

EU and the Bologna Process

*American Association of Collegiate Registrars &
Admissions Officers*

Annual Meeting

New York City, March 28-31

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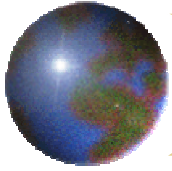
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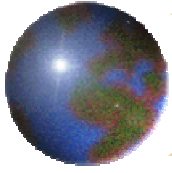
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Institute of International Education



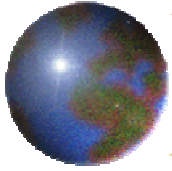
History

- ✚ Pre-Bologna
- ✚ Bologna Declaration 1999
- ✚ Prague 2001
- ✚ Berlin 2003
- ✚ Bergen 2005



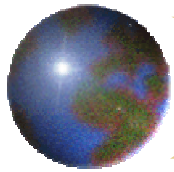
Bologna Goals

- ✦ Adoption of system of easily readable & comparable degrees
- ✦ Adoption of two-cycle system
- ✦ Establishment of credit system
- ✦ Promotion of quality



Implementation Issues

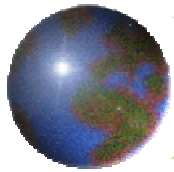
- ✚ Bachelor's and Master's degrees
- ✚ Quality assurance & accreditation systems
- ✚ European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)
- ✚ Diploma Supplement (DS)
- ✚ Joint degrees



Italy

| Characteristics | Old | New |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Degrees | <i>Laurea/Dottore</i> (4-5 years) | <i>Laurea</i> – 3 years <i>Laurea specialistica</i> –2 years |
| Credits | None | 180/300 ECTS credits 1 credit = 25 hours of work |
| Diploma Supplement | - | Compulsory (Ministerial Decree, 2001) |
| Lisbon Convention | - | Ratified |
| Courses | Annual courses | Modular system |

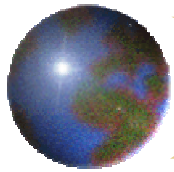
- Admission: 13-year *Maturita*
- V.O. - *Vecchio Ordinamento* = Old system, N.O. - *Nuovo Ordinamento* = New system
- By law (Reform of 1999) all universities have first & second cycle degrees
- First cycle introduced 2001-02, Second cycle introduced 2002-03
- 38 broad classes of *laurea* degrees representing 3,200 programs; 102 *laurea specialistica* degrees representing 2,100 programs



Netherlands

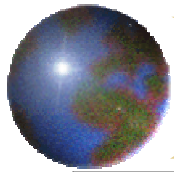
| Characteristic s | Old | New |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Degrees | <i>Doctorandus, meester, ingenieur, baccalaureus</i> - 4-5 years | Bachelor – 3 years Master – 1-3 years |
| Credits | 40-42 per year | 180 ECTS credits for bachelors in academic areas 240 ECTS credits in higher professional education 60 ECTS credits for masters in academic areas 120 ECTS credits in agriculture, dentistry, engineering, life & natural sciences 180 ECTS credits in medicine 60 credits per year = 1680 hours |
| Diploma Supplement | - | Voluntary use of European Diploma Supplement |
| Lisbon Conventio n | - | Ratified |
| Accreditation | None | Introduced in 2002 |

- Bachelor-Master structure introduced in 2002
- One-cycle programs remain in dentistry & medicine and some other areas
- Graduates may opt for old or new names on degrees



United Kingdom

| Characteristics | Old | New |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Degrees | Bachelor – 3 years Master – 1-2 years | Bachelor – 3 years Master – 1-2 years |
| Credits | Some credit systems in use, including Credit Accumulation and Transfer System (CATS) 120 credits per year | Some credit systems in use, including Credit Accumulation and Transfer System (CATS) 120 credits per year |
| Diploma Supplement | - | None |
| Lisbon Convention | - | Ratified |
| Courses | Annual courses & modules | Annual courses & modules |

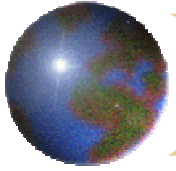


Germany

| Characteristics | Old | New |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Degrees | <i>Diplom (Univ.)</i> – 4 years <i>Diplom (FH)</i> – 3 + 1 years | Bachelor – 3-4 years Master – 1-2 years |
| Credits | None | ECTS credits |
| Diploma Supplement | - | Required in 2005 |
| Lisbon Convention | - | Ratified |
| Accreditation | Hours per week | Modules |

Admission: *Fachhochschule (FH)* 12-year *Fachhochschulreife*
University (Univ.) 13-year *Abitur*

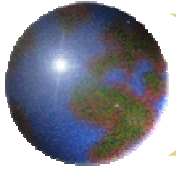
Bachelor & Master degrees represent 26.3% of degrees offered
2000 – 1.8% of students opted for Bachelor degree
2003 – 7.5% of students opted for Bachelor degree
2003 – 108,000 or 5.3% students enrolled in Bachelor or Master program



Admission of European Students Questionnaire

Respondents

- ✦ Over 90 U.S. & Canadian admissions professionals
- ✦ Public & private institutions
- ✦ International enrollments from 20 to 5000
- ✦ European enrollments represented less than 10 to 40% of foreign student population



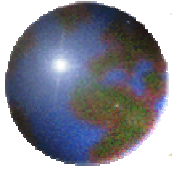
Questionnaire: Summary of Results

Current domestic and foreign admission requirements

- ✚ No significant difference, except in English language requirements
- ✚ Bachelor's degree required of both domestic and foreign students for graduate admissions

Current definition of bachelor's degree

- ✚ Awarded by a degree-granting institution
- ✚ Other characteristics varied
- ✚ Length of domestic bachelor's degree: four years (74%)
three years (26%)
- ✚ Length of foreign bachelor's degree: four years (68%)
three years (32%)



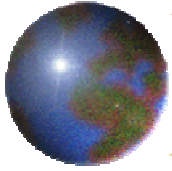
More Questionnaire Results

Knowledge of Bologna Declaration:

- ✿ Familiar with Bologna Declaration and understand its general goals (34%)
- ✿ Have heard of Bologna Declaration but don't know much about it (35%)
- ✿ Not familiar with Bologna Declaration (30%)

European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) and Diploma Supplement:

- ✿ Majority of respondents are familiar with ECTS
- ✿ Fewer respondents are familiar with the Diploma Supplement



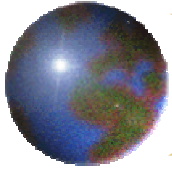
Survey Themes

✚ Hopes

- ✚ Changes brought about by the Bologna Declaration will make credential evaluation easier
 - Diploma Supplement
 - ECTS and grading system
 - National Council on the Evaluation of Foreign Academic Credentials has determined that one ECTS credit is comparable to one half (.50) U.S. semester credit
- ✚ Greater ease in obtaining information expected
- ✚ Higher level of consistency expected

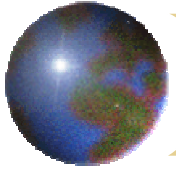
✚ Concerns

- ✚ Evaluation of three-year degrees for graduate admission



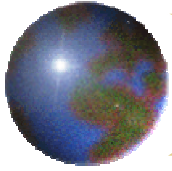
Recommendations & Approaches

- ✚ Analyze & understand your own admission & transfer policies and requirements
- ✚ Update your knowledge on changes in Europe
- ✚ Consider creative & experimental solutions
- ✚ Consider best practices of colleagues



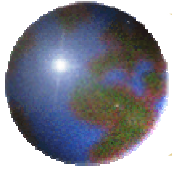
Graduate Admission: Alternative Approaches for Students with Three-year Degrees

- ✚ Acceptance based on title
- ✚ Rejection based on length of program
- ✚ Focus on admission criteria: secondary school program, work experience, major area of study
- ✚ Existing relationships
 - ▣ consideration for exchange partners, track record of known programs



Graduate Admission: Other Options

- ✿ Admission to alternative programs
 - ✦ bridge program
 - ✦ honors diploma
 - ✦ qualifying year,
 - ✦ varied length graduate programs for varied length first degree
- ✿ Alternative admissions status
 - ✦ provisional admission
 - ✦ conditional admission
 - ✦ challenge examinations
- ✿ Holistic approach



Thank You

Resources

<http://www.bologna-bergen2005.no>

- This is the official site for the third Bologna follow-up conference scheduled for Bergen in 2005. The site includes updates on initiatives related to the Bologna Declaration.

<http://www.aic.lv/ace/>

- Link to the website of the Admissions Officers and Credential Evaluators (ACE) section of the European Association for International Education. Includes a useful section on the Bologna Declaration.

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/policies/rec_qual/recognition/diploma_en.html

- Detailed description of the Diploma Supplement.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/socrates/ects_en.html

- Detailed description of ECTS credits and grades.

Resources

✿ NAFSA: Association of International Educators

✚ <http://www.adsec.nafsa.org/ADSECNewsletter.asp>

March issue includes an introductory article on the Bologna Declaration.
May issue includes an article on a survey of admissions practices for European students.

✚ <http://www.nafsa.org/practiceres/bologna/bologna-Background.htm>

Resources on the Bologna Declaration

✚ <http://www.nafsa.org/practiceres/bologna/bologna-taskforce.htm>

NAFSA Bologna Process Task Force