



Open Space

"Content of internships"

What is NOT meant

That ECTS credits might not be awarded for internships at your university.

To set-up a pool of possible topics, including masters dissertation, at this moment.

Hence, it is also on the "criteria" for the implementation of EMOS internships.

"Content" in the strict sense

- *Important to have an overview of official statistics (framework such as Code of Practice); learn about the processes at an NSI/NCB (dissemination, software etc.)*
- *Mentor for each student at the NSI/NCB for the duration of the internship, somebody to approach who is close to the topic at hand*

"Content" in the strict sense

- *Ideal to combine thesis and overview character but problematic to achieve in a single internship (short of time)*
- *Have an agenda for the student what to cover during internship (apart from thesis), connect with other departments*

"Content" in the strict sense

- *Outcome of internship (if unrelated to masters dissertation) for universities: proof from NSI/NCB that set agenda is met plus written report on lessons learnt*
- *Synthesis of experiences of interns at both university and NSI/NCB – presentations, network*

"Content" in the wider sense

- *Participate in statistical purpose, less important which particular topic*
- *Conduct interviews during internship (learn data collection from scratch)*
- *(Advantageous to have internship in CV)*

"Criteria" in the strict sense

- *Commitment at management level necessary to place interns at NSIs/NCBs (time and money needed)*
- *Prerequisite if universities not in close proximity to a statistical institution (substitution with research project in justified cases)*

"Criteria" in the strict sense

- *Freedom to select interns lies with NSIs/NCBs; make clear that internships are not a burden but an investment (positive return)*
- *Mentoring/supervision has to be honoured by the management (however, process rather than shock)*

"Criteria" in the strict sense

- *Preference given to EMOS students without ruling out competition*
- *Funding of internships remains problematic*
- *Traineeship not thought to replace existing permanent staff: rules as regards the project character of internships, duration of contract (non-convertible), avoid "senior" people etc.*

"Criteria" in the strict sense

- *Problematic to reject students for internships – European dimension in terms of sending interns abroad*
- *Encourage students to exploit the potential of the ESS/ESCB*
- *Eurostat to commit to EMOS project, too, and to provide internships*

"Criteria" in the wider sense

- *Focus on real problem of the NSI/NCB with actual data (joint with masters dissertation)*
- *Link theory from university to practice at NSI/NCB (methodology, harmonisation, ...)*
- *Relationship between universities and NSIs/NCBs to be established long before*

"Criteria" in the wider sense

- Value added for NSI/NCB as well to host interns: save money by re-organising processes (outside view – "consulting" function); new knowledge, ideas, opinions and so forth