

The second series of LEAD2 workshops

Gliwice-Vienna, 24-29 October 2019

Dissemination Report

(WP: 4)

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The LEAD2 project is a Capacity Building in Higher Education project supported by the Erasmus+ programme. The LEAD2 project is built on the results of the LEAD project, but with several additional innovative contributions. This project is a partnership of 6 European partners and 6 Chinese partners focusing on university governance and academic leadership capacity building.

I. INTRODUCTION

Co-organised by VUB, SUT and UniVie, the LEAD2 second series of workshops on University Governance and Academic Leadership in the context of innovation and internalisation successfully took place at Silesian University of Technology (SUT) in Gliwice and University of Vienna (UniVie) in Vienna from 24-29 October 2019. About 40 participants attended the events, and they are from 15 different higher education institutions (HEIs), from both Europe and China, covering LEAD2 Project partner institutions, LEAD2 associated partners and other HEIs.

This report outlines the dissemination activities of the second series of LEAD2 workshops. The main purposes of the outreach include: (1) enhance knowledge and skills on university governance and academic leadership for participants; (2) disseminate the LEAD2 project to audiences and engage participants; (3) promote the project accompanied by main objectives, target groups, deliverables to a variety of stakeholders including partner and non-partner universities.

Regarding contents to be disseminated, three main themes were focused and addressed in the second series of LEAD2 workshop. The first theme is comparative research of university governance. The second theme focused on academic rankings and university governance. The third theme specifically emphasized on governance of doctoral education. Besides, the issue of project management and follow up was optimised in the two consortium meetings.

Concerning stakeholders, the main target group is participants who attend the workshops. Besides, external audiences including academic leaders and staffs in partner and non-partner universities, MOOC participants, and interested audiences. By doing so, the impacts of the workshops are maximized.

With regard to the dissemination methodology, various forms of workshop training were adopted such as keynote speech, site lectures, discussion, etc. In addition, using website and social media were additional methods to reach remote audiences who are interested in the conference.

II. DISSEMINATION RESULTS

1. Dissemination to participants joining the workshops

As a primary stakeholder for the workshops, 40 participants from both Chinese and European universities directly benefit from the workshop results. During the four days of workshops, various forms of professional development training have been adopted including keynote speeches, structures discussions, group discussions, quizzes, reflection, consortium meeting. In this light, attendees had opportunities to enrich knowledge and skills on university governance and academic leadership, share practical experiences as well as broaden academic social network.

1.1. Keynote speeches

Keynote speeches played essential roles in the workshops of which the main objectives were to equip participants with basic and updated pieces of knowledge on University Governance and

Academic Leadership. In addition, presentations provided by keynote speakers are a good start for the interactive panel discussions among participants. To that end, sixteen keynote speeches were presented during the four-day workshops, followed by interactive sessions (Q&A). Those presentations addressed the critical issues focusing on (1) case studies of university governance, (2) academic rankings & their impacts on university (3) and governance of doctoral education.

With regard to the first theme on cross-cased of university governance, a very first keynote speech presented by Prof. Gaye Toksoz (METU) on 24th October bringing an overview of university contributions to the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The presentation successfully provided participants with new contexts accompanied by global trends in higher education and strategies to achieve SDGs. With such a background, the LEAD2 project is timely in order to promote exchange and encourage cooperation between Chinese and European Universities regarding leadership capacity building shared by attendants. The theme was followed by six keynote speeches presenting overall university-wide governance structures accompanied by specific aspects. Specifically, global governance structures of SUT, METU, Tongji University, CUG, GXNU, YNNU were introduced respectively. As shared by the attendants, these informative presentations are practical and useful as they enabled academic leaders to broaden their knowledge on university governance structures which have not been comparatively reflected in any research. These presentations additionally provided participants specific information to generate ideas for panel discussion on the cross-case analysis.

Concerning the second theme namely academic rankings and their impacts on university, three keynote speeches were introduced by Dr. Johannes Sorz (UniVie), Prof. WU Jiang (Tongji University), and Prof. Melita Kovacevic (Uni of Zagreb). These keynote speeches successfully deepened participants' understanding of how rankings are measured, how it affects on university governance, and how academic institutions can improve their ranking positions. Highlighted by participants, this session provided insights into university governance towards rankings both theoretically and practically.

The third theme on governance of doctoral education was addressed by three keynote speakers from UniVie, NOVA, and CUG. The presentation provided by Prof. Peter Becker equipped participants with an overview of doctoral education in UniVie under which structures, programs, integration of doctoral school and doctoral program were discussed. Besides, the presentation given by Prof. CHU Yuwang, provided new insights into doctoral educational governance in Chinese universities including evolvement, status quo and trends. In addition, the keynote speech on burnout & engagement in universities presented by Prof. Filipa Castanheira, introduced a problem of working pressure existed in academia environment. In this light, some strategic solutions to reduce work pressure were also discussed. These presentations were informative as it provided attendees with deeper insights into theoretical and practical knowledge of governance in doctoral school. Shared by participants, knowledge obtained in these three presentations were very useful for them to join the panel workshop on the same topic.

1.2. Workshops and panel discussions

Consistent with keynote speeches, workshops and structured discussions were organised, aiming at improving knowledge, skills for academic leaders at different levels. Generally, these sessions created an opportunity for both Chinese academic leaders and European academic leaders to exchange

knowledge, share practical experiences, and learn from each other. In this light, different themes regarding university governance and academic leadership were discussed and interactively brainstormed among participants.

The first structured discussion focusing on cross-cases of university governance was organised on 25th October in SUT. The workshops were organised in an interactive way: the panelists involves professors and leaders at different levels from six Chinese and European universities. Led by the panel members, attendees actively discussed different issues including SWOT analysis, global structures of each case, the role of internationalisation in university structures. Afterward, the summaries and insights were briefly presented by five reporters. Highlighted by participants, the workshop was fruitful and informative. In addition, commonalities and differences regarding university structure between European and Chinese institutions were found. This discussion results were considered as unique value, thanks to LEAD2 project. Moreover, attendants also shared that suggestions and recommendations regarding internationalisation accompanied by strategic models were valuable for the improvement of national and international cooperation in their institutions.

The second structured workshop addressing the issue of academic rankings was successfully organised on 28th October in UniVie. Under this theme, three questions were discussed: (1) why are rankings important for universities and how can a university's ranking be improved? (2) Does it make sense that all university strive for the highest ranking? Do rankings reflect the (regional, national, international) role of universities? Do rankings reflect excellence, and what is the definition of excellence? (3) Do good/high-ranked universities necessarily need more budget and/or resources? What are the effects of excellence initiatives? Participants were gathered together in three small groups to discuss the topic comprehensively. The discussion was productive as it enabled participants to share their own perspectives on academic rankings accompanied by practical examples in specific institutions. Furthermore, attendees had opportunities to enrich their practical understanding of how to improve ranking position in different academic contexts. Not surprisingly, a great number of the participants expressed high satisfaction with this session because of its usefulness and effectiveness.

The theme on governance of doctoral education was flourishingly deepen by the third structured workshop on 29th October. Of this, three questions were raised: (1) Guidance versus control: what is the main duty of the head of a doctoral school? (2) Should the head of a school also be a leader: what would he have to do to have her/his peers follow her/him? (3) What skills and knowledge are necessary to successfully lead and manage a doctoral school? Experience sharing was significantly an important medium of learning for academic leaders in this lecture. Through this activity, participants obtained more knowledge toward practices of governance in doctoral education (graduate school in China). As shared by the attendees, this structured workshops are practical and useful as it enables academic leaders to engage and apply what they have leant in the workshops to tackle the current challenges they are facing within their institutions. Besides, the importance of having terminology regarding university governance for better mutual understanding was highlighted by attendants. This interactive session additionally provided participants with specific information to generate ideas for comparative research.

In overall, all participants stated that the structured discussions during the four-day workshops have generally enhanced interpersonal and leadership competencies such as communication,

management, and presentation skills. Moreover, the discussion results contributed by European and Chinese participants were highlighted as one of the most prominent achievements of the workshop.

1.3. Quizzes and reflection

Apart from main activities, quizzes and reflections were reported as very useful and productive as it offered opportunities for participants for testing their knowledge gained, for getting to know each other better as well as sharing what they have learnt.

1.4. Comparative research team meetings

As part of LEAD2 project, the second series of LEAD2 workshops intentionally organised a comparative research team meeting where participants discuss can implement research activities. Moderated by Prof. Zhu Chang and Prof. LIU Yarong, participants interactively discussed on research work plans and research teams. Highlighted by participants, the meeting is essential for research teams to discuss face to face on the work plans including research topics, time planning, responsibility of each team members.

2. Dissemination to interested audiences

The initial dissemination planning not only focused on the participants attending the workshops but also other stakeholders who are interested in to the conference including academic leaders and staff in partner or non-partner universities, MOOC participants and external audiences. To that end, a pilot of livestreaming keynote speech was organised. In addition, workshop programs, PowerPoint presentations, photos, and other workshops materials were updated daily during the conference to engage remote audiences.

2.1. Livestreaming keynote speeches

In order to disseminate the workshops to as many audiences as possible, the project organizer implemented a pilot of livestreaming keynote speeches which were on-air on 28th and 29th October. 62 people registered for these two events. Reflected by some participants, the livestreaming keynote speeches were interesting and informative. With this positive results, it is recommended to have more livestreaming sessions in upcoming LEAD2 workshops in order to meet the need of interested audiences.

2.2. Updating website and social media (Facebook and Wechat)

As part of dissemination efforts, programs accompanied by presentations, photos, and related materials were updated daily on the websites and Wechat during the four-day workshops. Several attendees shared that it is highly impressive and appreciated for this updating made by the project organizers.


Concerning to the promotion for livestreaming keynote speeches, invitation accompanied by registration links were published on the project website and Facebook page. At the same time, an announcement regarding the events was posted on the MOOC platform and Wechat groups.

III. CONCLUSION

After the four days of activities, the participants completed the LEAD2 workshop training and 40 participants were awarded with the LEAD2 workshop certificates. The event not only enhance knowledge and skills on academic leadership for individuals but also advanced mutual understanding and cooperation among HEIs from Europe and China. The workshop results were successfully disseminated to a variety of stakeholders.







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INVITATION: Live streaming workshops on university governance and academic leadership

We're excited to announce that we're live-streaming our keynote speeches for the LEAD2 conference in Vienna on 28th and 29th October 2019.

Schedule

Tuesday, October 28 | 10:30 am – 12 am GMT+02:00: Keynote speech on academic rankings and their impact on University governance

Wednesday, October 29 | 9:30 am – 10:30 am GMT+02:00: Keynote speech on Governance of doctoral education

Sign up to view the live stream and we will send you a reminder before we go live!

<http://www.lead2-project.eu/node/101>

Find out more about our project:
<http://www.lead2-project.eu>

< **NAEA LEAD2 Workshop (42)** ...

Oct 27, 2019 11:40

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大家好！维也纳会议直播链接，请您查收：

10月28日 北京时间的下午5:30 开始

关于学术排名及其对大学治理的影响的主题演讲

会议主持：奥地利维也纳大学
Susanne Weigelin-Schwiedrzik 教授

