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Accreditations & Rankings

The experience of Técnico Lisboa

Organization

- Introduction
- Accreditation
- Rankings
- Bringing two worlds together
- Conclusions

Introduction

This presentation aims at:

- providing an overall picture of the institution

- learning about internal models and their contribution to the quest for quality

- demonstrating how Accreditation and Rankings can be brought together internally

Introduction

Facts and figures

1911 Foundation as Instituto Superior Técnico	2014 Merger with the University of Lisbon; adopts the name Técnico Lisboa	11 412 students, among which 42% get a job before graduation
86% of grads get a job within 6 months after graduation	77% of grads employed in their field of study	10646 publications, 74 highly cited in field between 2013-2017
All programmes accredited by the Portuguese Accreditation Agency (A3ES)	6th E, 28th World, Civil E. 10th E, 40th World, Mech E. 15th E, 52nd World, Math in NTU Ranking	53 spin-off companies created since 2009

Table 1: Facts and Figures
Source: *http://ep.tecnico.ulisboa.pt/cienciometria/*

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Portuguese Accreditation System

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

All HEIs must

- adopt quality assurance policies and procedures
- develop a quality culture
- promote and implement a strategy for continuous improvement of quality

The Portuguese Accreditation System

PRIORITIES

Quality Assurance should

- extend the scope of evaluation
- clarify the consequences of evaluation
- internationalize the evaluation process
- require tangible results

SIQuIST
(IST Integrated Quality Management System)

The SIQuIST aims at:

- – constant improvement of quality within the institution

- – evaluation of the level of accomplishment of the mission of Técnico Lisboa

through

Criteria and indicators

SIQuIST
(IST Integrated Quality Management System)

The SIQuIST consists of two components:

- Self evaluation

- External evaluation

SIQuIST Accredited in 2012

✓ **Cyclical review of institutional results**

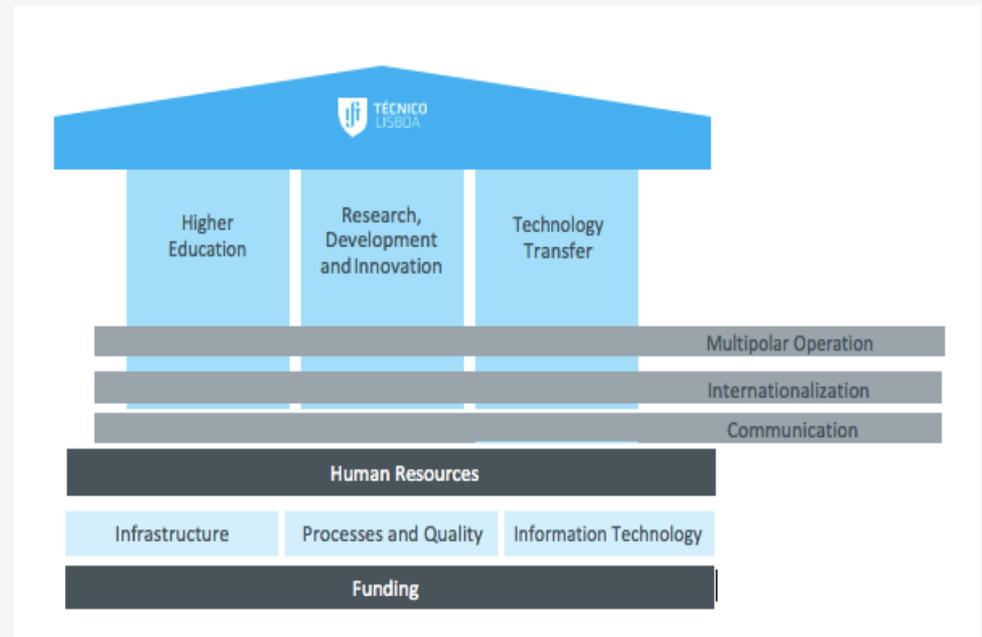✓ **Overall evaluation of the mission and strategic objectives defined by Técnico Lisboa**

SIQuIST
(IST Integrated Quality Management System)

The SIQuIST comprises:

- Progress and
- Quality indicators

that apply to all 11 strategic areas defined in the Strategic Plan of Tecnico Lisboa

Challenges of SIQuIST

The SIQuIST should

- ensure updated information

- make quality enhancement processes have tangible effects over time

Advantages of SIQuIST

The systems contributes to

- Constant monitoring/evaluation
- Transparency and communication
- Accreditation (external process)

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The importance of rankings to Técnico Lisboa

- Are part of its Strategic Options:
  - Academic Rankings Observatory

- Critical tool to help:
  - Create a world class environment
  - Attract faculty, researchers and students from all over the world
  - Make Técnico a reference institution nationally and internationally
  - Drive institutional policy towards quality

The Approaches of Técnico Lisboa to Rankings

- Monitoring of key university rankings, in particular their Sector Rankings in ST&E

- The Concept of ´Reverse Engineering':
  - reports by Ranking
  - analysis of indicators and scores
  - hypothetical scenarios against peers
  - recommendations to the governing bodies

Técnico Lisboa Model: An example

	ACADEMIC REPUTATION	EMPLOYER REPUTATION	CITATIONS PER PAPER	H-INDEX
RANK 106 **UNIVERSITY OF LISBON**	**69,7**	**63,6**	**78,2**	**80,2**
RANK 10 **RWTH AACHEN UNIV**	86,9	82,8	82,0	76,6
RANK 25 **EINDHOVEN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY**	82,3	64,8	85,0	79,0

Table 2: Scores by indicator obtained by ULisboa and those of the institutions ranked 10 and 25 in Europe
Source: QS Ranking, latest update: 2017

Técnico Lisboa Model: Recommendations

| Indicator	Recommendation	Stakeholders
Academic Reputation	Improve institutional communication	Governing bodies
	Adopt measures to increase reputation	Faculty; researchers
	Adopt a single and normalized signature	
Employer Reputation	Work closely with companies/stakeholders/ to get them involved	Former faculty, researchers and alumni with business activity
	Adopt measures to increase reputation	

Table 3: Recommendations
Source: QS Report, 2017, published by Técnico Lisboa, Academic Rankings Observatory

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Bringing two worlds together

QUALITY ASSURANCE

ACADEMIC RANKINGS

Common indicators
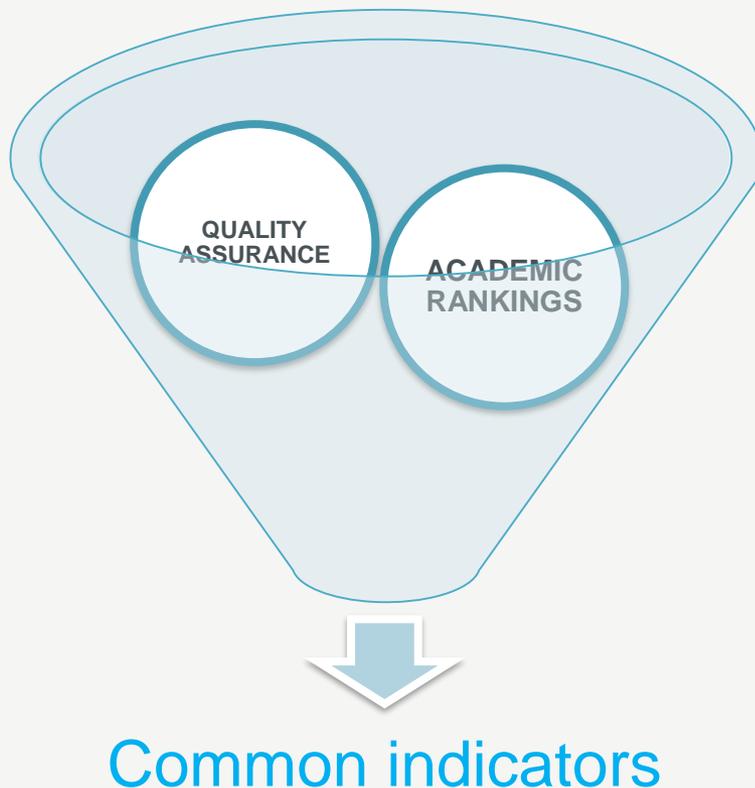
- definition of lines of action
- improved standing in rankings
- continued focus on improving quality

while

- optimizing resources and
- lining up institutions' strategies

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Conclusions: **Difficulties**

- Different objectives of Quality Assurance and Academic Rankings
- Academic Communities vs Institutional autonomy

Conclusions: *Challenges*

- Rankings as a complementary tool for governments, accreditation authorities and independent review agencies

- Involvement of entire institution

- Long process of communication to create consolidated management models

Conclusions: *Evidence*

- Quality Assurance systems can learn from Academic Ranking indicators

- Definition of objective targets based on "Reverse Engineering" through the analysis of indicators in rankings

THANK YOU!

http://aepq.tecnico.ulisboa.pt/en/

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