Chemical engineering education Fit for purpose?

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ChemEng Education

At a (relatively) recent ChemEng Matters workshop we were asked to define 'why we do this'

"We do this because the world needs people to safely and sustainably create the products and processes that make better stuff, from ordinary stuff without making bad stuff. This is done through continuous improvement that enhances quality of life for all."

Education challenges

Trends in CE application/graduation numbers

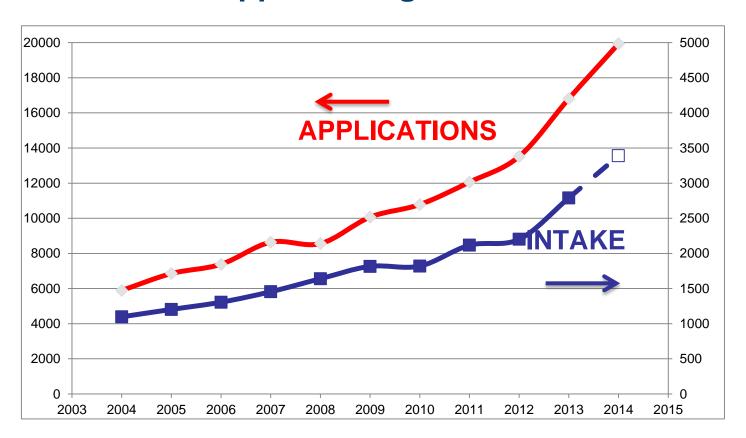
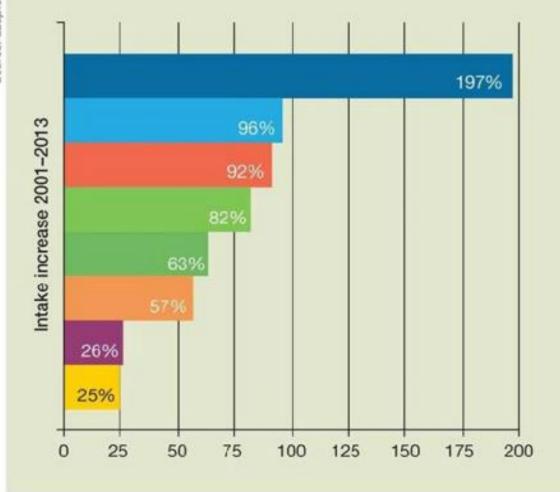


Figure 1: growth in UK student intake by subject



Student figures

- Chemical engineering (940–2,790)
- Maths (4,006-7,685)
- Mechanical engineering (3,726–7,139)
- Physics (2,612-4,745)
- Civil engineering (2,362–3,863)
- Chemistry (3,059–4,811)
- Electrical/electronic engineering (3,557–4,468)
- Biology (4,697-5,890)

Education challenges

How do we ensure 'quality experience' for the increasing student numbers?

Lab provision, tutorials, placement



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Effectiveness and efficiency

Jarka Glassey







Luis Miguel Madeira



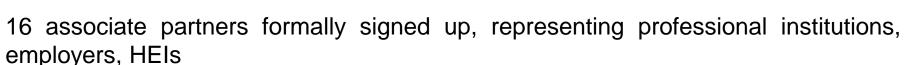
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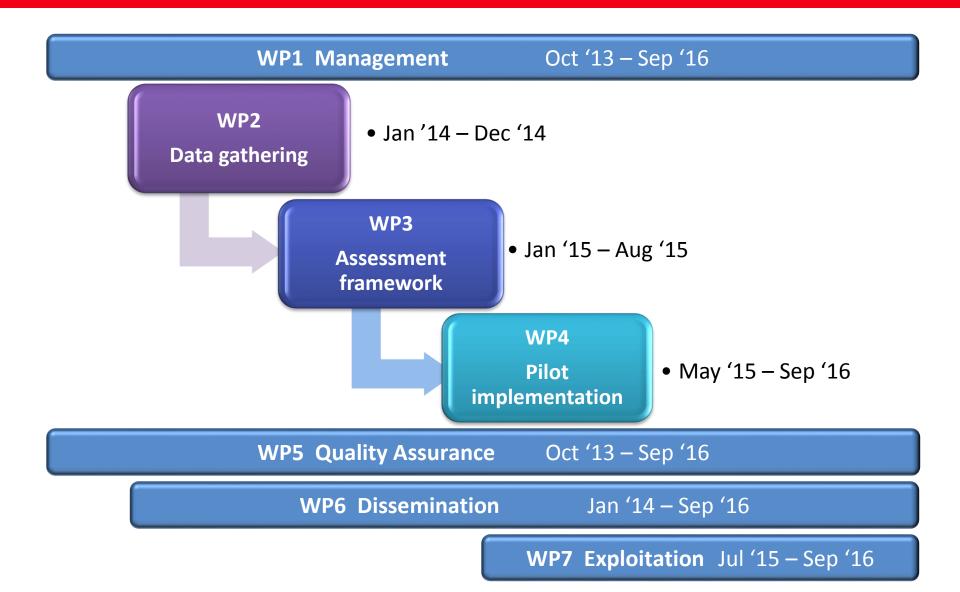
Norbert Kockmann technische universität



iTeach aim

- develop a framework which will support the assessment of teaching effectiveness (efficiency) in delivering not only core chemical engineering knowledge, but also core employability competencies.
- More detail on <u>www.iteach-chemeng.eu</u>

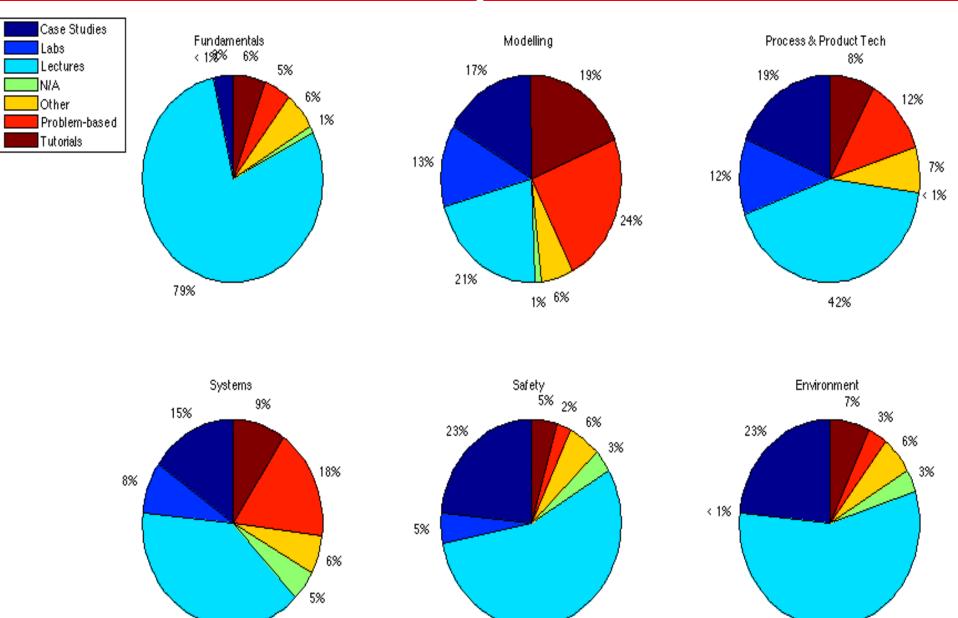
Project overview



Effectiveness

- Review of various (inter)national CE accreditation requirements
- List of learning outcomes (LO) collated
- Survey sent to academics, industrialists and graduates on the importance of knowledge, skill and competency areas (> 260 valid responses)
- Clear agreement of all groups on the LO with only minor differences based on geographical or sectoral variations
- Importance of fundamentals, but also core competencies

Current position



55%

39%

Efficiency

Academics

Industry



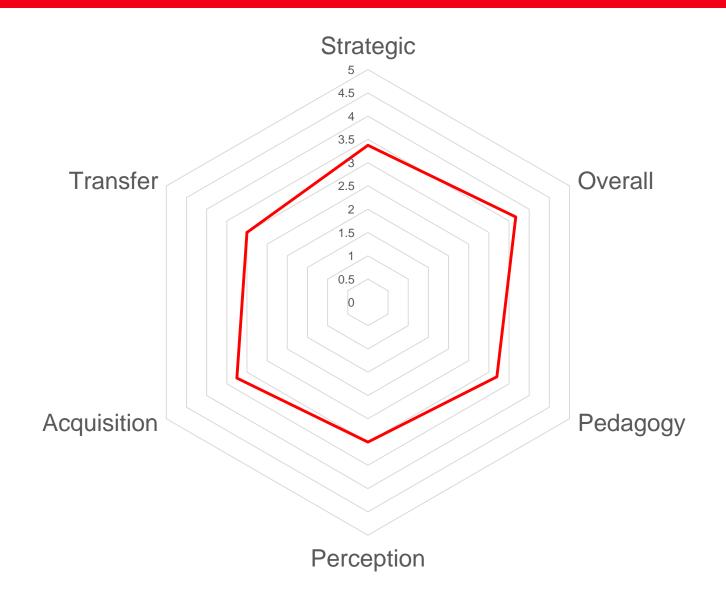
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Proposed metrics

Assessment of the efficiency of individual pedagogical approaches:

- 1. Strategic nature of the course
- 2. Implementation of the course within the programme
- 3. Pedagogical relevance of the proposed intervention
- 4. Student perception of the pedagogical approach
- 5. Knowledge/skills acquired
- Ability to apply/transfer the acquired knowledge/skills to professional practice

Framework representation



Pedagogical approaches tested

- P1(UNEW) recorded lectures, problem based learning
- P2 (UL) problem based learning, self-instruction delivery
- P3 (IBU) work-based learning, traditional lectures
- P4 (FEUP) recorded lectures, practical instruction via labs
- P5 (STU) traditional lectures, practical instruction via labs
- P6 (TUDO) work-based learning, problem based learning

Evaluation of whole formation



Concluding remarks

- Societal, economic and demographical changes introducing additional challenges to CE education
- Importance of fundamentals and employability competencies
- Need to measure efficiency of pedagogical interventions
- Global professional formation evaluation
- Involvement of all stakeholders throughout the whole process

Acknowledgements

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