Universities of Applied Sciences and their Role in Research Landscape

DIES-Delegation, 18th October 2018

Prof. Dr. Karim Khakzar
President of Fulda University of Applied Sciences
Vice-President of the German Rectors' Conference (HRK)
Spokesman of the Universities of Applied Sciences in the HRK
Research at Universities of Applied Sciences

Development

1960’s / 1970’s:

- Main objective for foundation of Universities of Applied Sciences: higher education for increasing number of students
- focus on practical applications (engineering, business administration, social work)

- specialization on specific disciplines (technology, economy, etc.)
- focus on teaching
- no mandate for engagement in research

Since then continuous and very successful development
Research at Universities of Applied Sciences

Development

Tasks of Universities of Applied Sciences according to legal regulations

1960‘s/1970‘s: (only) Teaching

Today:
Teaching
Research
Transfer
Today:

- **218 UAS** with almost **1 Million students** (>1/3 of all students in Germany)
- **Legal task**: practice-oriented **education**, applied **research** and **transfer** of knowledge, ideas and technologies (**Third Mission**)
- Applied research to solve practical problems → Great importance to the **surrounding regions**
- **Drivers for innovation** - particularly for small and medium size enterprises (**SME**)
- High **efficiency**, high **adaptability**

*German Council of Science and Humanities 2010 und 2016, Federal Statistical Office 2018*
- Universities inform a broad international audience about their research priorities (interactive database)
- 344 key research priorities of German universities; up to eight research priorities per university (with at least 25 professorships each)
- Parallel research map for universities of applied sciences was launched in 2014: 243 key research priorities

www.researchmap.de
Research at Universities of Applied Sciences

Research Map

Research budget p.a. of the research priorities 2014 (green) and 2016 (red)

Average budget in 2016: 1 160 000 €
Research at Universities of Applied Sciences

Funding UAS

Federal Statistical Office 2018

- **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**: 46%
- **ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY**: 23%
- **EU**: 8%
- **FOUNDATIONS**: 6%
- **FEDERAL STATES**: 5%
- **GERMAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION (DFG)**: 1%
- **OTHER**: 11%
Research at Universities of Applied Sciences

Research

Who? Scientific staff!

Why? Personal qualification!

PhD at UAS

Cooperative doctorates (PhD) programmes with universities

independent right to award doctoral degrees (PhD)
only in state of Hessen
Thank you... 
...for your attention!