

NETWORKING AS A KEY ELEMENT IN QUALITY HIGHER EDUCATION

Businet 30th anniversary
conference

Budapest,
10-11 / 11 / 2016

CONTENTS PRESENTATION

History of European cooperation in education

History of Businet

Congratulations

Enhancing networking in Higher Education

- Based on questionnaires filled in by 70 participants
- Satisfaction of members Businet as a network

Suggestions for the future of Businet

NETWORKING IN EDUCATION IS ABOUT

People working together: cooperation

- Lecturers, students, other staff

Quality in education: for all stakeholders

Trust, confidence in others, openness

Creativity and entrepreneurship: ideas

Interculturality

Employability

Equal opportunities, inclusiveness

Solidarity, welfare, well-being

Active (European)citizenship, global awareness

Friendship

CONTEXT & HISTORY OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION & NETWORKING IN EDUCATION & H. ED.

1958: Treaty of Rome

1967: 1st Council of Ministers of education meeting

- 5 areas of cooperation: Higher Education, languages, information, data ...

1967 – 1986: pre-Erasmus pilots projects

1987: Erasmus approved by European Parliament & Council of Ministers

1995: Socrates programme I & Erasmus, Comenius, Grundtvig, Lingua, Minerva

2007: Lifelong Learning Programme : Socrates & Leonardo da Vinci

2014: Erasmus Plus programme

BACKGROUND PHILOSOPHY TO CREATE BUSINET

- Enhance quality of higher education
 - Benchmarking, good practices, peer learning
- Stimulate concrete networking and cooperation between professional higher education institutions
 - Also with attention for short cycle higher education
- Create mobility opportunities for students and staff members: equal opportunities
 - Focus on both studies and/or placements abroad
- Solidarity:
 - The European dream vs the American dream : Jeremy Rifkin
 - **American Dream** : economic growth, personal wealth and independence.
 - **European dream**: sustainable development, quality of life, solidarity, inclusiveness, multilateralism

HISTORY OF BUSINET

Preparatory visits 1983 – 1986 funded by EU

- By UCLL (then HTI) but involving potential partners

Businet founding meeting: 1987 Leuven (Heverlee)

- then 15 partners of 7 Member states of 11 EU MS
- B (NL & FR), FR, ES, IRL, NL, PT, UK (England, Wales)
- Support of many Belgian HEI + KBC bank



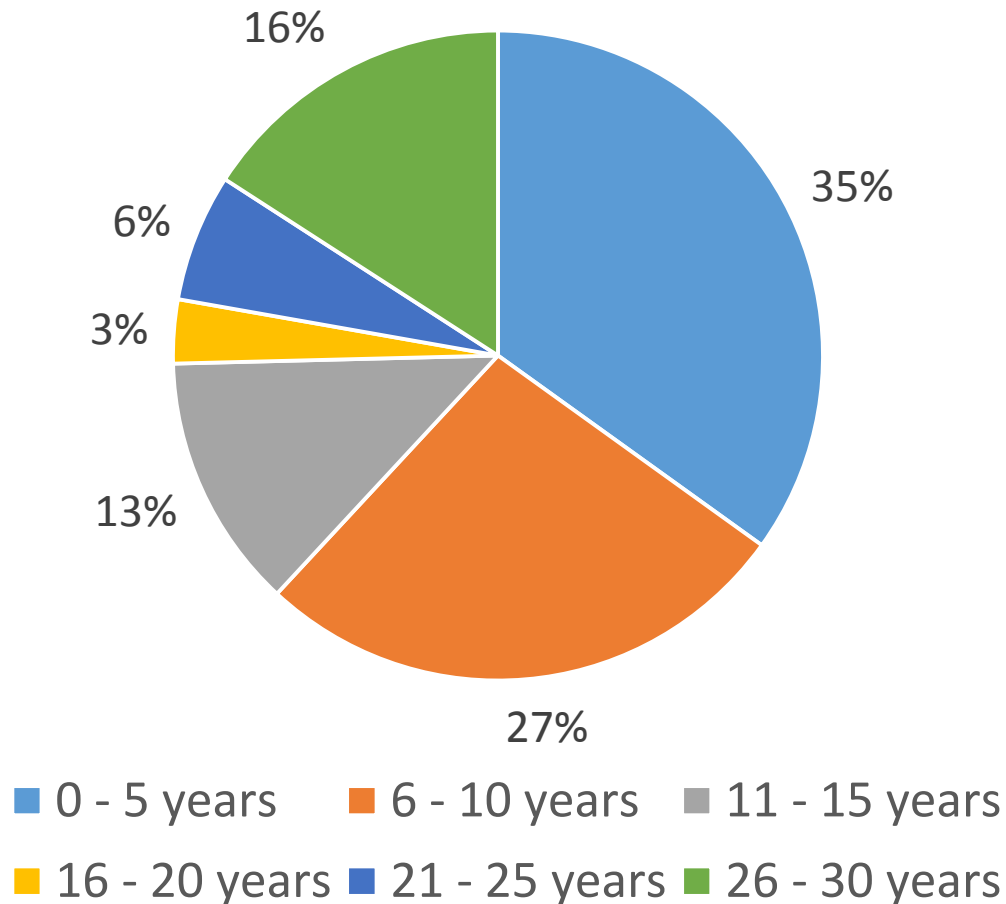
1989 : Opening up to Central & Eastern European countries



Businet 2016: more than 100 members, 27 countries



HOW LONG HAS YOUR INSTITUTION BEEN A MEMBER OF BUSINET ?



CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS

To the 15 founding members

To the present members

To the past presidents

To all the members of the board

- (past and present)

To some key colleagues in particular

- Ignace Ingelaere, B, secretary general 1988 - 1999
- David Taylor, UK : 1999- 2016
- Jytte Mansfeld, DK
- Magda Kirsch, B



PAST PRESIDENTS BUSINET

Bernard Charron (FR)

Petra Gillis(BE)

Laurie Turner (UK)

Christos Collocas (GR)

Lux van Colmjon (NL)

Maria de Sousa (PT)

John Evons (UK)

Susan Jones (ES)

Ivo Verheyen (BE)

Ingrid Toft (DK)

Jytte Mansfeld (DK)

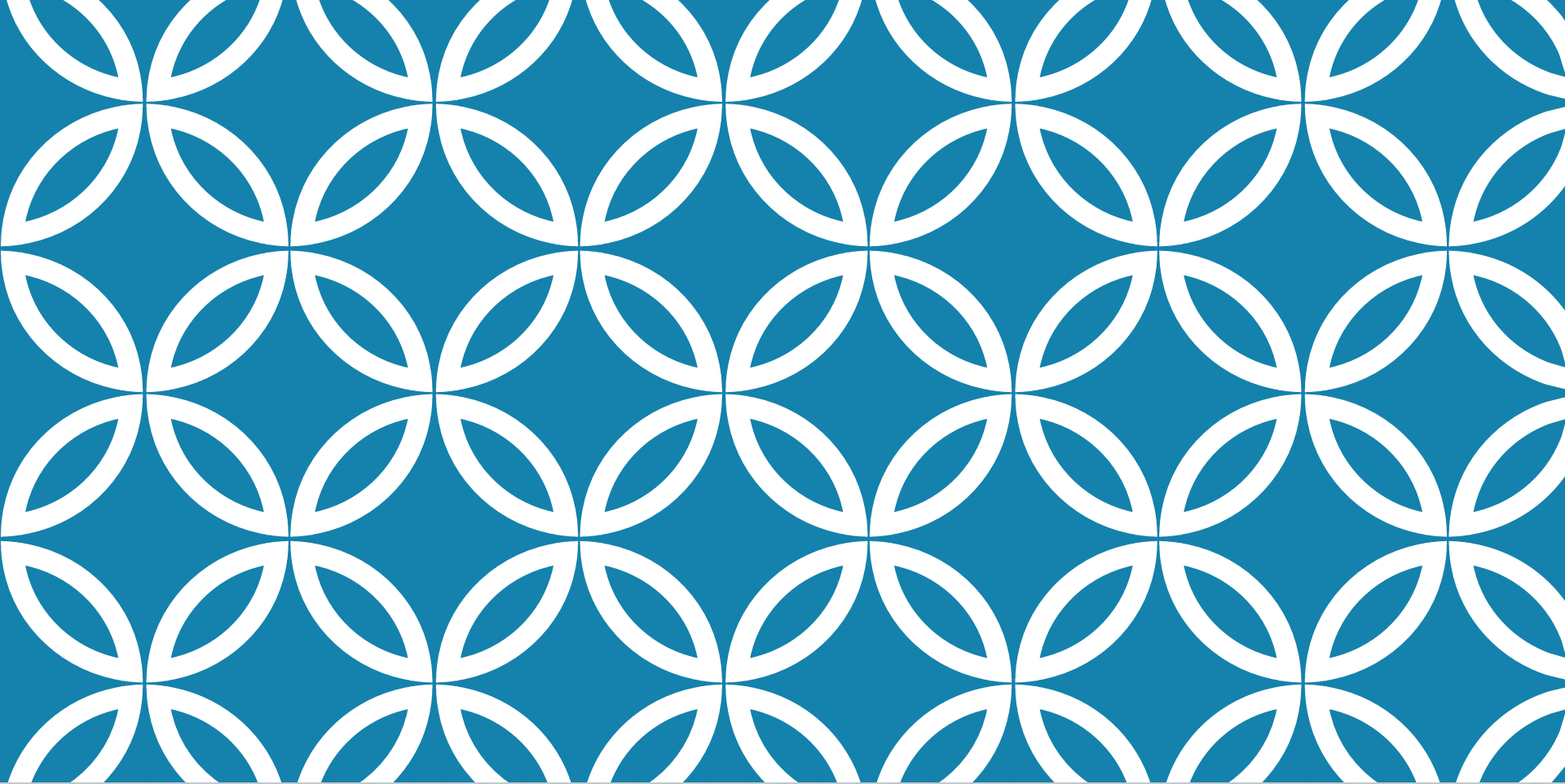
Buhman (DE),

Gunvor Sjoblom (DK)

Kurt-Hans Kuehling (AT)

John Ellison (UK)

Yves Beernaert (BE)



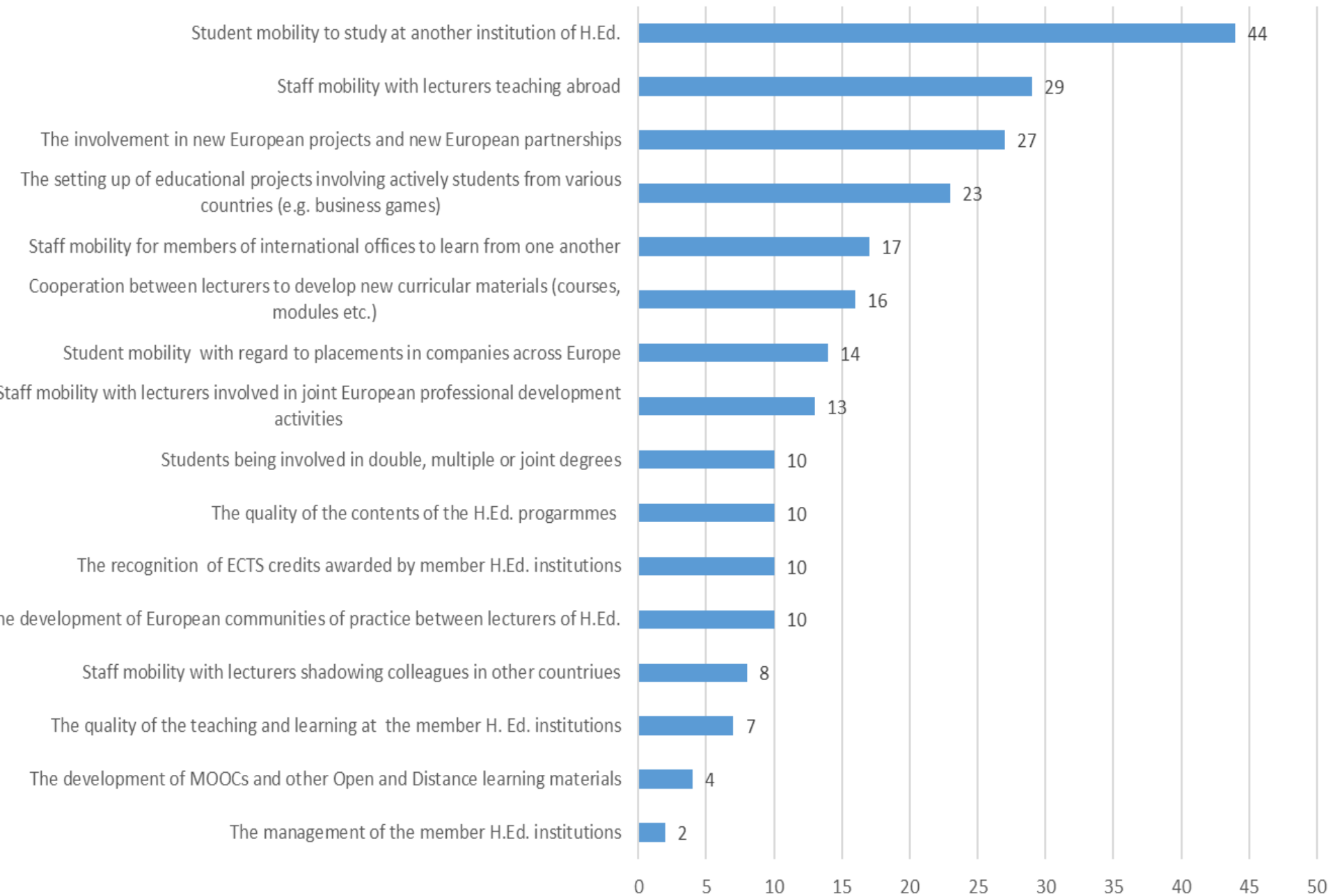
ENHANCING NETWORKING IN HIGHER EDUCATION: BUSINET

Why?

How?

Based on the
questionnaires filled in by
participants

Reasons for being a member of Businet



WHY NETWORKING ?

To get to know people: share knowledge, interests, collaboration opportunities

Easier access to information, knowing people opens doors

Sharing best practices and learning from each other

Staff mobility, cooperation between lecturers, development of MOOCS

Student mobility

Double degrees, international weeks

Check with your international colleagues how your work is progressing.

Learning about intercultural communication, for lecturers, international officers.

Keeping abreast of developments, comparing notes (problems, solutions, innovative approaches)

For one's own career, one's own Professional Development

Development of Eur. learning communities

Discuss themes in relation with higher education

WHY NETWORKING

Creating new opportunities for joint development of international student projects and development of intercultural skills of staff.

To setup R&D Consortia,

Build Research networks/consortia

Stability, access to partners' partners / Finding new partners

It helps to build the appropriate partnerships when developing projects.

Involvement in new European projects,

Successful internationalization is built on close networking.

Good international contacts make a good international office!

WHY NETWORKING ?

Together we can make a difference.

Together you have better ideas, you can create more opportunities, you can learn from each other

Meet each other face-to-face. It makes it much easier afterwards to phone, mail, skype, ..

Better collaboration when you know people face-to-face and not only via email

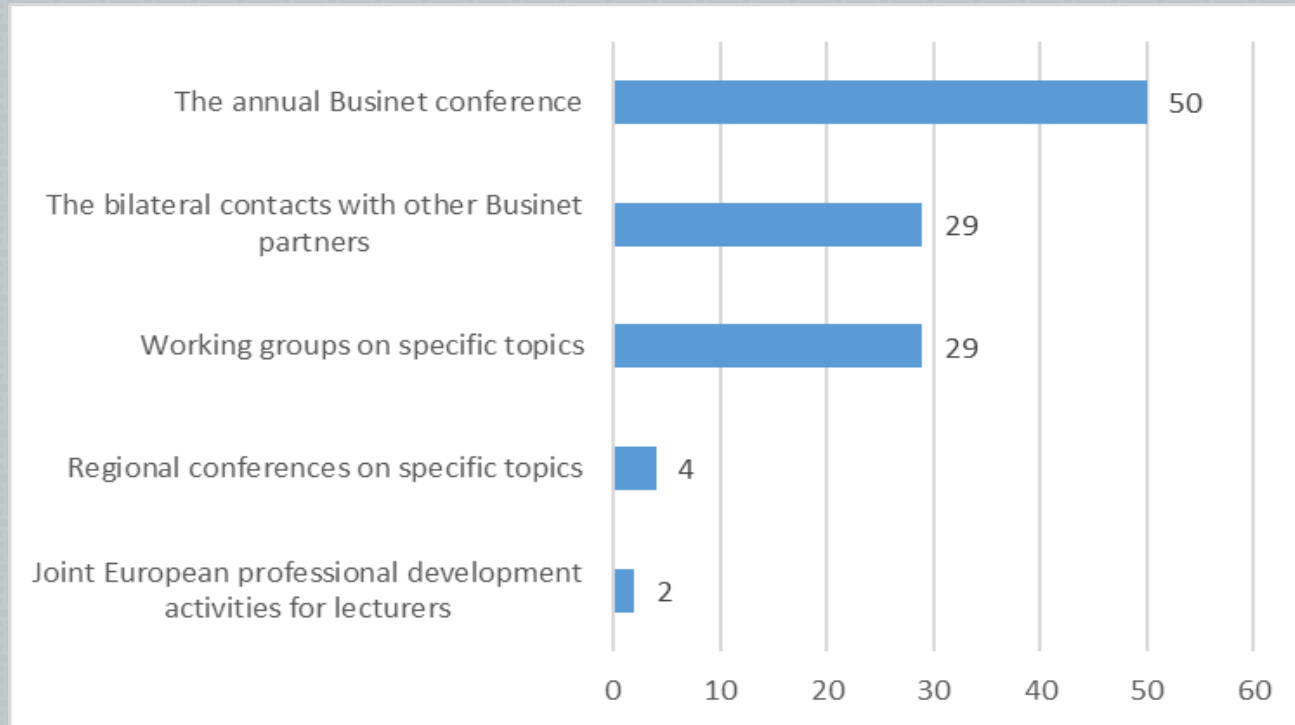
Much more efficient to work with people you know face to face

Establish mutual standards and agreements apart from EU criteria. Also mutual funding of Projects could be set up this way.

Friendship



MOST USEFUL BUSINET ACTIVITIES/EVENTS



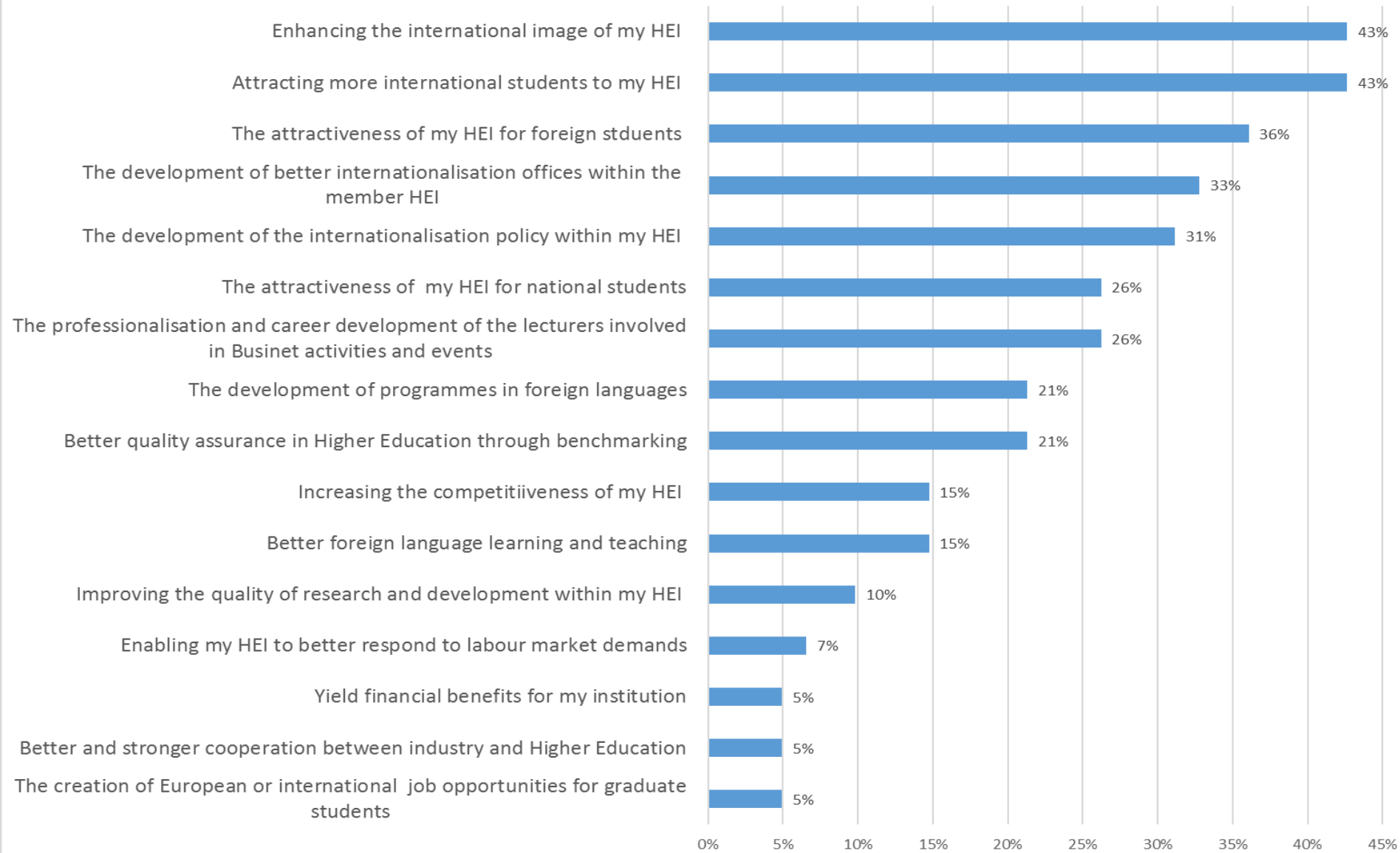
Other events

Spring conference, if that is seen as different from the annual conference. The spring conference is more practical and more informal, but certainly not less productive

Busidays to get our UK students to experience abroad events since Erasmus study tends to scare them off - saying that, many cannot afford to lose the part-time jobs they rely on to support their studying

International weeks (Busiweeks) for students

Businet has had an impact on ...



Other

The main impact has been the increase of our European network

Organising international students projects, thus creating more opportunities for students- and staff mobility

CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE OF BUSINET

Expand to more countries , Cooperation with non-European countries and world beyond Europe: Africa, Latin America ...

More cooperation with other Eur. , international networks: too fragmented.

Be a hub for international Innovation

Dual / Double degrees/ joint programmes

Keeping up international student projects

Exchange of staff partnerships to foster internationalization

Cultural competencies with interdisciplinary groups

Better cooperation with industry for better internships

Expanding number & quality short-term exchanges of students

Professional Development of teachers and staff

Developing MOOCS

Quality of the keynote speakers and topics. More state of the art and relevant.

CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

Common Research. Create a BUSINET research fund which members could bid for.

Be a hub for international Innovation

Enhanced PR . Professionalizing the image of the network :

- constant update the website; good marketing in interdisciplinary teams

Working as a pressure group to fight for international dimension in H. Ed.

More influence / impact for members to be more active on EU funds (not Erasmus+) but framework/policy programs

Establish a project office to help members with projects

Briefing international officers on European policies, ways to obtain finances,

Setting standard operating procedures shared by ALL international offices

BUSINET accreditation for programs

Franchise programmes

Effects of Brexit on foreign students visiting UK HE and collaboration between UK and European institutions;

How to deal with global developments e.g. the refugee crisis.

Safety concerns of students when studying abroad

Quality of the keynote speakers and topics. More state of the art and relevant.

OTHER NETWORKS BUSINET MEMBERS ARE INVOLVED IN

CASE Europe, EAIE

EFMD

EduQua

EACA – Ecom

DUKENET

NICE

Power Us

ENOTHE

WOW BERLIN

AACSB

CARPE

EJTA

NIBS

MAGELLAN

Socnet

KASTALIA

NAFSA

IACBE

TIGE

Atlas

SPACE

EASSS

Florence

Comenius network

North American programmes (ISEP, ORA, CREPUQ), etc.

International business weeks -network

International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education

Joint degree program with Moscow and cooperation with other Russian institutions. Etc.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Great past, promising future for Businet

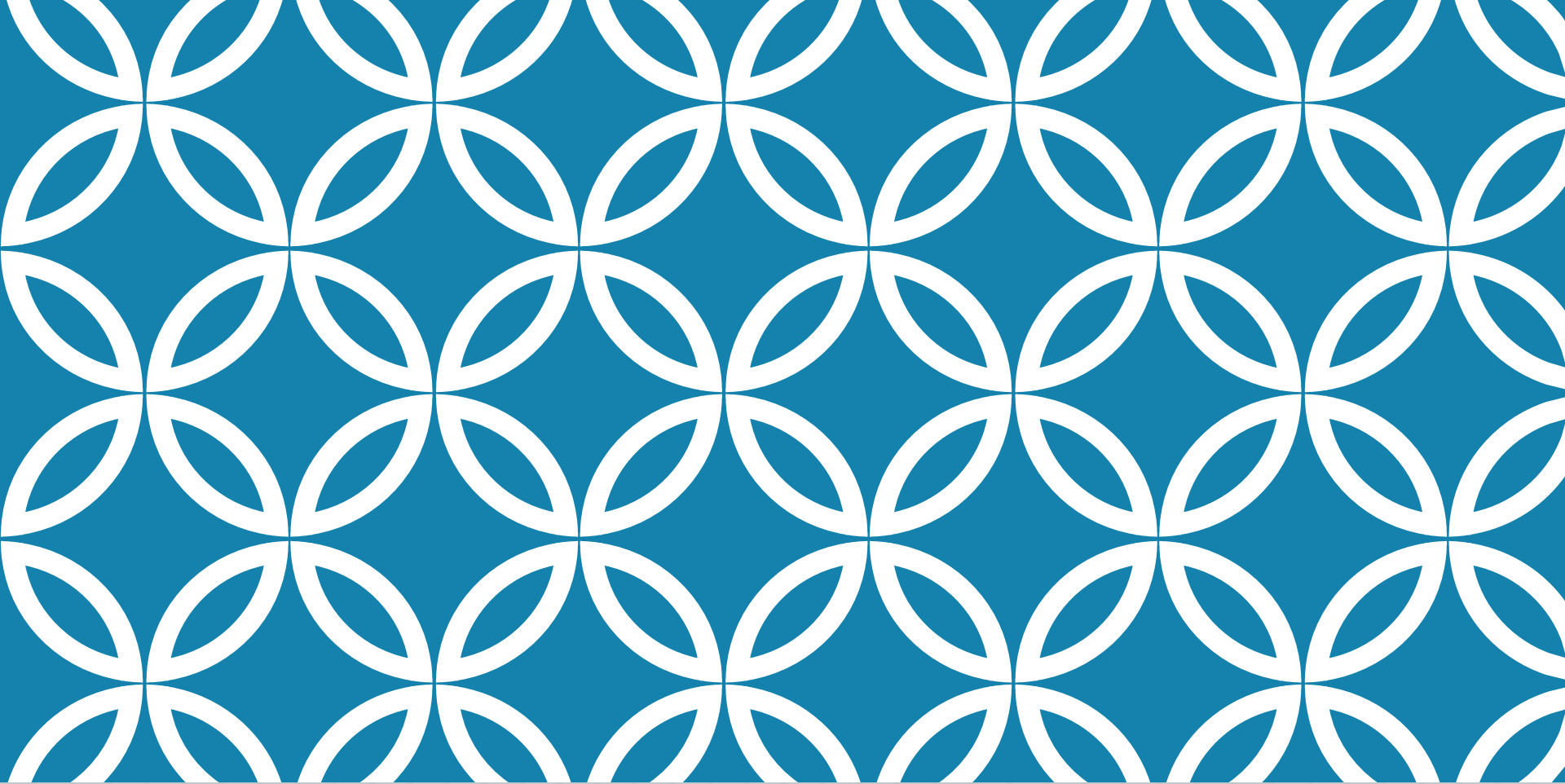
Contribution to SMART, SUSTAINABLE, INCLUSIVE European society

Possibly more focus on

- Students joint activities
- Interdisciplinary work at lecturer and student level
- Research in Higher Education topics: innovation
- Cooperation with industry & civil society: better internships
- RRI in curriculum and activities
- CPD of lecturers : Moocs, Mini Moocs...
- Evaluation of internationalisation
- Contribution of Businet to EU policy and strategy

Congratulations with the 30th anniversary

Thanks for all the time, work and efforts invested in European, international cooperation activities



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

All the best in your
European & international
activities