Designing the university of the future – an international perspective

Problem/Question

During the CDIO conference of 2022 Eindhoven University of Technology initiated a round table session to discuss viable business models for the university of the future. A flexible learning environment where students, people from industry, and societal actors could work and learn together while tackling societally relevant challenges.

Questions discussed that followed a brief introduction were for example:
- How do we deliver high-quality, student-centered education to large and diverse student cohorts?
- How can we break the siloed nature of our universities and truly enable collaboration and cross-disciplinary learning within the institutes and with outside partners in a quadruple helix context?
- How to reward different teaching roles and truly stimulate teaching excellence?
- How to create a financial model aligned with the actual workload? Could we create a separation of development vs delivery costs?
- How do open sharing, co-creation and jointly developing of education work in terms of copyright and intellectual property?

The discussions during the round table session were vibrant with the (approx.) 25 participants. We were all eager to create a learning environment where students, people from industry and societal actors could work and learn together. In this way, learning really becomes something we all do throughout our life. The learner should be the one in control of their own learning. So, we want to create a place where professionals from the industry learn together with the students and academia. A university should be an institute enabling learning together with the ecosystem. It, therefore, needs to offer flexible education, individual learning paths, and studying in groups, on themes, but not necessarily full-time. From a beckoning perspective, we start to see the first images of a future university taking shape.

In this working group, we want to take the next step by collecting and describing good examples from within the CDIO community, and analyze them to distill important elements and characteristics. What are good examples of facilitating this new type of learning, what works and why does this work, and what is the link to the future university?

Leaders (the persons who will evaluate the applications):

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Things to be done before the physical conference

As preparation, the group will meet online on T æ̂ 3 (16:00 - 17:30 CET) to get to know each other and discuss the working group's goals and the added value of all members. After this, all participants will work on their contribution(s) with good examples of facilitating new types of learning, overviews of what works and why, with a clear link to the future university. For this first session the working group focuses on the following questions:

- How do we deliver high-quality, student-centered education to large and diverse student cohorts?
- How can we break the siloed nature of our universities and truly enable collaboration and cross-disciplinary learning within the institutes and with outside partners in a quadruple helix context?

The leaders will provide the working group members with a format for their contributions.

The collected good examples will be sent to the organizers on the **&&ᵇˣ of May** at the latest, and all input will be analyzed and synthesized before the conference. During the CDIO 2023 conference, the working group will discuss the contributions to extract guidelines and principles for a joint (preliminary) design of a future university.

In later sessions, more specific questions based on the results can be discussed.

How will the finalization of the state of the art paper be organized?

All individual contributions and the joint guidelines will be included in a state-of-the-art paper to be published after the conference (after review by the Program Committee).

Other relevant information:

The Whiversity [-Á&@-ÁƆ̌ č ¦^Áproject of TU/e will continue until 202Í . The ambition is to continue this working group for two years and tackle more questions in this way. The aim is to have an updated state-of-the-art paper every year with focus on different questions.