

The Bologna process in Switzerland From structure to consolidation of content

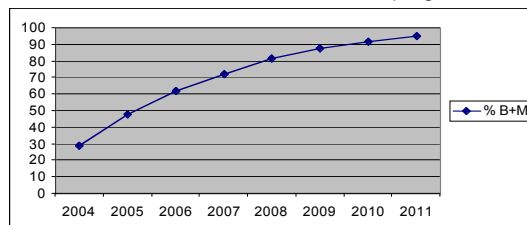
Presented by Cornelia Galliker

On the occasion of „The Bologna Process as a Challenge for the students“, Konstanz

Current situation in Switzerland The structural reform is completed

- Implementation of the structural reform
- Three-cycle study system (bachelor and master degrees plus doctorate)
- Implementation of ECTS
- Integration of all **branches of study** (incl. Medicine and Law)

% of students in bachelors and masters programmes



In 2–3 years, 100% of students will follow a study course of the Bologna system. (Data FSO, 2010)

Current situation in Switzerland Study programmes

- **610** Bachelor programmes
- **760** Master programmes
- **104** Specialized Master programmes
- **205** Doctorate / PhD
- **170** MAS programmes

(Source: uni-programme.ch / November 2011)

Current situation in Switzerland Problems

- Bachelor programmes: very strongly structured, inflexible, create an overload, too many exams (lack of coordination, don't allow a complete modularisation)
- ECTS: is not perceived as a system, reduced to its credits:
 - Credits/workload: difficult to calculate the amount of work, to allocate credits (source: ECTS survey 2007) / unequal distribution of credits (National survey of students 2008)
 - Learning outcomes: not yet very known and used
- Recognition of studies:
 - In theory facilitated by the two-level system
 - But: in practice credit points are evaluated instead of competences: „culture of mistrust“
- Mobility:
 - Tight deadlines, lack of flexibility hinder horizontal mobility

Further work in Switzerland: some key points

- Curricular reform: focus on learning outcomes
- Bologna architecture (transition from bachelor to master level, master level)
- Implementation of the national qualifications framework for the higher education area (www.qualifikationsrahmen.ch)
- Lifelong learning: developing a strategy for the swiss universities

Bologna-Architecture: Bachelor – Master

- The bachelor and master degree programmes are regarded as two cycles of a single study programme (Bologna Directives)
⇒ confirmed by the politics, 2011
- Admission to the master degree programmes: „Graduates with a bachelor degree from a Swiss university should be admitted to a university master’s degree programme in the corresponding discipline, without additional requirements.“ (Bologna Directives)
⇒ (consecutive) Master regarded as „Regelabschluss“ (‘final degree’)
⇒ Bachelor regarded as basic study programme

Specialized Masters programmes – opportunity to profile

„The universities may set additional requirements, applicable equally to all candidates, for admission to specialised master’s programs.“
(Bologna Directives, 3rd edition of 1 August 2008)

The Specialized Master programmes:

- have special admission conditions
- give universities the opportunity to focus on their individual strengths and to profile themselves

Transition from Bachelor to Master

Bachelor – Master: conversion rate **88%**
(2 years after obtaining the bachelors degree)

Übertrittsquote nach Fachbereichsgruppe								Übertrittsquote nach Geschlecht	
Total	Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften	Wirtschaftswissenschaften	Recht	Exakte und Naturwissenschaften	Medizin und Pharmazie	Technische Wissenschaften	Interdisziplinäre und andere	Männer	Frauen
88%	79%	80%	97%	93%	97%	99%	69%	89%	87%

(Source: Barometer of Bologna 2010, FSO)

Transition from Bachelor to Master

- 35% of students have obtained their bachelor degrees in another institution of higher education (incl. foreign students)
 - 21% of students plan to pursue master studies in another institution of higher education
(Source: National survey of students 2008).
 - 9% of students in master programmes got their bachelor degrees at another university in Switzerland
- = low rate of inland mobility

Permeability between the different types of higher education institutions

In 2007 a **regulation** was adopted by the three Rectors' Conferences: „**Konkordanzliste**“ / „Liste de concordance CRUS - KFH - COHEP, defining the transition in more than 30 disciplines

⇒ a promoter to permeability

- The permeability rate for the entrances to master programmes rised from 3% in 2008 to 5% in 2009
- Actually the CRUS is running a survey of the permeability from universities of applied sciences to universities (results will be published in the Monitoring report)

Bachelor

Bachelor is

- conceived as a basic study programme („propedeutical study“)
- regarded as a facilitator of mobility („Mobilitätsscharnier“)
- employability is not a top priority

⇒ The CRUS organised a Bologna-Day 2010 in Zurich to get an overview of the bachelor programmes at Swiss universities (www.bolognareform.ch → Veranstaltungen/manifestations)
Result: a big diversity!

⇒ The Bologna-Coordination made a **Survey on Bachelor programmes**

Bachelor Survey at the Swiss universities

- online
- August – October 2011
- 36 questions, 12 open questions
- 213 completely filled out questionnaires (49%)
- people with different functions at Swiss universities

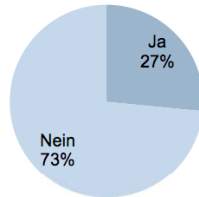
⇒ Questions about: admission, exams, learning outcomes, study part time, mobility, flexibility, employability, ...

Bachelor Survey in the Swiss Universities: preliminary results Admission

CRUS - Der Bachelor an den Schweizer Universitäten: Stand der Dinge



F20 Ist dieses Bachelor-Programm auch offen für Personen ohne Maturität? [9Nonmat]



➤ 73% der Bachelor-Programme können nicht von Personen ohne Maturität besucht werden. Bei 66 Bachelor-Programmen (27%) ist dies allerdings möglich.

IMU Marketing N=211, Einfachantworten

32

Bachelor Survey in the Swiss Universities: preliminary results Admission requirements

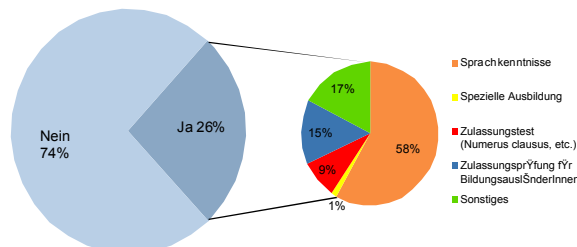
CRUS - Der Bachelor an den Schweizer Universitäten: Stand der Dinge



F18 und F19 Wenn es solche Zulassungsbedingungen gibt, welches sind solche? [7Exig] und [8Exig]

F18 Gibt es neben dem eidgenössisch anerkannten Maturitätszeugnis oder einem gleichwertigen ausländischen Ausweis noch spezifische Zulassungsbedingungen für dieses Bachelor-Programm?

F19 Wenn ja, wählen Sie aus der untenstehenden Liste aus.



IMU Marketing

31

Bachelor Survey at the Swiss universities – preliminary results Study part time

- In 54% of all Bachelors programmes, it is possible to study part time in every academic year
- In 37% it is not possible
- In 8% of the Bachelors programmes it is possible, but only from the 2nd academic year on.
- 1% 'in preparation' or possible only in the 3rd academic year

Bachelor Survey at the Swiss universities – preliminary results Mobility

- In about 62% of bachelors programmes a mobility stay in Switzerland or abroad is possible
- In a majority it is possible during all three academic years.

But:

Bachelor graduates show lower mobility rates than graduates on master/Lizenziat/diploma level (Lizenziat and diploma being the former degrees corresponding to the master) (FSO, Mobilität der Studierenden 2009)

⇒ *The results will be published in the next Monitoring report, 2012.*

Thank you for your attention!