

Internationalisation and Talent Development
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Aarhus University – some facts

- Main campus in Aarhus, Denmark
- Top 100 university
- 43,000 students
- 4,400 international students
- 80 Bachelor and 120 Master degree programmes
- Graduate university
- 60 % of Master degree programmes are taught in English
- 6,600 academic staff (incl. PhD students)
- More than 800 exchange agreements with universities all over the world.



Why internationalisation?

> University status

- > being associated with "The Right League"
- > internationalisation is associated with quality – internationally active universities are considered dynamic
- > position the university to new partnerships

> Ranking

- > internationalisation a parameter in rankings and league tables

> Economy

- > student fees (not relevant for AU)
- > ability to attract research grants, FP7, Horizon 2020

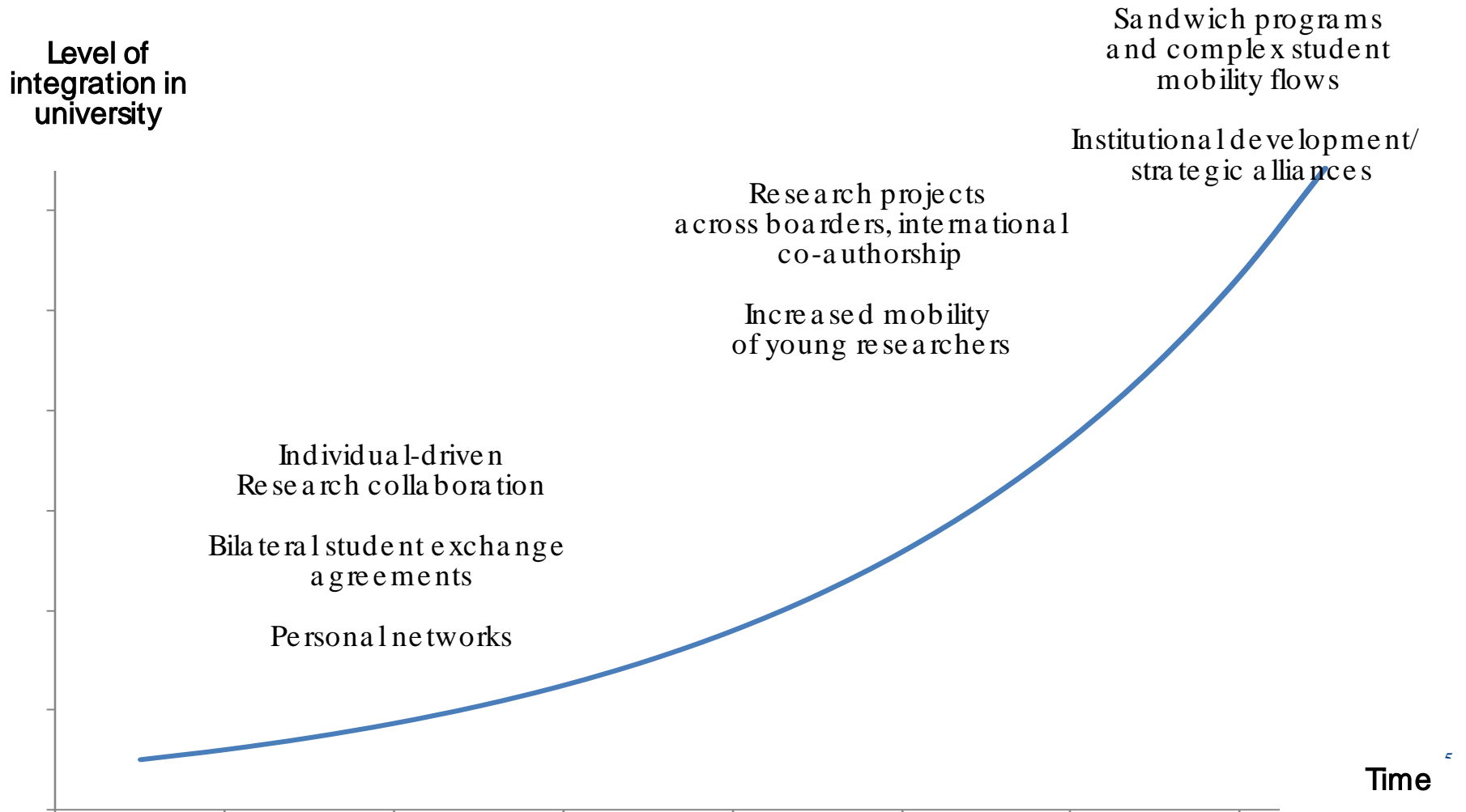


Internationalisation historically

- › The wandering scholar
- › Personal, individual networks
- › Common
- › "Random"
- › Research collaboration often on a personal level
- › Research collaboration grew into student exchange
- › Language training stays grew into student exchange

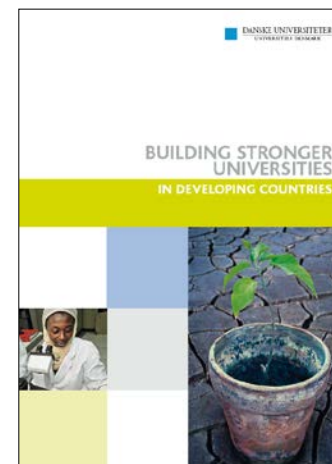


Complexity in internationalisation



Memberships require COORDINATION

- › Full value of memberships and alliances
- › Handle increased complexity
 - › Off-shore campus, Joint degrees, Large EU-mobility projects
- **Sino-Danish Centre** in Beijing in collaboration between CAS and the eight Danish universities
- Collaboration between Danish universities on building capacity in developing countries, **BSU**
- **Nordic collaboration**
 - Nordic Centre at FUDAN University
 - Nordic Centre India
 - South-African Nordic Centre
- **European University Centre. Peking University**
- **Coimbra Group**
- **Utrecht Network**



Challenges of internationalisation

- Academic freedom versus strategic decisions
- Different objectives of internationalisation at different levels in and outside the organisation
- Existing detachment of tools
 - **Who do you do student exchange with?**
(Hamburg, Warsaw, London City)
 - **Who do you publish with?**
(Lund, Gothenburg, Oxford, Helsinki, Karolinska)
 - **Who do you apply for research grants with?**
(Max Planck, CNRS, Cambridge, Lund, Oxford)
 - **Who do you do PhD exchange with?**
(Oxford, Oslo, Stanford, Princeton, Harvard)

Trends in Europe – a continuum

Find the position of
your university.



Create a special unit to cater for all aspects of internationalisation – see it as *“varying from...”*

Place internationalisation into existing structures, see it as *“nothing different from..”*

Aarhus University as a case

Motivation for creating the International Centre

- › Internationalisation as a way to develop and grow
- › Need somebody to be the ambassadors of internationalisation
- › Need to professionalise to keep up with our peers
- › Denmark is a small country – need to look abroad for talent

Most important agents of change for us

- › Internationalisation strategy
- › Rector's undivided attention
- › Key ambassadors among highly influential researchers
- › International Centre as watch dogs – internationalisation and internationals are *"included"*



AU's approach to internationalisation

The overall vision is to establish Aarhus University as a leading and visible international university where global cooperation is integrated as a natural element in all core activities

The Edge ?

Why would anybody select Aarhus University?

- › Not the most famous university in the world
- › Not the richest university in the world
- › Not the coolest city in the world
- › **The Edge**
 - › BE MORE AT AU
 - › High quality in everything we do
 - › Excellence through internationalisation
 - › Talent development



Internationalisation Strategy 2009-2013

Generate knowledge in collaboration with international partners

Recruit international talent at all levels

Develop students' international competences

Influence the global development within education and research

Objectives

Internationalisation of education

Incoming and outgoing student mobility

Internationalisation of research

Incoming and outgoing researcher mobility

International research-based consultancy

Core activities

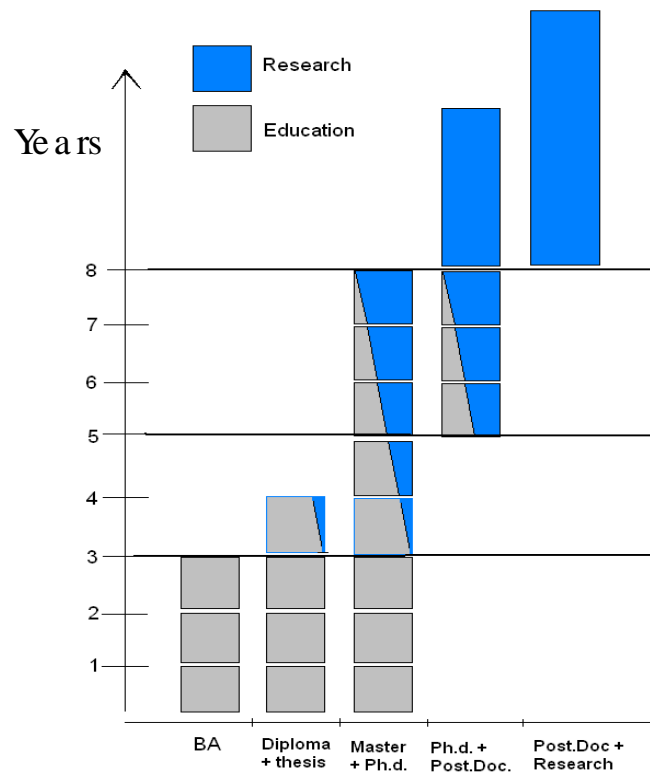
Strategic alliances

Visibility and branding

Prerequisites

Focus on talent development

8 = 5+3 or 4+4 or 3+5



Results

- > 25 % internationals at PhD level
- > Total of 869 international employees
- > 79 different nationalities on the payroll

Research Excellence

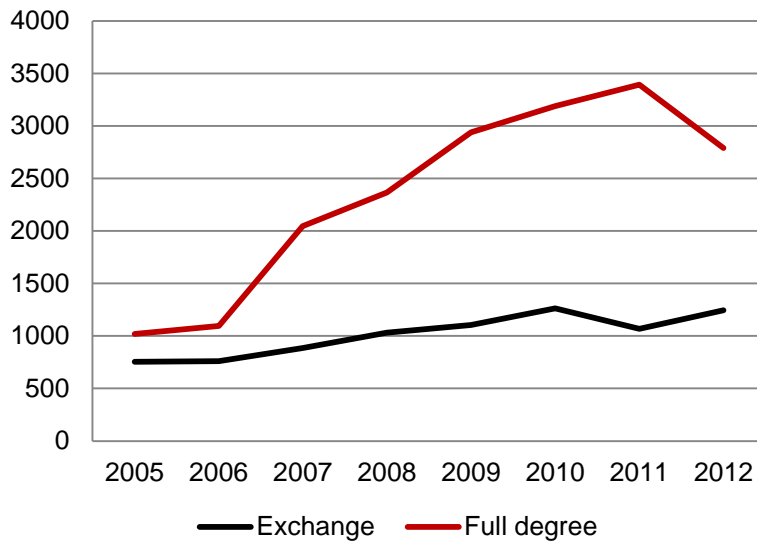
Relative citation impact for Nordic Universities, 2005-2008



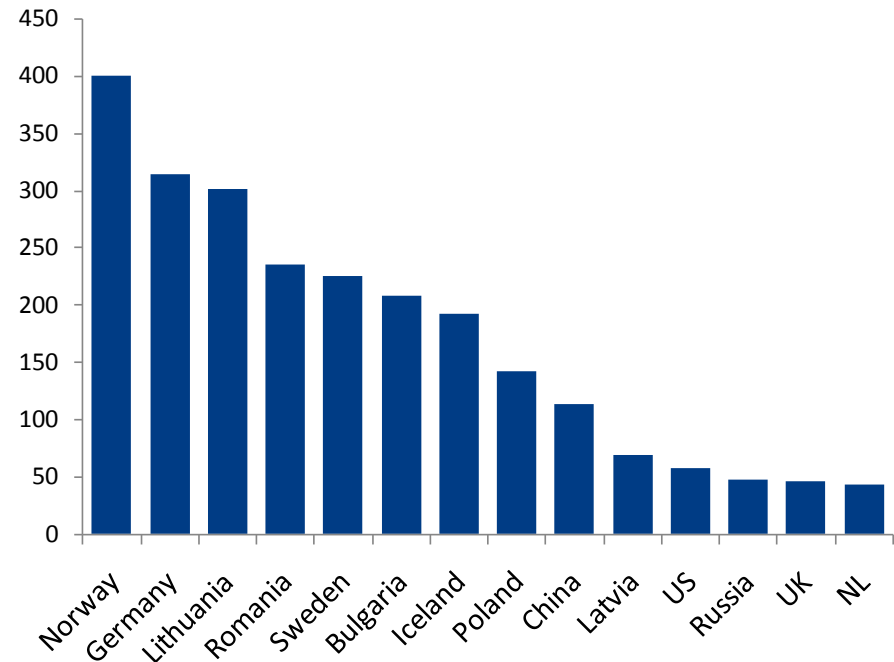
Source: Comparing the Nordic Universities with Bibliometric Indicators, Noria-NET, Nordforsk, 2011

International students at Aarhus University

Number of international students at AU

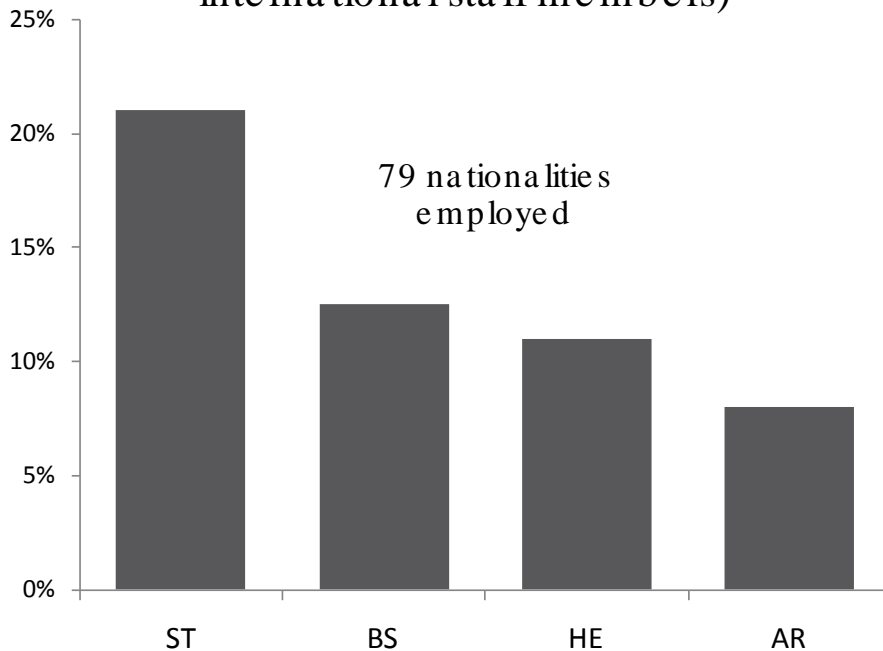


Top sending countries of full degree students



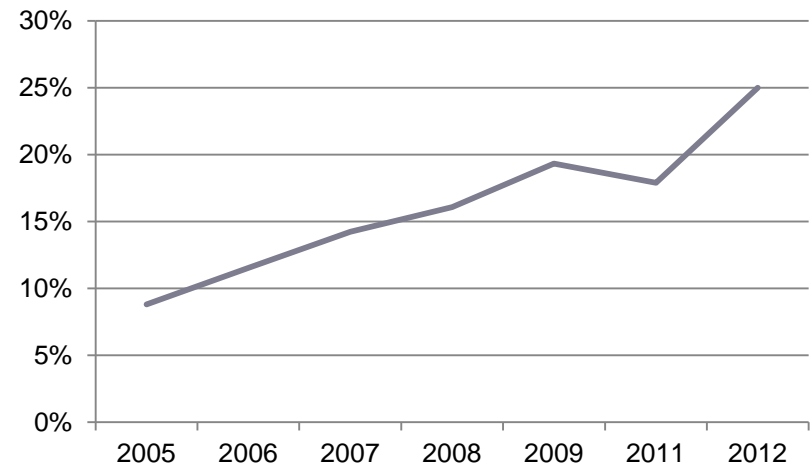
Mobility of researchers

International staff relative to total staff per faculty (2011 = 869 international staff members)



Proportion of international PhD students, 2005-2012

Proportion of int. PhD students



2009 – New organisation for internationalisation

- Broadening the approach to internationalisation
 - › Handle increased volume
 - › Prevent suboptimizing
- Harmonising entry points and external communication
- Professionalise support functions
- Home for the AU Summer University
- Combining everyday management of internationalisation with services to the university top management on international affairs

Aarhus University International Centre



2011 - New house on campus for international talent

- Dale T. Mortensen Building
- The IC Dorm for newly arrived international PhD students and staff
- Café and social activities for international students and staff
- Provision of support services for international students and staff
- Teaching facilities for courses than run across graduate schools



International Centre at AU - four units

- Student Mobility
 - And AU Summer University
- Housing
- International Academic Staff Services
- Strategy and Partnership



2012 – Two additional initiatives

AU Ideas

- › AU researchers exclusively
- › Allocated 10 mio. Euros
- › New ideas
- › Potential for research breakthrough
- › ERC pipeline

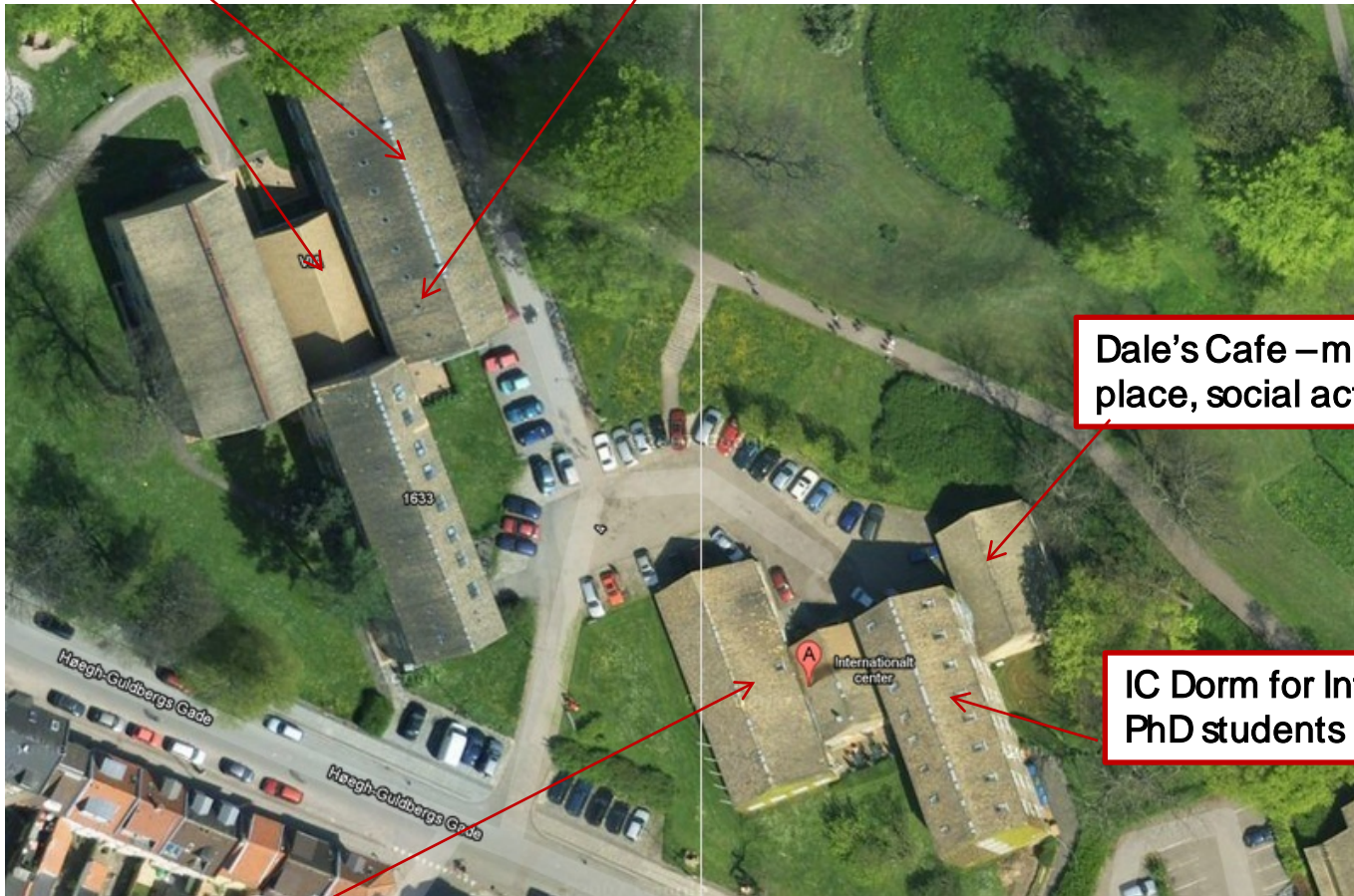
Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies

- › International fellows only
- › International super junior researchers
- › 30-40 fellowships



Aarhus Institute of
Advanced Studies

Research Support Unit
Talent Development Unit



Dale's Cafe – meeting
place, social activities

IC Dorm for International
PhD students

International Centre and
PhD House

Thank you!

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