

What is Tuning ?

Paradox - the Fine Art European
Network

Paula Crabtree & Bob Baker

Quality Enhancement in the Arts in a European Context

Working conference Hacettepe University, Ankara

26 & 27 2009 March

- *Tuning Educational Structures* is at the heart of the Bologna process & a development of the Dublin descriptors
- It links the political objectives of the Bologna Declaration (1999) to the Higher Education Institutions
- *Tuning* –developed by and meant for Higher Education Institutions

- *Tuning* focuses on the organisation of educational programmes and study content
- National bodies are primarily responsible for their own educational systems, NQF's etc
- Higher Education Institutions are usually responsible for their own organisation & programme content

- All signatory countries are reforming or have reformed their educational systems in response to the Bologna Agreement
- This is the direct effect of the political decision to converge national systems EQF's etc
- These reforms have been a starting point for discussions between higher Education Institutions and faculty peer groups

Discussions about

- the comparability of curricula - programmes – content - learning & teaching
- Academic and professional profiles and the needs of society (that should) play an important role in designing educational programmes
- These inter institutional and peer discussions have been formalised into the *Tuning Project*

- The *Tuning* Project has been running a for number of years lead by Universities in Amsterdam & Barcelona, funded by the EU
- Business-Chemistry-Earth Sciences-Education-European Studies-History-Mathematics-Nursing-Physics-nearly all disciplines are involved
- A methodology for tuning has been established by experience and trial and error

- Tuning Documents are the product of Peer Group discussions
- The document is intended to be descriptive not prescriptive and valuable to Fine Art peers from the Bologna signatories
- Containing examples of typical & topical current practice in Fine Art Education from across the spectrum of signatories

- The Fine Art document attempts to be a transparent description of why Fine Art programmes exist within the Bologna nations
- And, a transparent description of how they work, how they are usually organised and their relationship to the Fine Art profession

Tuning in Fine Art

- *Paradox* the European Fine Art Network was asked to prepare a Tuning Document for Fine Art
- The document sets out the characteristics of the subject in the Higher Education Institutions, using the following headings.....

- Introduction, to include - Fine Art Practice (Professional Profiles-Needs of Society etc)
- Key competencies (learning outcomes)
- Trends and differences (examples across Europe)
- Examples of good practice
- Learning, teaching & assessment (processes & practices)
- Quality assurance management (processes & practices)

Documents consulted:-

- On the way to a shared set of core values in Fine Art education ELIA (Cluj Romania)
- Four Years, ELIA, On the way to a European Higher Education Area in the Arts, the Dublin Descriptors
- Libro Blanco para diseno de la Titulacion de grado en Bellas Artes en Espana
- HETAC (Ireland) Standards for Art and Design
- Subject Benchmark Statements UK
- Findings of the Pilot inter}artes questionnaire

Fine Art Tuning Document *team*:-

- Bob Baker, Head of Fine Art, School of Art & Design, Limerick Institute of Technology, Ireland
- Paula Crabtree, Dean of Fine art, Bergen National Academy of Arts, Norway
- Tamiko O'Brien, Course Leader Fine Art: Sculpture, Wimbledon School of Art, London
- Simeon Saiz Ruiz, Dean of Fine Art, Universidad de Castilla La Mancha, Cuenca, Spain

Process :-

- Meeting in Amsterdam December 2005
- Meeting in London January 2006
- Meeting in London March 2006
- Presentation for feedback of Draft Document to *Paradox* meeting Utrecht March 2006

- Presentation for feedback of Draft Document at ELIA Conference Ghent October 2006
- Presentation for approval of Draft Document to *Paradox* meeting London Spring 2007
- Amendments-additions-corrections
- Completion of final Document June 2007

Validation for Fine Art & Design, Brussels 6 & 7 November 2007

- International Panel of Experts-Questions-
- Description of subject area-complete-clear-relevant?
- Degree profiles/occupations-clear-complete?
- Competences (Learning Outcomes) - relevant to professional roles?
- Relevance of generic competences- is emphasis correct?
- ECTS, workload-are they useful indicators of realities?
- Teaching, Learning & Assessment-are they handled correctly & relevant to professional roles?
- QAE-opinion and value?

Document approved by Validating Panel

- Requires regular updating and amending to keep it topical and relevant
- Intended for use as 'quick guide' by EC Ministers, European Commission, Member State officials, University heads and Fine Art peers in all countries as a 'benchmark' statement and reference

For Fine Art Tuning Document
please refer to-

<http://tuning.uniduesto.org/tuningeu>

<http://paradox.wimbledon.ac.uk>

www.elia-artschools.org/publications/news#interartes

Thank-you
any questions?

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