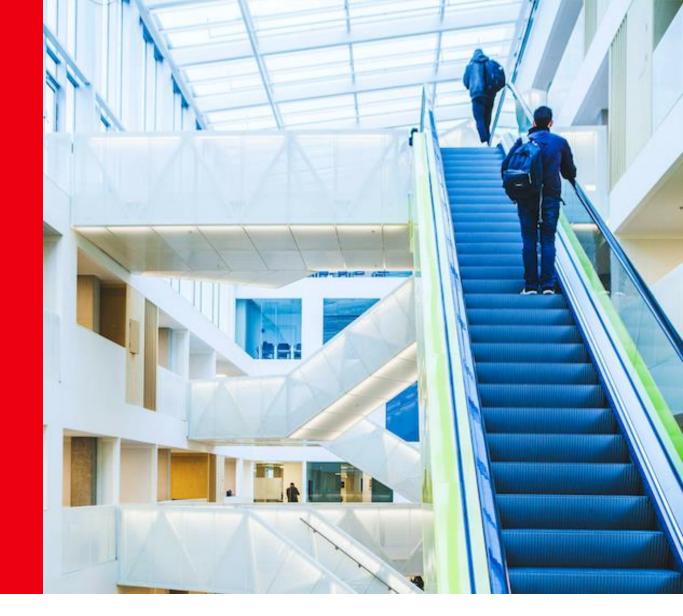
How much flexibility is enough?

An example of a National Experiment on Flexible Learning Design the Netherlands

April 11 2024 Eltjo Bazen







This talk

- **1.** Short Introduction
- **2.** Pre-existing flexibility
- **3. National Experiment**
- **4. Implementation in HU UAS Utrecht**
- **5. Lessons Learnt**



1 Introduction

HU UAS Utrecht

- "Behind every door in the region someone from HU UAS"
- 38,000 Students
 - >100 Degree Programmes
- 4,400 Staff
 - Education, Research, Support
- QA Team
 - 18 persons
 - Advisors
 - Institutional Research
 - Portfolio







Eltjo Bazen

- Senior Advisor QA
 - Leading Strategic Innovation Program QA
 - Advising departments, leadership
- President of Dutch Network for Quality Management HE
- Chair of audit panels EQA HE
 - Netherlands & Europe
- Co-lead Community of Practice QA
 - EURASHE
- EQAR Register Committee Member
- Philosophy, Business Management, Quality Management

2. Pre-existing Flexibility

What choices could you make?

Content

- Individual agreements
- Orientation
 - Academic / Professional
- Minors (30 ECTS credits within B)
 - In-depth or Widening scope
- Specialization
 - Electives

Form

- Mode of Delivery
 - Full time / Part time / Dual / Distance
- External Student \rightarrow certificates ('extraneus')
- RPL through exemptions



3 National Experiment

Intermezzo: OECD

- Value of degrees / value of skills
 - Badges / Microcredentials
- Functions of HEI
 - Qualification Content -Guidance



Experiments

- Background
 - Labour Market needs
 - Not enough LLL
 - Run time 2016 2024
- Experiment Flex-studying
 - FT
 - 'pay per credit'
- Experiment Finance by demand
 - Only Technical / Health care
- Experiment Learning Outcomes
 PT



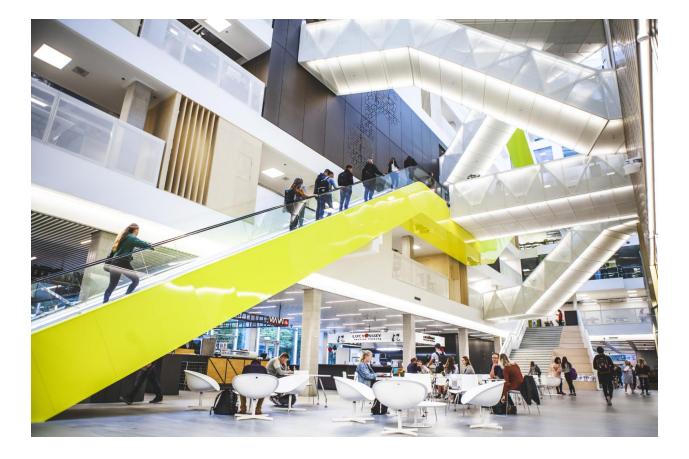
Experiment L.O. (Flex PT)

- Mindset, stimulation
- Legal
 - Decouple ECTS-credits from Study Load

4. Implementation HU UAS Utrecht

Approach

- Maximum flexibility
 - Starting moment
 - Speed
 - Order
 - Ways of proving LO's
- Voluntary
- Learning community
- Standardizing
 - Framework





Standardizing



- Learning contract with every student
 - Intake & matching
 - Every year
- Redesign curriculum: Alignment!
- Unit min. 5 ECST-credits
- Learning Route Independent Exams
- Learning Route Independent Assessments
 - RPL? No exemptions
- When competence based: auto-prove lower levels

5 Lessons Learnt

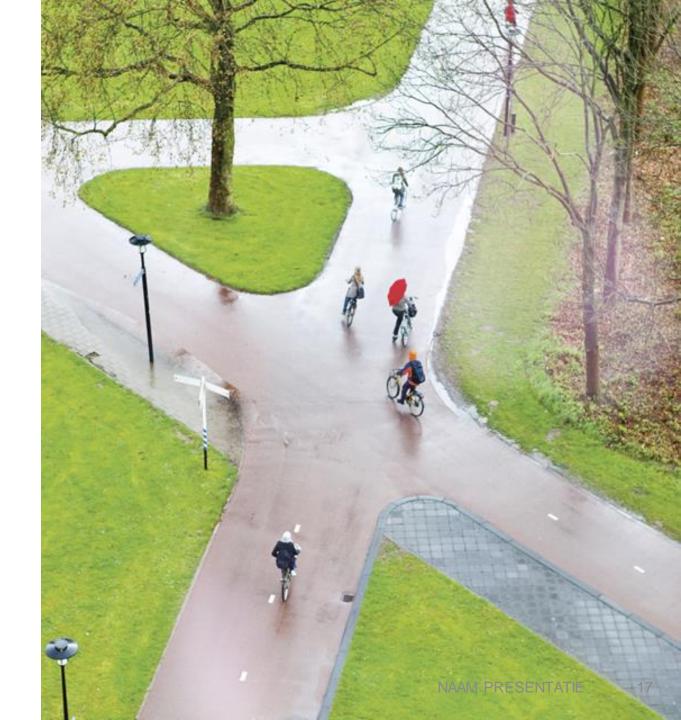


Lessons Learnt

- Internally
 - Very useful!
 - More / deeper thinking
 - Goals of Program, LO's, alignment
 - Costs work & energy
 - Involvement support staff
 - Everybody should be involved!
- Student
 - 90 98% not interested
 - Benefitted from better study career guidance
- Externally
 - Interinstitutional did not work
 - Did we reach goals?

Application In FT and General

- Alignment
- LO's
- More creativity in testing
- More active TLN
- More conversation about education
- Mindset new developments
 - Microcredentials
 - EU Alliance
- Flexibility in Indicator for Quality: Study Success → Student Success





IMPACT YOUR FUTURE