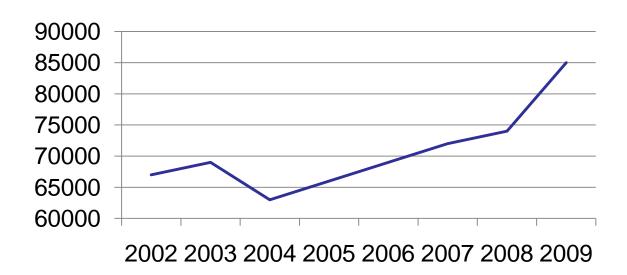
- Background
- Strategic Development
- Actors
- Main Goals
- Implementation
- Quality Assurance
- Measurement of Progress: Indicators
- Progress so far: facts & figures
- Challenges/ Open Questions



#### **Background**

- University of Vienna is the largest German-speaking university (> 85.000 students/ about 6.750 scientists)
- "Free access" for students to all cycles
- Study fees "abolished" in 2008
- Budget increase does not keep up with increase in student numbers

#### **Number of Students**





#### Steps towards I.-strategy

• Until 2008 no *explicit* internationalization strategy

#### Principles of strategic development

- Starting point: Main goals of Development Plan
- Best practices: international models have been considered
- Build on strengths: existing ties with leading universities, participation in networks, geographical location
- Inclusiveness: cooperation instead of mere top down enactment the draft strategy/main goals have been developed under assistance of & discussed with: the University Board, the Senate, deans, study programme directors, Research Services & Int'l Relations Office
- Flexibility: leave room for strategies of faculties and future developments
- Data based: one important step is the assessment of the status quo and collection of reliable data (development of indicators)



#### **Actors**

- Leadership is provided by the member of the Rectorate concerned with international affairs (responsible for implementation and strategic advancement)
- Support: Research Services & International Relations Office

Concerning actors of internationalization the University of Vienna follows a 3-level-strategy:

- 1. Individual scientist / student
- 2. Faculty / Center
- 3. University of Vienna
- Success of the Internationalization Strategy depends on collaboration and perception of internationalization as a common effort based on certain goals that have been agreed on.



## **I.-Strategy: Main Goals**

- Internationalization ≠ regarded as a goal in itself but necessary to increase the quality of research and teaching:
  - » more cooperation with leading international universities
  - » increase participation in international research projects
  - » more cooperation between scientists of UoV and int. colleagues working in similar/complementary fields (more publications)
  - » (further) develop internationally attractive doctoral programs in cooperation with leading int./European universities
  - » Increase mobility of students and teachers/scientists
  - » Increase share of international students (Master and PhD)
  - » Further development of non-German speaking Master and PhD Programs (Increase number of courses taught in a language other than German)
  - » Increase share of int. scientists at all levels (TT.-Prof.)
  - » Increase fluency and intercultural competences of personnel



#### I.-Strategy: Implementation

- 1. Raise Awareness
- Presentation of strategy, goals and indicators in all relevant bodies
- Visits (Vice-Rector responsible for Internationalization) in all faculties; discussions with deans
- Preparation and presentation of a first "Internationalization Report" (strategy, data and information on grants/ scholarships incl. contact persons)
- "International Days" (for students esp. "outgoings/incomings")
- 2. Use of steering tools
- Annual target agreements with the faculties/study programs where necessary: no one-size-fits-all approach
- Internationalization: some goals also included in performance agreement (between university and federal ministry)



#### **Quality Assurance**

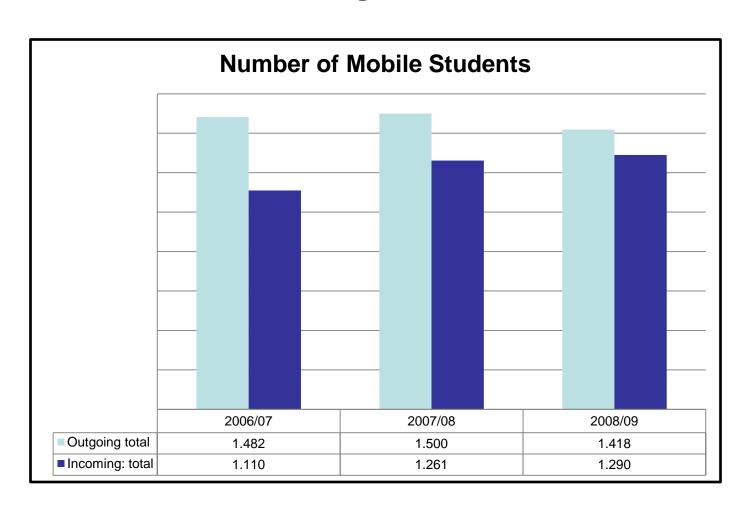
- I.- Strategy in general: discussions with Scientific Advisory Board of the University of Vienna
- Internationalization = (implicitly) part of most evaluations undertaken/organized by the department for Quality Assurance: comprehensive evaluation of faculties/centers; graduate survey;
- Additionally a set of core indicators (incl. target values) has been developed to "measure" progress; also: data base for target agreements with the faculties;



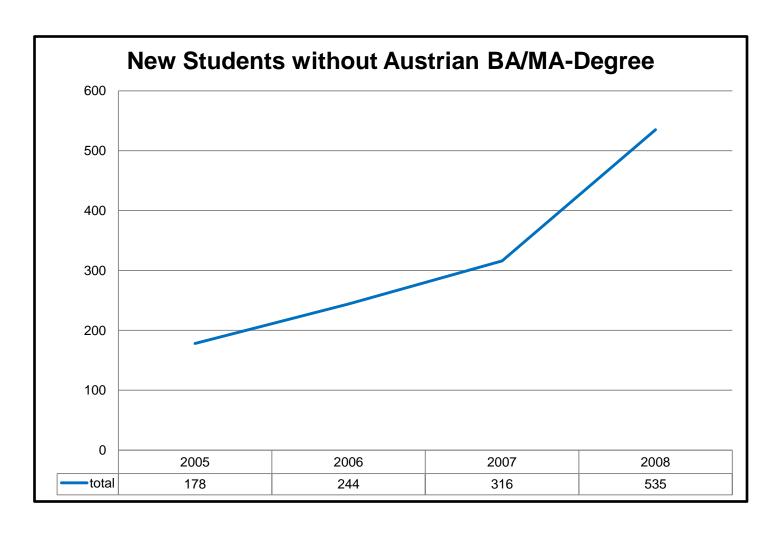
#### **Core Indicators**

- Internationally financed research projects
- Scientific publications: Co-Authorship according to nation/institution
- Int. Cooperation (partnership agreements, joint-study-programs,...)
- Number of students that participate in international mobility programs (outgoing/incoming)
- Number of students (Master-/PhD-level) without Austrian Bacheloror Master Degree
- Number of Joint-Programs / Number of Master-programs in English
- Number of professorial appointments from abroad
- Share of scientific staff without Austrian citizenship
- Share of teachers that teach courses in a language other than German
- Share of courses taught in a language other than German

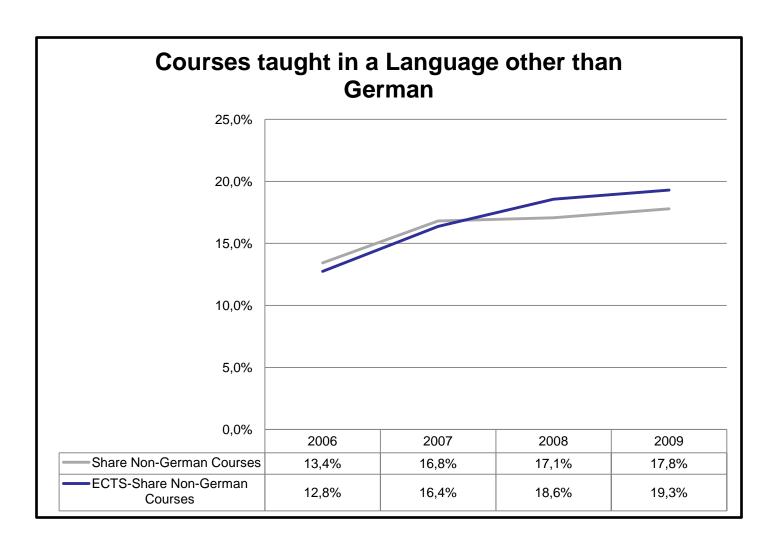




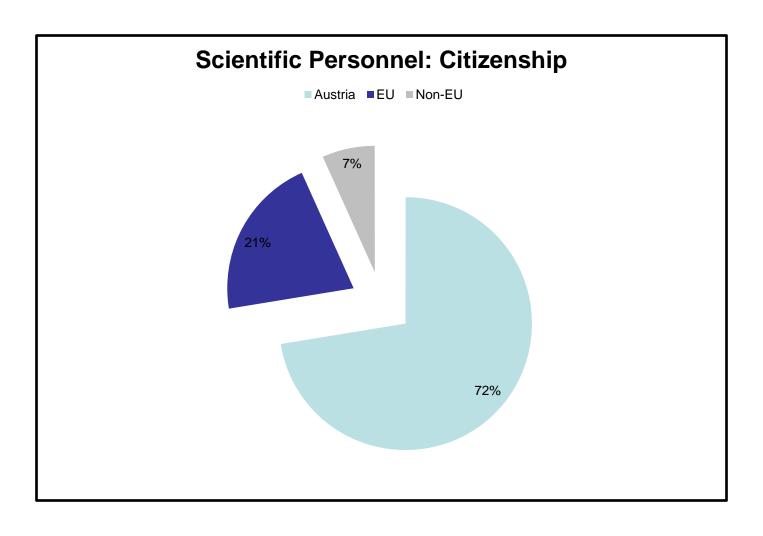




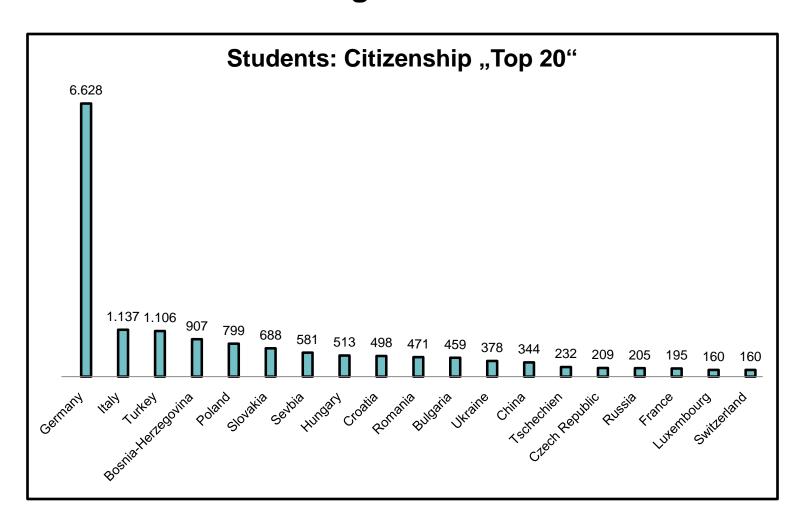














#### **Challenges/ Open Questions**

- 1. Dealing with Contradictions
- Increase share of mobile students Increasing student numbers
- Sustain international position no substantial budget increase;
- 2. Further development/implementation of I.-strategy
- Establishment of concrete action plans (university/faculties)
- Monitoring & adjustment: I.-indicators (target values)
- Inclusion of further parts (e.g. strategic lines concerning "foreign backing of universities")
- 3. Sustainable (subsidiary) application
- Low "internationality" (status quo) concerning some fields/goals (e.g. few courses in foreign languages, few MA/PhD programs in English)
- Changing of mindsets requires time