Research Governance at UYI
Research Governance Workshop Univ of Buea, 17-19/06/2010

Office of the Vice Rector for Research, Cooperation and Relations with the Business World - Prof Guy Tsala – V.Rector

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Delegation
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Inventory 2007-2009
UYI - Research Landscape – >100 labs

• Objectives:
  – Conduct a state of the art inventory
  – Who, What, Where and How
  – Pools of Research Excellence
  – Existing infrastructure
  – Challenges
  – Possible collaborations
  – Suggestions for Improvements
2009
UYI Research Governance Workshop

1. Information Sharing
   – Info-multiplier, web site, provision of national expertise,
   – Annals, joint seminars

2. Data base
   – No Annual catalogue, data of research themes, infrastructure and research quality

3. Funding
   – Enabling environs, research culture, national coordinating body, competitive research programs,

4. Researcher responsibility
   – Reports and information

5. Intellectual Property
   – Patent office and IP protection, Grants Negotiations
2009
UYI Research Governance Workshop
16 Resolutions/Action Points

• 7 resolutions can only be achieved through joint cost saving efforts

• 5 resolutions - through coordination of existing competences within each university

• 4 resolutions by further government investments in research
University of Yaounde I
Research Governance Strategy

Objectives:

1. Efficient and Visible System
   • Identify the research themes
   • Establish a research programme
   • Define the terms of reference and researcher responsibility
   • Perfect its website and introduce web-based management tools

2. Research Infrastructural Investment
   • UY shelters many research infrastructures
   • Notably the - University Institute for e-governance for all Universities (ENSP)

3. Human Resource Development
   • Multidisciplinary teams approach
   • Governance training

4. Means and Ways
   • Financial management
   • Compete for External Funds
The Biotechnology Centre
Pilot Research Governance Outfit

• Call for tenders – Government Investments in renovating 6 buildings
• Initial investments followed by researcher initiatives from grants overheads
• Research Question Bank – Research Orientation
• Research Governance and Quality Control
  – Immediate attraction to Industrial partners
  – Immediate interest and training from CDC, NIH, WHO and Italians
• Host – Multilateral Initiative on Malaria
• Host - PRD - College
FP7 PRD College
Investing in the Future

• First ever EU - support-action sponsored African-based coordination – 12 consortium members,

• International Programme in Biomedicine and Development –
  – 24 candidates (8 Europeans and 16 Africans)

• 5 training modules – Tripling of Candidates
  – Fundamental (Kampala), Advanced (RSA), Mandatory Package (Cameroon), Reality Check (Africa wide) & Science Exchange (Europe)
External Funding Aggressiveness
EU - FP6/FP7 – Projects

> 1,000,000 Euros –
  • PRD College

100000 – 500000 Euros
  • BIOMALPAR NoE, EVIMALAR,
  • SCOOTT, NEUROTRYP
  • DEC-VAC, SURE, CANTAM

< 100000 Euros
  • AfricaNUANCE, PHYTOPHARM, EUROBROADMAP, SARNISSA, MIAVITA, SUSTAINERGYNET
Office for Grant Administration and Professional Profiling

- Objectives to create an enabling research
- Small grants program for young researchers
- PRD College - Module 3 – Yaounde, 2011 enforcing research governance
  - Pedagogy, diplomacy, grants administration, project development
  - Communication and policy briefs, intellectual property governance
- Monitor timely financial reporting through software models
- e-mapping of real time progress - web based management tool
- Marketing the Researcher - Travel Assistance
- EU Information multiplier
  - in Collaboration with Fobang Foundation local NGOs
- Assistance in Grant Development – UYI Contributions
- Contacts for Consultancies
UYI Supports - Mutual Efforts Enabling Research Landscape

• Joint Science Journals -
• Joint Patent Office –
• Joint Workshops
• Joint Development Coordination -
• Joint Research Funding Body – National Foundation for Science
• Joint Annual Meritocracy Awards
• Joint development of guidelines for Institutional Ranking – 183 Institutes of Higher Learning
Take Home Message

• As researchers, if we are honest to ourselves on the scientific method we so pride ourselves with, then our decisions must be guided by the evidence we generate. We must therefore also find practical use of such knowledge and realize that we all owe a responsibility to our communities to make things happen rather than wait for things to happen. We must take over the decision making processes, be movers and shakers rather than shy away and stay perpetual complainers of bad decisions. It starts with you and I who must abscond from being egocentric success builders. We must deconstruct the current stalemate and rebuild a legacy of research successors who can collaborate rather than fight each other, maintain an institutional memory rather than reinvent the wheel each time.

• Can we do just that?
YES WE CAN !