U-Multirank
A new multi-dimensional ranking

Gero Federkeil

From Vision to Action-
Strengthening the Governance – Quality Assurance Nexus in Higher
Education in MENA
Tunis, 12 unue 2014

www.umultirank.org
Agenda

Part One
U-Multirank, what, how and why

Part Two
Live - the U-Multirank web tool

Part Three
Some U-Multirank results
U-Multirank, what, how and why
A new instrument to compare university performances

“University X is the best in the world”

Multi-dimensional ranking: ranks on 30 individual indicators (performance measures) in five dimensions of performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching and learning</th>
<th>Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge transfer</td>
<td>International orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional engagement</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
A new instrument to compare university performances

“Indicator 1 counts for 20%, indicator 2 for 30%, etc., altogether this leads to a score of X”

No composite overall scores, transparency lost if scores are weighted / added

User-driven: user decides on areas of performance to compare (and on the kind of university to be compared) – YOUR WAY!
A new instrument to compare university performances

- Ranking performances of universities as a whole
- Ranking performances in specific fields or disciplines
Higher education needs this new kind of comparison

The “global system” of higher education is characterised by an enormous diversity in university profiles and missions.

- Different groups of stakeholders are interested in different types of performances by universities.
- But diversity is not yet transparent or understood.

Diverse preferences and needs of students, university leaders, academics, business and industry, governments etc.
U-Multirank 2014 is the most comprehensive international data comparison in higher education

- 850 universities are included with publicly available data
- 70 countries have universities in U-Multirank
- 500 of the 879 universities have provided comprehensive data
- 500 faculties/departments are included in the four field based rankings (physics, electrical and mechanical engineering, business studies)
- 1,000 study programmes within these faculties are included
- 5,000 students completed the student satisfaction survey
- 60,000
U-Multirank offers a global view of a large variety of university profiles

Worldwide coverage

In 2014, 62% of U-Multirank universities are from Europe, 17% from North America, 14% from Asia and 7% from Africa, Latin America and Oceania

- PhD-awarding institutions + universities of applied sciences
- small + large universities
- specialised institutions + comprehensive universities
- old (pre 1870) + young institutions (after 1980)
Live - the U-Multirank web tool

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Some U-Multirank results
U-Multirank shows diversity in performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“A” scores per univ.</th>
<th>% of univs.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 5</td>
<td>43 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 10</td>
<td>43 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 to 15</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 21</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Very few univs. with no “A” scores

Many univs. have specific strengths

No univ. has “across the board” “A” scores

Around 100 univs. have a wide range (>10) of “A” scores

300 univs. never before seen in global rankings. Of these, 30 have more than 10 “A” scores
Different universities show top performances in different indicators

80 universities from the total sample of 879 achieved *a score in the top five* on at least one of the 30 indicators.

8 of these 80 universities achieved *a score in the top five* on three or more indicators (the highest is one university with six such scores).

4 of these 8 universities have not been visible before in global rankings
- An Austrian University of Applied Science
- A private US Christian University
- A private German Business School
- A French Management Grande École

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The “world’s top 100 universities overall”?

• U-Multirank demonstrates for the first time the diversity of university profiles in the international context.

• The findings indicate that it is not possible to meaningfully identify “the world’s top 100 or 200 universities overall”.

• U-Multirank identifies the top performers – but these are different depending on the indicator.

• U-Multirank is a flexible learning tool where students, parents, academics, policy-makers, administrators, etc., can find information to support decision-making.
U-Multirank offers a wealth of information and the potential for many more analyses

There will be an explosion of findings once the web tool goes live this afternoon and the U-Multirank user community grows

Comparisons per university profile

Comparisons per dimension

Comparisons per country

Comparisons per indicator

Comparisons per field/discipline

And many special analyses...
U-Multirank 2014 was only the first step

- 2015 registrations are open
- More universities will participate in 2015 and beyond
- Psychology, computer science, and medicine will be added as new subject fields in 2015

To be continued...
Some views on U-Multirank

Professor Sir Howard Newby, Vice-Chancellor, University of Liverpool

"U-Multirank provides an elegant solution to a problem which undermines conventional rankings. It does not seek to weight different activities of a university but allows users to devise their own ranking according to what they believe is important. Therefore it democratises university rankings and will be an essential tool for all those who are stakeholders in modern universities."

Stefan Jahnke, President of the Erasmus Student Network

Through U-Multirank it is possible for the first time to truly compare higher education institutions with each other according to different aspects. For the Erasmus Student Network it is very important to compare not only research outcomes but also to have a look at the international perspective of institutions. We fully support the U-Multirank project and believe it will benefit students greatly in choosing institutions for their studies.
• For more information on U-Multirank visit us, at www.umultirank.org.

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