IMPACT OF RANKINGS ON HIGHER EDUCATION & QUALITY ASSURANCE

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- RANKING VS QUALITY ASSURANCE
- THES RANKING
- IMPACT OF RANKINGS ON NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS
- IMPACT OF RANKINGS ON QUALITY ASSURANCE – UKM AS THE EXAMPLE
- CONCLUSION
RANKING

- Relative positions amongst participating group
  - Mathematically derived
  - Performance on a number of selected measures

- Independent data or obtained & usually verified by HEI

- Usually no site visit

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- Judgement of strengths & concerns in a number of measures related to input, process and output of higher education ➔ quality enhancement

- Data always obtained from HEI as a self report

- Almost always involve site visit by peers
## THES-QS
(Times Higher Education Supplement-Quacquerelli Symonds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Quality</td>
<td>Peer Review</td>
<td>Composite score drawn from peer review (which is divided into five subject areas). 3,703 responses.</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Citations per faculty member</td>
<td>Score based on past 5 year research performance searched in Scopus factored against the size of the research body.</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Quality</td>
<td>Recruiter Review</td>
<td>Score based on responses to recruiter survey. 738 responses.</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faculty/Student</td>
<td>Score based on student/faculty ratio.</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Reputation</td>
<td>Int’l Faculty</td>
<td>Score based on proportion of international faculty.</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Int’l Student</td>
<td>Score based on proportion of international students.</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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ISSUES RELATED TO CRITERIA & METHODOLOGY

- VALIDITY & RELIABILITY OF DATA
  - MALAYSIAN CHINESE & INDIANS CLASSIFIED AS INTERNATIONAL
  - DATA NOT VERIFIED WITH SOURCE
- MANY ASIAN LANGUAGE ARTS & HUMANITIES JOURNALS NOT INDEXED IN ISI/SCOPUS DATABASE
- INTERNATIONAL FACULTY - NUMBER OR QUALITY?
- INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS – UNMET LOCAL DEMANDS
PERCEPTIONS OF THES RANKING

- RANKING = STANDARDS, THEREFORE DROP IN RANKING = DECLINING STANDARDS → UNIVERSITY BASHING
- METHODOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENT (2005-2007) – NO YEAR ON YEAR COMPARISON
- COMMERCIAL INTEREST → DIVERSION OF CRUCIAL EDUCATIONAL BUDGET TO “RANKING GAME”
CHARACTERISTICS OF TOP 20 THES

- ABOUT 200 YEARS OLD
- ABOUT 2500 ACADEMIC FACULTY
- ABOUT 24,000 STUDENTS
- ABLE TO ATTRACT & RETAIN TOP PERSONNEL (HIGH SELECTIVITY)
- USD 1 BILLION ENDOWMENT
- USD 2 BILLION ANNUAL BUDGET
RESPONSES BY GOVERNMENT

- MALAYSIAN UNIVERSITIES RATING SYSTEM – SETARA
- ACCELERATED PROGRAMME FOR EXCELLENCE (APEX)
NATIONAL RANKING-SETARA

- ALL UNIVERSITIES RANKED IN ONE OF 3 CATEGORIES:
  - RESEARCH INTENSIVE
  - BROADBASED IN RANGE OF PROGRAMMES
  - SPECIALISED IN SPECIFIC DISCIPLINES

- QUANTITATIVE SURVEY

- 6 DOMAINS:
  - WEIGHTS DEPEND ON CATEGORY OF UNIVERSITY
  - 2-3 INDICATORS PER DOMAIN

- BENCHMARKED INTERNATIONALLY
ACCELERATED PROGRAMME FOR EXCELLENCE (APEX)

- SELECTION OF A UNIVERSITY PERCEIVED TO HAVE POTENTIAL AND READINESS TO TRANSFORM AND MANAGE CHANGE RAPIDLY.
- FACILITATED TOWARDS WORLD CLASS STATUS WITH SPECIAL INCENTIVES, RESOURCES & AUTONOMY

APEX TARGETS:

- 2 HEIs IN TOP 100 BY 2015
- 3 HEIs IN TOP 100 BY 2020
- 2 HEIs IN TOP 50 BEYOND 2020
THES-QS 2008

1. Universiti Malaya
2. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
3. Universiti Sains Malaysia
4. Universiti Putra Malaysia
5. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Universiti Malaya</td>
<td>192, 246, 230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia</td>
<td>185, 309, 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Universiti Sains Malaysia</td>
<td>277, 307, 313</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Universiti Putra Malaysia</td>
<td>292, 364, 320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia</td>
<td>- 415, 356</td>
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</table>
IMPACT ON INSTITUTIONAL CONTINUOUS QUALITY ENHANCEMENT QA SYSTEM OF UKM

QUALITY CYCLE

PERFORMANCE RESEARCH TEACHING SERVICE

ENHANCEMENT

INFORMATION SYSTEM

ANAYYSIS & BENCHMARKING

RANKING DATA ONE OF INPUTS

PUBLIC DOMAIN

IMAGE & REPUTATION
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>RANKING VS. QA CRITERIA</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PEER REVIEW</strong></td>
<td>ACADEMIC FACULTY NETWORKS RESEARCH GRANTS, COLLABORATION, PUBLICATION, CONFERENCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RECRUITER REVIEW</strong></td>
<td>GRADUATES PERFORMANCE, EVALUATION &amp; EMPLOYABILITY, TEACHING-LEARNING APPROACHES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CITATIONS/FACULTY</strong></td>
<td>RESEARCH &amp; PUBLICATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FACULTY:STUDENT</strong></td>
<td>PROGRAMME DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL FACULTY</strong></td>
<td>ACADEMIC FACULTY RECRUITMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS</strong></td>
<td>STUDENT SELECTION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Balanced

National Identity, Nation State, Cultural Diversity & Globalisation

Niche Excellence (Niche CoEs)

International Outcome

Citations Leaping

World Class Benchmarks

Global Language

Project 1: Transformation Machinery

Project 2: Employment & Autonomy

Focused

Medical & Health Technology

Climate Change

Sustainable Regional Development

Renewable Energy

Biodiversity For Biotechnology Development

Nanotechnology & Advanced Material

Research Education Service

Efficient Delivery System
EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- **Research Groups** → Focused & multidisciplinary in 8 niches → Improved publication + incentives

- **Student** → International postgraduate recruitment; global partnership mobility programmes; skills to improve employability; joint programmes (e.g. UDE-UKM)
EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS

• ACADEMIC FACULTY ➔ STRICT SELECTION CRITERIA, BETTER STARTING SALARIES & PROMOTION SCHEME, SPECIAL INCENTIVE SCHEMES TO ATTRACT WORLD RENOWNED SCHOLARS FOR CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

• INSTITUTIONAL RESTRUCTURING – CENTER FOR CORPORATE PLANNING AND COMMUNICATION

• GOVERNANCE – MORE AUTONOMY, INCLUSION & TRANSPARENCY
CONCLUSION

- INTERNATIONAL RANKING – USEFUL TOOL FOR BENCHMARKING
- AT NATIONAL LEVEL IN MALAYSIA ➔ NATIONAL RANKING SYSTEM & APEX
- AT INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL IN UKM ➔ GREATER USE IN CONTINUOUS QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PROCESSES
- ➔ TRANSFORMATION PLAN FOR LEAPFROGGING FORWARD
CONCLUSION

- LIMITATIONS OF RANKING:
  - NOT EVERYTHING THAT IS COUNTED, COUNTS
  - NOT EVERYTHING THAT COUNTS CAN BE COUNTED
“MALAYSIA,
TRULY ASIA”
– Tourism Malaysia

Terima kasih

Danke Schön

Thank you