SIGNIFICANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF COUNCIL OF FINNISH ACADEMIES

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Dr. Petra Autio
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Why all this networking?

• **To advance science & benefit the mankind**

Figure: Karin Bäckstrand
How to work efficiently and gain impact?

• Evaluation of the Finnish national committee system in 2015
  • Coordinated funding and guidance help the committees
  • A lot of impact with relatively low monetary resources; catalyzing effect
  • Action plan to respond to the given recommendations (e.g. support early career scientists, help networking activities in Finland)
Evaluation of our international activities

• Release of the report
• Dr. Petra Autio
Scope of the report

- Activities of the Council in the international organisations 2010-2016
  - Open data, open science
  - Science advise
- Documentary analysis, 11 interviews
- Several questions in the assignment
  - Finnish representation and activities international organisations
Finnish representation

• 52 representatives 2010-2016
• Currently 25 active representations
• European and global organisations
• Success in relation to aspirations
• Comparison to other OECD countries
Finnish activity in organisations

• Participation in general assemblies and annual meetings by default
• Positions of trust in 5 organisations
• Memberships in committees and work groups in 7 organisations
  • Committed work: 95% participation in meetings
Possibilities to influence

• Perceived possibilities to influence are good
  • Expertise
  • Diligence in preparation
  • Good, matter-of-fact reputation

• Concrete actions
  • Effective work in co-operation
Highlights of activities

• Work in ESF and ALLEA working groups for research ethics
  • European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity
• Participation in the reorganisation of ALLEA
• Influential work in data organisations
  • Presidency of APA
  • Membership in WDS Scientific Committee
Highlights of ICSU activities

• Kari Raivio’s vice-presidency
  • Reorganisation of global change research programmes
• Council as the Secretariat of the Group of European members of ICSU 2011-2015
• Initiative to bring in/ develop co-operation with social sciences and humanities
Recommendations

• Continue active co-operation within organisations
• Improve flow of information between international organisations and the national level
  • Joint meetings of the representatives at the Council
  • Strengthen connections to Finnish scientific community
• Encourage initiatives in research projects where relevant
Recommendations for implementing information

- Formulating of summaries/information leaflets
- Timing
- Continue targeted and tailored information
- Face-to-face contacts when possible

Effective knowledge is produced in a social relationship
Take home messages

• Collaboration is essential to gain impact in international academic networks
• Use your expertise to convince the international community
• Communicate as much as you can

• Thank you for your attention!