PRACTICAL CHALLENGES OF IMPLEMENTING A LANGUAGE POLICY

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THE LANGUAGE POLICY WORK AT JYU

• Long tradition in applied linguistics and language (education) policy

• The first language policy in an European university in 2004

• Language policy as a driver for internationalization

• Progressive terms of office for the language policy committee:
  I  Policy development
  II Action plan
  III Operationalization
JYU LANGUAGE POLICY

University as a working environment
University as a learning environment
University as a societal agent

Action plan:
- objectives
- indicators
- responsibilities
IMPLEMENTATION – POSSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES

- The University staff displays expertise and continuously develops its competences in an international, multilingual and multicultural working community.
- Equal and barrier-free communication is the right and responsibility of every member of the JYU working community.
- JYU graduates are experts who possess the diverse and discipline-specific language, communication and internationalisation skills required in working life.
- Finnish-medium teaching fosters high standards in the language and promotes the development of multifaceted interactive skills in students. Particular attention is paid to both oral and written academic communication.
- The University offers high-level, internationally competitive English-medium education.
- The University as a multilingual and multicultural community and operational environment is a systematically utilised resource in education.
- The University trains experts who master the communicative and discourse practices of their discipline and who are able to communicate knowledgeably and effectively within their own field as well as to external target groups and the general public.
- The University’s publications meet high scientific and linguistic standards in Finnish as well as in other languages.
- The University promotes the development of Finnish as a language of science.
CHALLENGE: MAINSTREAMING LANGUAGE POLICY

- Language policy integrated in the institutional strategy and its action plan
- Systems thinking as basis for language policy planning and implementation
  - Curriculum development
  - Student and staff recruitment guidelines and processes
  - Staff performance and development discussions
- Leadership and management commitment
KIITOS! DANKE! THANKS!
QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?