long Learning at the University of Bremen

Speaker: Miriam Kahrs (Academy of Continuing Education)

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Agenda

I. Academy of Continuing Education
II. Project *konstruktiv*
III. Program *LIFE*
IV. Chances and Challenges of *LIFE*
V. Quintessence and Discussion
1. Academy of Continuing Education

- ... was found in 2011
- ... central university unit
- ... develops, implements and administers programs in the area of continuing higher education
- ... cooperates with faculties and other university units

- ... portfolio includes*:
  - modular studies
  - certificates and
  - master’s programs
  - studies for senior citizens

- ... programs address diverse target group

*Most programs are credit-bearing according to the ECTS
II. Project konstruktiv

- ... government-funded project (since 2013) to structurally embed systematic orientation to new target groups at the university

- ... module-based flexible curricula pathways

- ... three topic areas
  - computer sciences / digital media
  - production engineering
  - nursing and health sciences

- ... target group
  - (graduated) working professionals
  - individuals returning to the workforce
  - migrants

- ... resulted in life
III. LIFE (LEARNING – INDIVIDUALLY – FLEXIBLE – EFFICIENT)

- systematically use *modules* of full-time study programs as resources for continuing higher education (modules = study elements)
- create *flexible curricular pathways*
- motivate and support lectures to restructure modules in terms of spatiotemporal factors
- develop advisory services and support structures
- build up sustainable cooperation and structures with faculties and other university units
III. LIFE (LEARNING – INDIVIDUALLY – FLEXIBLE – EFFICIENT)

Curricula pathways (based on modules)

- Non-defined paths
  - Single module certificates
  - Single module certificate
  - LIFE*flex
- Predefined paths resulting in specific certificates
  - ‘bigger’ certificate
  - ‘small’ certificate
  - LIFE*cert
IV. Chances & Challenges

**LIFE helps ...**
- ... to increase the acceptance of continuing higher education (or lifelong learning) as a university’s mission
- ... to view “traditional” study modules as resources of continuing education
- ... to better meet the needs of lifelong learners in the area of higher education
- ... to promote flexible learning arrangements and scenarios

**but ...**
- ... building up sustainable structures is a tough process that requires endurance as well as resources
- ... single modules need to become visible and not be “hidden” inside curricula
- ... target group and employers often do not consider universities as a place of LL
- ... motivation/time of professors and lectures to restructure modules is limited
V. Quintessence

Cooperation between the areas of traditional full-time degrees and continuing higher education can be a “door opener” in order to evolve universities into a place of lifelong learning.
Thank you very much for your attention!

... any questions or comments?