Networks as enablers for inter-institutional collaboration at doctorate level

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2019 euacde thematic workshops
Inter-Institutional collaboration in Doctoral Education
VU Amsterdam, 16th-18th January 2019
While the harmonisation of degree structure and the adoption of ECTS credits have had a strong impact on the development of joint programmes at Bachelor and Master’s level in Europe, at doctoral level, the impact has been limited. There is no common definition of “structured doctoral education” in the diversified European higher education system. The obstacles for successful cooperation across borders at all levels of higher education cannot be underestimated (cf. JOINMAN report).

Doctoral education is very different from the first two cycles of the Bologna Process in that it is intimately tied to research. Transnational cooperation in this area is crucial in order to achieve the high quality doctoral training Europe needs to remain competitive as a knowledge-based economy. Doctoral programmes are at the intersection between the ERA and EHEA and thus, central to the future European Education Area (EEA).
▪ Brief presentation of UAM and the networks it is a member of

▪ Presentation of YERUN (Young European Research Universities)

▪ Actions of YERUN’s Working Group on Joint Programmes at Doctorate level
UAM Community

- Students: 33.582
- International Students: 3.376
  - 23.165 Undergraduate students
  - 6.541 Postgraduate (MA) students
    (20% international)
  - 3.876 PhD students
    (25% international)
- Exclusive dedication academic staff: 2.380
- Administrative staff: 1.041

What to study

- 53 Undergraduate Programs
- 114 Masters and PhD Programs
- 15 International Joint Programs (3 EMJMD)
- 58 Diplomas

- Engineering and Technological Sciences
- Sciences
- Law and Political Sciences
- Teacher Training and Education
- Business and Economics
- Arts & Humanities
- Medicine
- Psychology
5 UAM-CSIC Institutes
- Biomedical Research Institute «Alberto Sols» (IIBAS)
- Molecular Biology Centre Severo Ochoa (CBMSO)
- Theoretical Physics Institute (IFT)
- Mathematical Science Institute (ICMAT)
- Food Science Research Centre (CIAL)

5 CSIC-owned Institutes
- National Biotechnology Centre (CNB)
- Catalysis and Petrochemistry Centre (ICP)
- Madrid Material Sciences Centre (ICMM)
- Glass and Ceramics Institute (ICV)
- Institute of Microelectronics of Madrid (IMM)

2 Madrid Institutes for Advanced Studies (IMDEAs)
- Madrid Institute for Advanced Studies in Food Science
- Madrid Institute for Advanced Studies in Nanoscience

+ 8 UAM Centers
5 UAM Health Research Institutes

Madrid Science Park - PCM
### ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>PhD’s awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences</td>
<td>342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Legal Sciences</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1015</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotutelle</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Mention*</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
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Special programme, which requires candidates to have spent time doing research abroad and having international academics/scientists in their viva panel.
- World 100 Reputation network
- YERUN Network
- TNMC: Transnational Northern Mediterranean Campus (with Universitat de Barcelona, Aix-Marseille, Sapienza)
- CIVIC (European Universities: Aix-Marseille, Sapienza, Tübingen, Athens, Stockholm & Bucharest)

- 12 International Double Programs (DA/MA)
- 5 Erasmus Mundus Masters

- Student Exchange programs with more than 500 universities in the world (ERASMUS+ & international agreements)
  - 1700 incoming (2015-2016)
  - 1300 outgoing (2015-2016)
Young European Research Universities
Network
Promoting education collaboration
@YERUN_EU
YERUN Launch Event

7 November 2017
European Parliament

#YERUNLaunch

Watch our Video!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOcLi2Lj6Y
- Strengthen joint research and teaching initiatives, maximise mobility and facilitate graduate employability

- Bring the young European research universities perspective to the EU debate

- Implement our commitment to Open Science
Knowledge exchange

- Advising EU Policy
- Research collaboration
- Open Science
- Education collaboration
- Graduate Employability
YERUN RMF WG

Connecting researchers – Sharing knowledge & infrastructure

#YERUN #RMA
YERUN RMF WG

Connecting researchers – Research Workshops

1st YERUN Research Workshop on Big Data, and advanced analytics for the digital economy

Next ones in 2019 -> Health and Ageing (Nova) Digital Humanities (UAM)
## International Joint Programmes in YERUN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Multiple YERUN members</th>
<th>One YERUN member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>129 (12 + 117)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Masters; 1 Doctorate; 3 Combined ($B+M$, $M+D$…)</td>
<td>13 Bachelor; 84 Master; 21 Doctorate; 11 Combined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study Fields</strong></td>
<td>Social sciences, journalism and information (36,2%); Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics (24,4%); Business, administration and law (13,4%); Selected other (26,0%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Proposals for action:

- Increase the number of Joint Master Degree Programmes under Erasmus Mundus (EMJMD).
- Identify areas of interest for multiple/double and joint programmes.
- Work towards joint doctoral programmes (in connection with Strategic Action 2 'Promoting Research Collaboration')
- Consider financial support for mobility (scholarships) for joint programmes with YERUN partners.
- Consider the possibility of establishing double degree programmes at bachelor’s level in areas in which there is successful student mobility throughout the years.
YERUN SA3: Promoting education collaboration

2017-2018: WG on Joint Programmes

- Gather expressions of interest
- **Staff Week on Joint Programmes at Bachelor and Master’s level** (UAM, March 2017)
- Support teams in YERUN universities to set up joint programmes
- Write **Guidelines**
- Provide forms/templates/checklists as **tools** for setting up, running and evaluating joint programmes
- Gather list of Masters taught in English in the network

https://www.yerun.eu/strategic-action-area/education-collaboration/
YERUN Guidelines for JP’s Bachelor & Master

STAGES IN DEVELOPING & RUNNING JOINT PROGRAMMES (JP)

I. PROPOSAL STAGE
- Assessment & approval of a JP proposal:
  - Identification of JP opportunities with potential partners
  - Development of initial programme specification
  - Evaluation of progress to development stage

II. DEVELOPMENT STAGE
- From proposal’s approval to Consortium agreement:
  - Programme objectives
  - JP definition
  - Students’ services
  - Programme Management
  - Quality assurance
  - Legal clauses

III. MANAGEMENT STAGE
- Practical aspects of running the programme:
  - Student’s application, selection & enrollment procedures
  - Content & structure of joint curriculum
  - Assessment & common policy on grading
  - Communication & student services

IV. QUALITY ASSURANCE
- Evaluation & reporting:
  - Standards for quality assurance
  - Procedures for internal & external quality assurance as specified in the European Approach

APPENDIX 3
JP Proposal Checklist

APPENDIX 4
JP Checklist for Development Stage

APPENDIX 5
JP Consortium Agreement Model

APPENDIX 6
JP Checklist for Management Stage

APPENDIX 7
JP Quality Assurance (SER) Evaluation form
• 5 new double programmes are being taught (2 Master/3 Bachelor)
• 4 new double programmes are in the developing stage
• 9 new double programmes are in the proposal stage
YERUN WG JP at Doctorate Level

➢ Raise awareness about the added value of JPs

➢ Write guidelines and tools for collaborative doctoral programmes

➢ Organize a Staff Week to:
  • Present the advantages and the challenges of international collaboration at Doctorate level
  • Identify and describe the different types of ‘structured mobility’ at Doctorate level
  • Exchange good practices and share knowledge and experiences about doctoral training in collaborative contexts

➢ Encourage the creation of consortia for student and staff mobility around YERUN’s identified key research topics: Big Data, Migration, Digital Humanities, Health and Ageing, Sustainability

➢ Encourage the development of collaborative PhDs in any area in which there is research collaboration
Staff Week UAM (14th-16th November) 2018:
Invited speakers

Annamaria Silviana da Rosa
University of Roma, Sapienza

Gareth O’Neill
President of EURODOC

John W Creemers
KU Leuven

Mossadek Talby
Aix-Marseille Université/ EUA CDE
Staff Week

- Presentations by YERUN members on practical cases, general issues, etc.
- Roundtables: challenges, advantages, etc.
- Presentation of the organisation of doctoral education in 8 EU countries (Belgium/Flanders, France, Finland, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, UK).

All content can be downloaded [here](#).
Co-tutelle agreements
Formalisation of cooperation around one or several candidates.
- Co-tutelle agreements for joint supervision of one candidate by two institutions that award doctoral degrees.
- Joint doctoral programmes may have a consortium agreement for the whole joint doctoral programme and a cotutelle agreement for each individual candidate.

A double/multiple joint doctoral programme
Leading to a double/multiple degree.
- These programmes have a high level of formalisation.
- The ‘jointness’ is visible in regards with supervision related to institutions in which students take their courses and spend their study period.

Joint doctoral degree
All participants receive a joint degree issued jointly by two or more institutions.
- Highest degree of formalization
- Partners develop joint academic/training programme
- Mobility is included as part of the joint programme
- Joint selection and admission processes
MAIN MOTIVATION: From an institutional perspective

They contribute to research development and research quality through collaboration, as well as international visibility, by

- **Strengthening research** in a specific discipline in order to create a critical mass that is not achievable in a single institution.

- Increasing the number of doctoral **students** in order to improve visibility, reputation and funding.

- Increasing the **attractiveness of the programme** in terms of recruiting good candidates in the international scene.

- **Reinforcing relations with specific partners** and giving a stable structure to longstanding research collaboration, which can lead to better funding that institutions could achieve separately.

This is particularly interesting for the YERUN network in order to enhance the possibilities of YERUN partners in getting EU funds for research.
MAIN MOTIVATION: For the candidate

- They give the student an international perspective and help them become part of an international network of researchers in their subject area

- They expose students to diverse teaching/research methods and cultures (transferrable skills)

- They offer attractive possibilities for research in a context that complements the research they can carry out in their home institution, and which is often of a higher quality by bringing together experts from different institutions

- They often lead to joint publications with international partners, improving the students’ CV

- They also enhance their employability prospects and their access to research funds.
CHALLENGES

- National/regional/institutional regulations
- Financial cost (for the candidate)
- Cost in human resources (development/management costs)
- Often for a very small number of students!!!!
“The demands on and functions of universities in society have become highly diverse and complex, making it increasingly difficult for any single academic institution to discharge these varied roles successfully and efficiently.”

[from Doctoral Studies in Europe: Excellence in Researcher Training, LERU, May 2007]
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