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**Project Acronym:** URGE

**Project Full Name:** University Reform, Globalization and Europeanization

## Marie Curie Actions

### Mid-term Report

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AARHUS UNIVERSITET

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# Mid-term Report

## PROJECT MID-TERM REPORT

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# 1. GENERAL PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT

The project has achieved most of its objectives and technical goals for the mid-term period with relatively minor deviations;

## Description of the modifications:

Overall the management arrangements and the programme of work packages, visits and activities are working very well. There are two minor issues:

\* The website is slightly delayed

\* Due to work commitments, one of the secondments on WP2 has been moved forward to Nov 2011-March 2012. This means we are seeking to move the milestone of the end date of WP2 forward to April 2012. No other activities or milestones are affected.

## Qualitative indicators of progress and success in line with workplan and milestones (description of progress towards milestones and deliverables)

Work Package 1 Milestones. Coordinator Robertson (UNIVBRIS) Jan-Dec 2010

Milestone	Milestone name	Delivery date	Description
1.1	Detailed work plan	Mar 2010	Work plan achieved on time
1.2	Workshop	Dec 2010	4-day workshops and conference held Nov 2010
1.3	Working Paper	June 2011	Working Paper on schedule (see Work Package 1 document attached)

Work Package 1 Deliverables

D1.1 Initial seminar at Auckland

Public Symposium 'Globalisation and higher education: towards a new conceptual framework' held on 14 May 2010, 14.30-17.00. Attended by 34 people from the Faculties of Science, Education, and Arts, Business School, European Institute, and Centre for Academic Development across 3 NZ universities.

D1.2 Presentation of work on the above 4 tasks for critical discussion at the project's end of year workshop in Bristol.

4-Day Workshop and Conference 'Globalisation and higher education: towards a new conceptual framework' held on 29 Nov-3 Dec 2010 (see Work Package 1 attached). Attended by 17 participants: 8 from 3 UK universities, 4 from NZ, 5 from DK and 1 from Brazil.

D1.3 Scientific working paper on 'Conceptual framework: globalisation, regionalisation and higher education' setting out the new theoretical model and preliminary findings.

Four presentations to Bristol workshop provide a basis for this working paper, which is on schedule for completion by June 2011.

D1.4 Use of this work to develop the conceptual framework for a joint research project based on lasting collaboration with the third country partner.

Two sessions (at Bristol on 30 Nov 2010 and at Copenhagen on 17 Feb 2011) have focused on how to translate the theoretical and conceptual approaches developed in WP1 into methodological developments in WP2, as a basis for future collaborative research between the partners

Work Package 2 Milestones. Coordinator Shore (UoA) March 2010-Oct 2011

Milestone	Milestone name	Delivery date	Achievement
2.1	Detailed work plan	May 2010	Achieved on schedule. (See Work Package 2 attached)
2.2	Workshop	June 2011	On schedule, to be held at AU, Copenhagen
2.3	Working Paper	Oct 2011*	Request to extend the end date to April 2012 as, due to work commitments, one of the core visits in the knowledge exchange has to be moved to Oct 2010-March 2011.

Work Package 2 Deliverables

Additional deliverables (see Work Package 2 document attached)

- \* Research workshop (at Bristol on 30 Nov 2010 attended by 15 people) scoped the key issues and problems to be addressed in WP2.
- \* Meeting to plan contributions to WP2 (at Bristol 30 Nov 2010 attended by 8 people).
- \* Individual meetings by Cris Shore during his visit to Bristol with Susan Robertson, Peter Jones and Lisa Lucas to share knowledge on framing and implementing WP2's research agenda
- \* Research workshop 'Methodological strategies for the new conceptual framework' during Cris Shore's visit to AU, at Copenhagen on 17 Feb 2011 attended by 5 Danish participants of the URGE programme and one participant from the University of Stockholm.

D 2.1 Scientific working paper on ethnographies of university reform.

Due October 2011, but request to extend to April 2012, so as to accommodate the re-scheduled visit of a core contributor.

D 2.2 Presentation of results to end of year seminar and workshop.

On schedule, June 2011 at AU, Copenhagen.

D 2.3 Development of methodology for a joint research project based on lasting collaboration between partners

Research grant application by Prof C Shore and Dr N. Lewis arising out of this knowledge exchange, submitted to the Royal Society of New Zealand (Marsden Fund) Jan 2011.

Milestones WP3 Coordinator Dale (UNIVBRIS) Aug 2010-Mar 2012

Milestone	Milestone name	Delivery date	Achievement
3.1	Detailed work plan	Sept 2010	Achieved on schedule

Additional Deliverable

- \* Workshop on issues for WP3 held at Bristol on Wed 1st Dec 10.00#12.00 attended by 14.

## 2. PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

### Scientific highlights and research achievements:

WP1 - there are already two major scientific achievements:

- \* New way of mapping the higher education sector (See Prof S Robertson's presentation in Work Package 1 Task 1.1)
- \* New way of analysing the creation of higher education regions, through analysis of metaphors, 'isms', institutions and networks (Prof R Dale's presentation in Work Package 1 Task 1.2; Dr S Moutsios' presentation and article for Work Package 1 Task 1.3).

### Transfer of knowledge and Training activities (workshops):

The following knowledge exchange and training activities have taken place as part of WP1

- \* Workshop: with doctoral students held by Robertson and Dale (UoB) in April 2010 during their visits to UoA.
- \* Session on 'Statehood and regulatory regionalism' run by Robertson, Dale and Moutsios during their visit to New Zealand in April 2010 for the staff-postgraduate 'Reading Group on University Reform, Globalisation and Europeanisation', UoA.
- \* PhD course 'Globalisation, higher education and the knowledge economy' taught by Profs S Robertson and R Dale (UoB on an Erasmus exchange to AU) and Prof S Wright (AU). Held on 8-9 Nov 2010, the course was attended by 13 students (See PhD document attached).
- \* PhD seminars and supervision given by Wright, Bovbjerg, Moutsios, Michel and Nielsen (AU) on an Erasmus exchange to UoB 29 Nov - 3 Dec 2010.
- \* Research workshop (at Bristol on 30 Nov 2010 (attended by 15 faculty and PhD students) scoped the key issues and problems to be addressed in WP2 (See Work Package 2 document)
- \* Research Workshop to scope issues to be addressed by WP3 held at Bristol on Wed 1st Dec 10.00#12.00 attended by 14 participants (See Work Package 2 document)

### Dissemination of results (conferences, publications...):

- \* Seminar: 'Transnational education reform and the "progress of societies"' given by Moutsios (AU) to the Faculty of Education, UoA, on 27 April 2010 (see announcement attached)
- \* Seminar: 'Capitalism, Modernity and the Future of Education in the Social Contract' given by Dale (UoB) to the Department of Critical Studies in Education, UoA, on 20 May 2010 (see announcement attached).
- \* Seminar: "'Producing" the Global Knowledge Economy: The World Bank, the Knowledge Assessment Methodology and Education' given by Robertson (UoB) to the Department of Critical Studies in Education, UoA, on 27 May 2010 (see announcement attached).
- \* Public Symposium: 'Globalisation and higher education: towards a new conceptual framework' held on 14 May 2010, 14.30-17.00. This symposium was featured on the front page of University of Auckland's website and the front page of UoA's fortnightly newspaper for staff. The symposium was attended by 43 people from across 5 faculties and 3 NZ universities (See UoA's front page, PowerPoint slides and attendance list attached).
- \* 4-Day Conference: 'Globalisation and higher education: towards a new conceptual framework' held on 29 Nov-3 Dec 2010 at UoB (see Work Package 1 document). Each day the programme focused on one of WP1's four tasks, so as to discuss the results in depth and consider their implications for the development of subsequent work packages, publications and future research. The conference was attended by 17 participants: 8 from 3 UK universities, 4 from NZ, 5 from DK and 1 from Brazil.
- \* Research seminar: 'Methodological strategies for the new conceptual framework' organised by Shore (UoA) and hosted by AU's research group EPOKE (Education, Policy, Organisation and the Knowledge Economy) at Copenhagen on 17 Feb 2011 attended by 6 people)

### 3. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

#### Overview of the activities carried out by the partnership; Identification of problems encountered and corrective action taken:

\* General daily management: Wright has conducted the daily management and has been well supported by AU's research office in producing the CA and PA, in financial management and in negotiating with REA (especially during long delays over issuing the contract, finally received on 23 Oct 2010).

Wright's role as overall coordinator of the URGE programme has included document production for circulation to all participants:

A 'Concept Note' on the project was circulated to all participants on 1 March 2010.

A draft 'Authorship Protocol' establishing ways of acknowledging informal as well as formal knowledge exchange, was discussed and improved at the Annual Assembly, and the final version circulated immediately afterwards. (See Concept Note and Protocol document attached).

\* Project coordination team: Wright, Robertson and Shore have functioned well as a coordination team. Four meetings have been held by Skype on 21 Jan, 24 Feb, 29 April, 13 Sept, and face-to-face meetings on 6 July (in London), 26 Aug (at AU), 7 Nov 2010 (at AU). In addition An 'URGE Bulletin' was circulated to all participants by email on 17 Nov 2010. (See Coordination Team's meeting Agendas, Notes and Action Points attached).

\* Coordination of each work package: Robertson has coordinated WP1, Shore is coordinating WP2 and Dale is coordinating WP3. A format for producing the 'detailed plan' has been agreed. Coordination between the participants in each WP is working well. Most participants were able to meet at Bristol in Dec 2010 and the coordinators of WP2 and WP3 each held a research workshop to scope and plan their WP. The successful format for the final conference for WP1 is being copied by the other WPs.

\* Annual Assembly: held during the final conference of WP1, this reviewed the work and organisation of the programme. The meeting reviewed documentation and communication.

\* Virtual Communication: Email lists for the three teams (AU, UoB, UoA) have been established and updated. This is proving an effective means of communication. Skype is used for meetings of the project coordination team, see above. Attempts to use virtual conferencing have been unsuccessful because the three universities do not have compatible systems.

\* Website: The University of Wisconsin-Madison is developing a hub for hosting websites and blogs concerned with university globalisation and reform. The URGE coordination team decided that this would give the programme maximum visibility, as it would be found in conjunction with cognate projects and Robertson/Olds' well-visited blog <http://globalhighered.wordpress.com/>. Space has been allocated to URGE. Wright has supplied the website texts and the website is promised to be up soon.

\* Management of secondments: There is a specified host for each visitor, and they have taken their responsibilities very seriously. With the help of relevant university services, they have assisted with finding accommodation, organised office space and working facilities, organised knowledge exchange and research training activities, invited the visitor home and to social activities and ensured that they feel welcome and integrated into the department and the university.

## 4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Additional information, which may be considered useful to assess the work done during the reporting period:

In addition to the planned secondments and activities, the programme has been a catalyst that has generated considerable interest from researchers and practitioners in other universities, some of whom are visiting and contributing to URGE events. During their visits, the original participants are also contributing to many more knowledge exchange activities than originally envisaged. For example:

\* An URGE Reading Group has been established at Auckland University with participants from 3 faculties and a regular programme of meetings (See attached programme)

\* Professor Brigitte Bonisch-Brednich, University of Victoria, Wellington NZ, who researches academic mobility, visited DPU for the month of September 2010 (funded by her university). She gave two papers, decided on Denmark as a case study, conducted 15 interviews, and plans to return for further fieldwork and involvement in URGE activities.

\* Professor Alfredo Gomes, University of Pernambuco, Recife, Brazil attended the Work Package 1 workshop at Bristol and wishes to continue his involvement with URGE.

\* Dr Akihiro Ogawa, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Stockholm University who works on university reform in Scandinavia and Japan, is attending URGE activities at AU and engaging in knowledge exchange.

\* A proposed research project 'Education for Innovation' from AU includes a funding application for a PhD student to be seconded to the Anthropology Department (UoA) as a direct result of links made through URGE.

\* Dr Niels Kryger, funded by AU, visited UoA for 2 months as a result of contacts made through URGE. He was hosted by the Department of Anthropology and the School of Critical Studies of Education. He delivered two seminar papers at different campuses of the University of Auckland and gained considerable knowledge about his specialties - inter-cultural relations and relations between home and educational institutions.

\* Cris Shore held a seminar on methodology and anthropological knowledge (attended by 35 faculty and students) at AU on 18 Feb 2011 (see announcement attached).

**Attachments**

Project achievements.zip, Project management.zip,  
Work progress.zip, Other.zip

Date:

Person in charge of the project for the beneficiary(ies):