



Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe (UNICA) *Call for Joint Degree Programs 2006*

Purpose

In recognising the enormous significance of Joint Degree Programs both for the further cooperation within the Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe, UNICA, and the continuing realisation of a vibrant European Higher Education Area, UNICA has decided to renew its offer of a total of 20,000 € to 10 **newly devised** Joint Degree Programs, 5 Joint Masters and 5 Joint PhD Programs.

In so doing UNICA aims at offering development money to institutions committed to the furthering of the European Higher Education Area.

UNICA Criteria

Applications are required to adhere to the following UNICA principles.

1.) Added value

The added value of a UNICA Joint Master/PhD Program is provided by the fact that scientific and pedagogical assets of several higher education institutions are integrated, combined and crossed in one common offer.

2.) Participation

At least 3 UNICA universities should engage in a Joint Master/PhD Program. Universities not belonging to UNICA should **not** be excluded but UNICA universities should play the leading role in the consortium.

3.) Length

The UNICA Joint Master Degree should be awarded after a total of 90 to 120 ECTS credit points and should allow – in principle – eligibility for doctoral programs. UNICA Joint PhD Programs should not be shorter than three years (180 ECTS credit points)

4.) **Thesis work and defence**

A thesis should be jointly supervised and, if possible, a joint board of examiners should be set up.

5.) **Mobility**

The issue of students' and teachers' mobility should be resolved individually by the partner universities, depending on the structure and the concept of the program.

6.) **Language policy**

The program should promote multilingualism as much as possible.

Timetable

stage	deadline/timeframe
1. call for submission of Joint Degree Programs	March 3rd – May 3rd, 2006
2. review period	May 3rd - May 20th 2006
3. notification of the decision of the SC	June 1st 2006
3. implementation of programs	start within the next two academic years

Procedure for Applicants

Applicants are kindly invited to submit an **abstract of 2-3 pages** outlining motivation, structure and aims of the program. This abstract should contain the following 5 aspects. Please regard the specifications underneath individual points as good practice reflecting last year's experiences:

1. a concise profile of the program

- ✓ in particular ***means and structure of inter-institutional cooperation, contributions of each participating institution, concise qualifications of the program, clearly defined overall learning outcomes of the program, research methodology, etc.***

2. the program's intended ECTS workload

3. a list of participating universities

- ✓ clearly state **participants and the coordinator of each participating university**

4. a presentation of how the consortium intends to meet the general UNICA criteria as mapped out above

5. the timeline sketching curriculum development – indicating projected implementation

In addition to last year's procedures UNICA would like to point out that **all applications have to be submitted via e-mail**. The accompanying **letter of endorsement** signed by the Rector of the respective applicant university has to be submitted either **by fax** or scanned as an **attachment** to the above mentioned e-mail. Applications without a letter of intent will not be reviewed by the Steering Committee.

In order to optimise the flow of information between UNICA's representatives it is furthermore **required to send a copy** of the application **to the respective UNICA contact person** of the institution in case.

Please send applications by mail to

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C/o Université Libre de Bruxelles
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Avenue F.D. Roosevelt, 50
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Electronic applications to UNICA
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