



EUA

European University Association

EUA Report on Doctoral Programmes

**Progress Report
BFUG meeting Helsinki, 13 October 2006**

I. Methodology

- Starting Point: Bergen Communiqué – promoting synergies between higher education and research – importance of doctoral programmes & researcher careers
- Steering Committee: EUA, Austria, France, ESIB, Eurodoc
- Goal to organise a broad debate – workshops, seminars and conferences targeted to different groups
- Efforts concentrated mainly on three main areas
 - ✓ Programme issues, e.g. supervision & monitoring; transversal skills
 - ✓ Institutional & structural issues, e.g. MA/PhD links, doctoral schools, the European dimension
 - ✓ Funding of doctoral candidates, programmes, institutions

II. Programme of workshops & seminars - Chronology

- Workshop 1 – Focus on Supervision and Generic Skills (23/24 March 2006)
- Austrian Presidency/EUA/DG RES Conference “A Researchers’ Labour Market – a Pole of Attraction”:
 - ✓ workshop – doctoral candidates as young professionals: funding & support mechanisms (1-2 June 2006)
 - ✓ BFUG meeting on the financing of doctoral programmes
- As a result – questionnaire on financing doctoral programmes
- Workshop 2 – Focus on Master/PhD & on graduate schools in Europe
- Bologna Seminar hosted by the University of Nice, 7/9 December 2006 – to draw conclusions & formulate recommendations

Questionnaire to BFUG members

- How doctoral programmes are organised, e.g. programmes, doctoral schools etc. & who is responsible?
- The status of doctoral candidates?
- Funding channels, mechanisms and means of allocation of funding to doctoral programmes & candidates?
- Levels of funding and changes in recent years – how much money is spent?
- **Deadline: 10 November 2006**

Bologna Seminar in Nice: key issues

***Drawing conclusions & making recommendations.
Key issues in addition to funding mechanisms:***

- Structure and organisation of doctoral education (Doctoral/ Graduate schools)
- Master – PhD link
- Generic skills training for employability & career development, inside & outside academia
- Supervision, Monitoring and Assessment
- International collaboration & mobility:
- Professional doctorates: Yes or no?
- Academic career prospects: from PhD to postdoc?

Nice Seminar (2)

- **To register for the Nice Seminar:**

Doctorates-Seminar@EUA.be