Slide 1

The importance of Research Evaluation in Quality Enhancement

Conference on Quality in Higher Education Institutions
Grand Hótel, Reykjavík
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Eyjólfur Guðmundsson
Rector
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Slide 2

The importance …..

- **Short version**
  - Teaching AND research are an integral part of the definition of a university
  - A quality system for an institution, product or service must include the entire process
  - Resources are limited and must be used effectively at all times

- **Longer version**
  - The Devil is in the Detail!

Slide 3

Quality Enhancement Framework version 1.0

- Disappointment that research was not included in the first round (2010)

- Expectations by the Rector´s conference (2014) that research will be included, and welcomed, in the next round

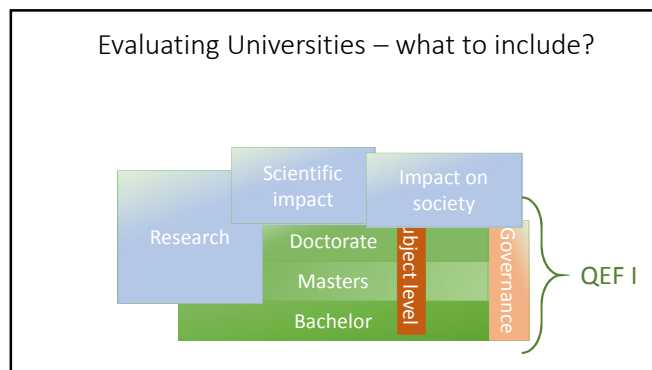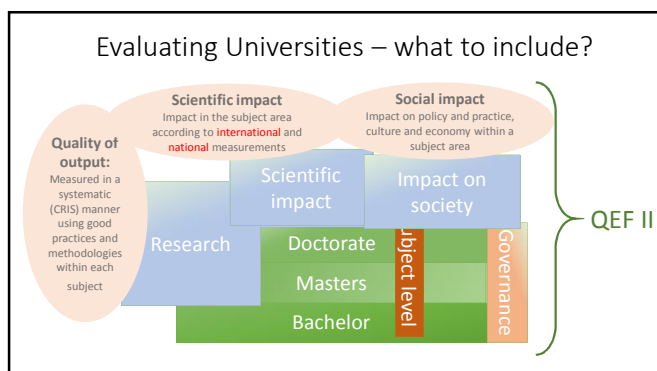- Action points (1.4 and 4.1) in the Science and technology policy council strategic plan 2014 - 2016

Slide 4

ENQA – Standards and guidelines (2015)

"Quality assurance policies are most effective when they reflect the relationship between research and learning & teaching and take account of both the national context in which the institution operates, the institutional context and its strategic approach."

Source: ENQA ESG report May 2015 (www.enqa.eu)

- Focus on the link between education and research

- Universities do serve a specific role within modern societies

Slide 5

Slide 6

Evaluating Universities – what to include?

Scientific impact

Impact on society

Research

Doctorate

Masters

Bachelor

Subject level

Governance

QEF I

Evaluating Universities – what to include?

Scientific impact
Impact in the subject area according to international and national measurements

Social impact
Impact on policy and practice, culture and economy within a subject area

Quality of output:
Measured in a systematic (CRIS) manner using good practices and methodologies within each subject

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QEF II

Universities in Iceland – Diverse

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What is quality research?

- Frascati Manual is 255 pages! on how to report and monitor R&D activities (and is currently undergoing its 7th revision)

- Big differences between subject areas and field of study
  - Natural Science vs. Social Sciences
  - Basic research vs. Empirical research

- Quality Enhancement system is NOT a ranking system
  - It is a framework to improve quality within a subject/division/institution
  - It is all about how HEI can improve within itself and can be trusted to do so continuously

- It is therefore essential that the mission and vision of each HEI from a research and teaching perspective is clear and transparent and that the mission is achieved by dialogue with the funding agency (in Iceland = Government)

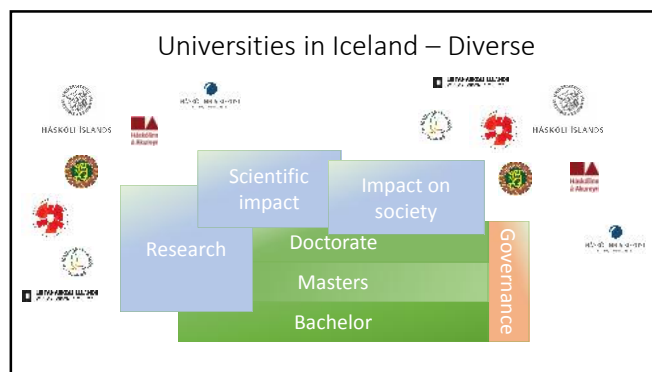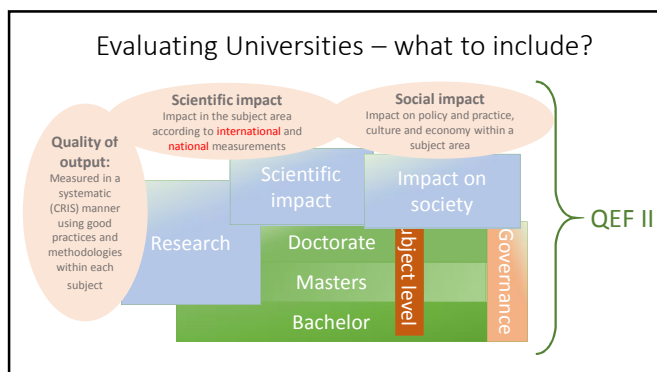- Such framework for the system gives clear objectives and goals to measure quality and performance

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Improving quality - system wide

Different funding models

7 institutions

Different vision and mission

At least 3 different ownership forms