The Joint College of HAW Hamburg and USST Shanghai. Quality Assurance in a Transnational Project

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Overview

1. The Partners: USST Shanghai and HAW Hamburg
2. The Project
3. Joint Course in Shanghai Since 1998
4. Permanent Quality Assurance
   1. Preparations: Evaluation, Language Education
   2. Quality Control: Teach the Teachers, Examination Order
   3. Accreditation
   4. Challenges
Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

**Traditional University:**
- Training for a career in science and research
- Students are educated for a small market
- Relatively long duration of study

**University of Applied Sciences:**
- Training for a career in industry
- Shorter time of study
- Directly useable after graduation
- Solve practical problems with scientific methods
- Close cooperation with industry
Students of HAW Hamburg

- 40-50% with industrial experience
- 5th semester in industry mandatory
- Small study groups (15 - 45 students)
- Close contact between professors and students
- High percentage of laboratory courses
- Rather tight curriculum (25 hours per week)
University of Shanghai for Science and Technology

- 1998 fusion of East China University and SIMT
- 30 Bachelor-, 20 Master-, 3 PhD-programs
- 12,000 undergraduates, 850 postgraduates and PhD
- 1,050 professional teachers and scientific researchers
- 77 Professors, 236 Associate Professors, (incl. 30 Ph.D advisors and 170 master advisors)
- Numerous cooperations with universities in Germany, USA, Canada, Switzerland, Japan, Russia and HongKong
Cooperation Since 1985

- Short term exchange of lecturers
- Practical training for German students in Shanghai
- Visits of Chinese colleagues to Hamburg
The Project

2001 DAAD: German Study Programmes Abroad

• Project Objectives
  o Internationally approved
    Bachelor degree in EE and ME
  o Intensify the praxis orientation
    of higher education in EE and ME
  o Close cooperation with industry
    o for the benefit of the graduates
    o to meet the needs of industry
    o to gain financial independence
• Status: accreditation by ASIIN in December 2004
Motivation for More Praxis Orientation

- Today's higher education in China is very theoretical
- No close connection between lectures and laboratory work
- Little cooperation with industrial partners
- Students have little practical experience
- Not enough support for students' creativity
- Need for more modern laboratory equipment used in „real life“ in industry
Joint College in Shanghai Since 1998

- Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Intern. Business
- Today 130 students
- Yearly admission of 45 students, alternating between ME and EE
- First year: language studies, German native speakers
- 2nd – 4th year: technical subjects
- 30% of curriculum in German language
- Since 2001: improve course to award Double Degree
- Accredited by ASIIN
- Practical training also in Hamburg
- Support from DAAD and ZEIT
Industrial Practice

- 18 weeks in 7th semester
- 48 students in 23 German/Chinese companies
- 8 students in Hamburg
- Companies paid on the average 800 RMB/month
- Graduation thesis based on work in company
- Several students received job offers after their practice
- All students found well paid jobs after graduation
Language Education

- Native Speakers from HU Berlin
- 2001: Evaluation of teaching situation in Shanghai
- Definition of textbooks and additional material,
- Discussions with language teachers of USST
- Recommendations for
  - teaching material
  - didactic aims
- Curriculum, examination standards,
  - „Zertifikat Deutsch“
- Training language teachers at HU Berlin
Internal Evaluation 2001

- Evaluation of existing curricula concerning content, scope and implementation
- Results and workload of students
- Equipment and involvement of laboratories
- Experiences of industrial partners with students
- Evaluation of existing organization and infrastructure of JC
Joint Study- and Examination Order

- Grading system: pass with 50% or 60%
- ECTS and credit points
- Resit exams
- Tests accompanying lectures
- Definition of German contribution
- German participation in final exams
- Examination board
- Formal Approval in Hamburg, Shanghai and Beijing
Training of Staff

• USST lecturers at HAW Hamburg
• Participation in lectures
• Participation in laboratories
• Language teachers in Berlin
• Didactical seminars in Shanghai
Quality Assurance

- Joint Commission
- Joint Study and examination order
- 30% German contribution, permanent control
- Representative of HAW Hamburg
  member of examination board for final exam
- External language exam „Zertifikat Deutsch“
- Training of Chinese Lecturers in Germany
- Evaluation by students
- Evaluation by Chinese authorities
- Database
- Accreditation!!
Challenges

- German and Chinese mentalities
- Non transparent decision making
- Colliding interests at USST
- Teaching vs. research
- The deans and the money …
- Lack of resources
- Initially few industrial contacts
- Language problems
- Missing project manager in Shanghai
Thank you for your Attention!