

Spring Campus, March 27 -31, 2017

Management Workshop: “Participation as Trigger for Committed University Communities”, March 28-29, 2017

Organized by Dr. Heike Walk, Andreas Wanke, Katrin Risch

The answer to what is meant by participation varies according to political orientation and interests. In general, the concept of participation entails ‘the right to be heard and the right to be involved in the decision making process’ (see Roland Roth). There are many different approaches in theory and practice, which indicate diverging understandings of democracy, communication and power. Today, a growing number of decision makers in politics and business is aware of the value of involving interested stakeholders.

In recent years the importance of participation on the organizational level has been increasingly highlighted. It supports the structural principle of low hierarchies and involvement of employees in steering and decision-making processes. Participation can foster self-organization in institutions up to achieving the goal of building learning communities. This is especially relevant for universities, which belong to those organizations that feature very complex organizational mechanisms.

Strengthening participation is also significant for all activities in the context of sustainability, which affect nearly every faculty and entity of universities. Sustainability management aims to systematically embed aspects of sustainability within the various scientific disciplines as well as in governance and administration of the university. The necessity to embed aspects of sustainability in those areas results first and foremost from the interdisciplinary character of sustainability management and the systematic linkage with aspects of organizational development. Due to the fact that the issue is rather complex and interdisciplinary in nature, a top-down-strategy is not suitable for its implementation. Taking successful sustainability management at universities as an example, it can be seen that implementation strategies rely rather on processes concerning discourses, persuasion, networks or participation. Consequently, questions, which shall be dealt with in the combined research- and management workshop, are:

- Which insights and impulses from participation research in areas of politics and new social movements can be transferred to the university level?
- What are different starting points for successful participation strategies within universities?
- How can the success of participation strategies be measured? How can their long-term efficacy be assessed?
- Which participation methods are most suitable for different phases of participation processes?
- What kind of lessons learned and shared aspects of governance can be identified? In how far are these transferable to other universities?

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These questions will be pursued within three parallel running poster-sessions that will focus on empirical cases of success stories and innovative ideas. Methodological, the workshops will be based on poster presentations and short impulse talks. Issues will be the following:

- Leadership & Organizational Learning
- Community Building & Learning Communities
- Student Initiatives

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Tuesday 28 March 2017 • Seminar Center Freie Universität Berlin

Chair: Dr. Heike Walk, Katrin Risch, Freie Universität Berlin

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>		
9:00 am	Plenary Session, open for all participants Chair: <i>Dr. Dörte Ohlhorst</i> , Freie Universität Berlin Contributions from Politics, Civil Society and Academia on the German Energy Transition		
10:30 am	Coffee Break		
	<i>Management Workshop: "Participation as Trigger for Committed University Communities"</i>		
11:00 am	Pooling our knowledge: Participatory Projects from Politics, Business and Civil Society Opening by Dr. Andrea Bör, Director of Administration and Finance at FU Berlin <i>Roland Roth (tbc)</i> : Participatory Processes in Politics and Civil Society – Opportunities, Challenges and Future Prospects <i>NN</i> , Research Funding Institution (tba): Fostering Participatory Approaches in Research Projects – the Vision, Incentives and Success Factors <i>Prof. Hans Lietzmann</i> , University of Wuppertal (tbc): Participation in academia – how universities can learn from projects in politics, society and business. Discussion of Impacts and Transferability		
12:45 pm	Lunch		
02:00 pm Parallel Poster- sessions	Workshop I Community Building & Learning Communities	Workshop II Leadership & Organizational Learning	Workshop III Student Initiatives
04:00 pm	Coffee Break		
04:30 pm - 05:15 pm	Presentation of Main Findings by Working Group Speakers Central Q: What are you taking home?		
5:15 – open end	Optional Program: a) FUB Campus Tour with a focus on sustainable campus management b) FUB Campus Tour with a focus on history and architecture		

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	We have pre-booked tables in the restaurant “Alter Krug” near U-Bahn station Dahlem Dorf for a self-organized dinner.
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Wednesday, 28 March 2017 • Seminar Center Freie Universität Berlin

Chair: Dr. Heike Walk, Katrin Risch, Freie Universität Berlin

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>
9:00 am	Plenary Session, open for all participants Chair: <i>NN</i> , Freie Universität Berlin
10:30 am	Coffee Break with “Break Express”
	<i>Management Workshop: “Participation as Trigger for Committed University Communities”</i>
11:00 am	Reflections from the first workshop day, 20’ Tom Kelly, University of New Hampshire (tbc): The Sustainable Learning Community: One University's Journey to the Future Liska Richer, University of British Columbia (tbc): SEEDS Sustainability Program: Advancing Campus Sustainability by Creating Partnerships between Students, Operational Staff, and Faculty on Innovative and Impactful Research Projects Short interactive session Moderation: Tom Kelly Wrap Up – Workshop Results
12:30 pm	Lunch
02:00 pm	2:15 pm: Short Bus-tour to main sights in Berlin city center 3:30pm Arrival at Ministry of Education and Research Introduction: Mission and Vision – How does the ministry foster initiatives for sustainable development? How is that reflected in the structures and daily work of the ministry? Tour of the Lead Gold certified building Alternative: 3:45pm Tour of the Reichstag 5:30 Pick up from venues by bus
06:00 pm	Dinner, tba