



Enlargement of the presentation of vice-rector Erno Lehtinen on 15th June 2005 in VICTORIOUS-meeting in Turku, Finland

UNIVERSITY OF TURKU: VICTORIOUS CASE STUDY

University in brief

The first university in Finland, Academia Aboensis, was established in Turku in 1640 by Christina, the Queen of Sweden and Finland. In 1828, following the Great Fire of Turku, the university was transferred to Helsinki, the new capital of the country, which at the time belonged to the Russian Empire.

Finland's achievement of independence in 1917 gave new impetus to aspirations for getting the university in Turku again. This was succeeded after a huge private campaign. Thus the first Finnish University was founded in Turku in 1920. The University of Turku was a private foundation until 1974, when the ownership of the University was transferred to the State.

University has six faculties:

- Faculty of Humanities (founded 1920)
- Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (1922)
- Faculty of Medicine (1943)
- Faculty of Law (1960)
- Faculty of Social Sciences (1967)
- Faculty of Education (1974)

Year 2004:

- total number of students 17874 (64% female)
- number of new students 1 803
- international students 1049
- Master's degrees 1 078
- Doctorates 144
- the scientific publications of the university researches amounted to 2 600
- total number of staff 2 543:

 %

- 29.8 teaching
 - 25.4 research
 - 18.9 administration and office
 - 17.9 assistance for teaching and research
 - 5.0 ICT and library
 - 3.0 other
- expenditure in 2004 (171 million) according to source of funding:

 67 Direct state budget funding

 12 Chargeable services

 10 Jointly funded research

 7 Academy of Finland

4 Other

100 %

Student exchange

Student exchange	2001	2002	2003	2004
incoming, at least 3 months	233	272	261	274
- female	151	183	180	186
- male	82	89	81	88
outgoing, at least 3 months	348	332	367	368
- female	270	275	289	308
- male	78	57	78	62
incoming, less than 3 months	51	48	34	61
outgoing, less than 3 months	142	123	72	73

The most popular countries were France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Britain.

Outgoing student exchange in 2004 (more than 3 months):

		FACULTY						Tot
		Hum	Edu	Med	Science	Law	Soc	
Erasmus	Female	83	12	6	12	22	18	153
	Male	11	1	0	4	8	9	33
	Tot	94	13	6	16	30	27	186
Non-Er	Female	76	6	9	27	16	19	153
	Male	5	2	1	7	6	8	29
	Tot	81	8	10	34	22	27	182
TOTAL		175	21	16	50	52	54	368

ICT services for students and teachers

Existing systems:

- normal e-mail and home page services
- electronic journals and other material
 - search tools
 - distance use of limited access material
- free learning platform (WorkMates) integrated in the normal ICT infrastructure of the University (single password policy)
- study credit data-base with web interface

- transcript of study records via email: can be printed (in Finnish or English) from the 'OPSU', the University's computerized student register. Lists all the results for completed study units and can be used by the student e.g. when applying for study aid, or for a job.
- Information about exam results in net
- Registration for exams online: on departmental level, not centralized system
- Flexible web-based tool for collecting student feedback

Special services for exchange students

- All official exchange students and staff members get the same right to the University ICT systems than the regular students and staff
- Introduction course
- ICT-guide
- service desk
- cheap network in most student residences
- email list for exchange students

Systems under development and piloting

- electronic enrollment systems
 - i.e. electronic forms, database, the possibility to follow-up the phase of the application process
- tools for developing personal development plans
 - Problem in most universities:
 - the dead line for exchange applications (in UTU May 31st) is before the detailed course calendar and timetables in departments are ready
- tools for creating electronic portfolio

Support for international master programmes (joint degree/double degree)

- "Virtual campus"
 - learning platform
 - curriculum development and integration tools
 - course calendar
 - study material
 - tools for study guidance, personal development plan
 - study administration tools for teachers from different universities
 - "community tools"
 - tools for credit transfer
 - quality assurance tools

Quality assurance in eLearning

As a part of the Bologna process quality assurance is one of the hot topics in developing teaching and learning including eLearning. In Finnish system the main responsibility of day-to-day evaluation mechanisms has been in department level. The emphasis has been on enhancement and improvement instead of accountability and control. This has caused a huge variety of different systems. This is also the case in the University of Turku. Gathering the views of students of their educational experiences is very often used. However, the results are usually meant for the individual teacher.

The utilization of ICT on teaching has been creating a new more open evaluation culture. Because the teaching and learning process is designed in cooperation in course-teams, the evaluation of courses is also organised in those teams. For example, special evaluation seminars have been organised (e.g. virtual literature, virtual history). These include:

- short evaluation reports of teachers,
- comments of external pedagogical evaluator,
- comments of content evaluator and
- student experiences.

The aim of these seminars has been the dissemination of ideas and further development of courses. Seminars have been open for colleagues from other departments.

The quality assurance systems of each university will be audited till the year 2011. At the moment universities are describing their systems for further development.

Relating links

Information guide for students (incl. information about ICT-services)

http://www.utu.fi/en/studing/studies/information/_guide/index.html