

PRIDE Master Class: 29 August 2021 – 1 September 2021

"Effectiveness of Doctoral Schools. Do they deliver key objectives in an efficient way?"



Centre for Advanced Academic Studies (CAAS)

The PRIDE Master Class is organised in cooperation with the University of Zagreb, CAAS, in Dubrovnik.

Target Group

Vice-Rectors/Heads of Doctoral Schools/Programmes, Supervisors, Managers as well as Professionals in Doctoral Education from PRIDE and non-PRIDE institutions

The topic

We have witnessed how the landscape of doctoral education worldwide, and especially in Europe, has changed dramatically over the last two decades. The number of doctoral students has risen, and with it the expectations of the doctorate as a driver in the national innovation system as well as in the research performance of individual institutions. It is also clear that doctoral graduates have a wide range of employment prospects open to them and that they should be prepared for these without compromising academic quality. The goal is set: Training doctoral students to be the next generation of creative, critical, autonomous and responsible intellectual risk-takers is more important than ever in times of epochal challenges and disturbing changes. (for example, see <https://www.doctoral-education.info/home.php>).

In many countries, structured doctoral programmes have become the standard, and Doctoral Schools set the framework for them. In the 2021 PRIDE Master class we want to explore

several related questions. Our first step is to ask what we perceive the agreed purpose or objectives of any Doctoral School are. We shall then consider 1) whether these objectives are appropriately addressed and 2) whether achieving these objectives is accomplished efficiently?

Sometimes the doctoral school is also associated with the home, the place of belonging, where peer exchange is encouraged and socialisation as a researcher takes place and is a key feature of the culture. The pandemic crisis therefore poses an additional challenge, and raises the question as to whether Doctoral Schools have fulfilled their role effectively and efficiently in this very restrictive climate.

The Master Class will address the following questions:

- Considering the varied expectations of the different stakeholders in respect of doctoral education: What does effectiveness mean?
- What indicates to us that doctoral schools actually contribute to effectiveness? To what extent are they aligned with the goals of diverse contexts?
- How do we measure efficiency and utilise different (quantitative and qualitative) efficiency indicators?
- How do we increase efficiency in the context of doctoral education, and who or what are the drivers?

Having these questions in mind, the **objectives** are the following:

- Identifying the main objectives or expectations for Doctoral Schools
- Identifying the main indicators of effectiveness (performance indicators)
- Identifying efficiency criteria in the context of doctoral education (in relation to specific contexts and positions / roles of the participants)
- Reflecting and choosing the “right and appropriate” data for the specific Institution
- Developing an overview and understanding of the diverse nature of effectiveness and efficiency
- Discussing how to improve doctoral education bearing in mind the intended, or expected result

Online Application

Application deadline: 9 July 2021. Applications will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis.

Number of participants: minimum 20, maximum:25.

Participation fee: €500 (PRIDE members), €620 (non- PRIDE members).

Participation fee includes: accommodation (4 nights), breakfasts, lunches, coffee breaks, 2 dinners and the participation in the social programme.

The fee does not cover travel expenses to and from Dubrovnik.

For more information please contact Michael Wimmer at info.pride-network@univie.ac.at.

Preliminary Programme

Sunday, 29 August 2021

16:30 – 17:00	Arrival of Participants
17:00 – 18:30	Welcome of Participants and Introduction to the programme Icebreaking Activity
From 18:30 on	“Out of the box” talk (History of Dubrovnik, Stories, Diplomacy) during the walk on the walls

Monday, 30 August 2021

Morning Swim

9:00 – 9:30

- Introduction to the programme (Lucas)
- Introduction to the topic (Melita)

9:30 – 12:00 *Session 1*

Working groups. Effectiveness Focus: doing the right thing (Doctoral School)

- What /who are the objectives / stakeholders of Doctoral Schools
- How are objectives agreed upon?
- How effectively do Doctoral Schools meet stated objectives?
- How effectively do Doctoral Schools meet the needs of its stakeholders?
- How effectively can Doctoral Schools obtain and use resources?

10:45 – 11:15 *Grab some coffee and stretch your legs break*

11.15 – 12:00 *Session 1, Continued*

12:00 – 12:30 Wrapping up (Melita), reflection on the findings (putting them into an academic framework)

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:30 *Session 2*

Working groups. Efficiency Focus: are you doing things right? (Doctoral School)

- Individual reflection: what does efficiency mean at my university?
- In the working group: towards a common understanding of efficiency
- In the working group: identifying relevant strategies/ streamlining/ performance indicators/ barriers

16:00 – 16:30	<i>Health and Coffee Break</i>
16:30 – 17:30	Keynote from the USA: “The Importance of Professionals and central PhD offices”, Maresi Nerad (College of Education, at the University of Washington, Seattle)
20:00	Dinner

Tuesday, 31 August 2021

Morning Swim

9:00 – 11:00	<i>Session 3</i>
	Expert intervention: “Efficiency and Effectiveness at universities and how to measure”, David Bogle (Pro-Vice-Provost of the Doctoral School at University College London)
	Blended Fishbowl Discussion
Around 11:00	Leave for the Social Programme including Intervision Session

Wednesday, 1 September 2021

Morning Swim

9:00 – 10:45	<i>Session 4</i>
Working groups.	Effectiveness Focus: are you doing the right things? (individual)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual reflection: what are my key objectives in my role at my university? • In the working group: how effectively can objectives be met? • In the working group: what barriers exist to achievement?
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Grab some coffee and stretch your legs break</i>
11.15 – 12:00	<i>Session 5</i>

Working groups. Efficiency Focus: are we doing things right? (individual)

- Individual reflection: What does efficiency mean in my role at my university?
- In the working group: towards a common understanding of efficiency
- In the working group: identifying practices that work and those that do not
- In the working group: tips to improve efficiency

12:00 – 12:30 Wrapping up (Ken)

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:30 *Session 6*

- Reflection: Individual work: “Take home message” and “What do I want to change/initiate when I return to the office”
- Sharing reflection in groups and presenting outcomes in plenum

15:30 – 16:00 *Health and Coffee Break*

16:00 – 16:30 *Farewell drink and Wrap-up*