

Developing a Toolbox for Managing International Collaborative PhD Programmes

Session 1: Where we are in terms of handling
international collaborative PhD programmes at
institutional level in SA and EU? (Part 1)

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Developing the internationalization
of PhD studies in South Africa



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Snapshot view of International Collaborative PhD programmes at UCT

– status quo, needs, challenges

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YEBO!

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Status quo

- Small number of joint/co-badged PhD programmes in existence (i.e. under some form of signed agreement, excludes many UCT PhD students in which one or more co-supervisors may be abroad under a joint supervision arrangement)
- 12 in Research contracts office (2013-2019); Some likely in faculties, and older ones
 - Groningen, Swansea, Cote d'Azur, Brest, Bristol, Sydney, Paris, Potsdam, Chile, Toulouse, Amsterdam, Ghent
- Most involve a single student – Bristol will be 7 students
- Vary in age detail of arrangements, and diverse agreements (sometimes a framework co-operation agreement, sometimes not, some funded some not)
- Have developed a process guideline to be followed

Needs

- Audit of joint/co-badged (active vs. dormant)
- Need for the guidelines and processes to be followed!
- Need clarity on roles of faculties vs. central UCT processes (considering autonomy of faculties)
- Clarity on where such joint PhD's should/could be administered
- Dispell ignorance on whether such cotutelle degrees are permissible

Challenges – 1

- Different funding arrangements (different grants etc. funding different agreements)
- Expectations of students - depending on where they're from (SA, Africa or EU)
- Expectations of staff/supervisors - depending on whether in EU or UCT
- Poor understanding on the part of project leaders/academics/PI's/supervisors wrt how to develop such agreements and programmes
- Ignorance regarding the power and advantages of such joint PhD's

Challenges – 2

- Alignment of examination requirements – notably requirement for some EU institutions to consider publication as a part of the examination requirements
- Agreement of IP/copyright issues
- Time to completion (and varied entry baseline)
- Differing styles/admin of funding between EU and SA
- Visa requirements



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Thank you



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