



SAGSNOTAT

29. JANUAR 2014

Vedr.: Prækvalifikation af MA EMMC *Urban Studies, 4Cities*

UDDANNELSE & STUDERENDE

**Uddannelses-
ansvarlige** Professor Martin Zerlang og lektor Henrik Reeh, IKK

KAREN BLIXENS VEJ 4
2300 KØBENHAVN S

Læsevejledning

Til prækvalifikation fremsendes en beskrivelse af kandidatuddannelsen *Urban Studies, 4Cities* under Det Humanistiske Fakultet, KU.

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REF: EAF

KU har siden 2008 udbudt uddannelsen i et samarbejde med Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Universität Wien, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid samt Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

Initiativet til 4Cities-uddannelsen i Urban Studies blev taget i 2004 af daværende rektor ved Københavns Universitet, Linda Nielsen, og andre rektorer i UNICA, det europæiske netværk af hovedstads-universiteter.

Siden 1993 var der med etableringen af Center for Urbanitet og Æstetik drevet systematiske internationale og tværfaglige bystudier ved Institut for Litteraturvidenskab, i dag en del af Institut for Kunst- og Kulturvidenskab. Derfor valgte rektor at bede repræsentanter fra dette institut om at yde Københavns Universitets bidrag til en tværeuropæisk uddannelse i bystudier, som udbydes i samarbejde med universiteter fra Wien, Bruxelles og Madrid.

Selve uddannelsen startede i 2008 under navnet 4Cities – UNICA Euromaster in Urban Studies, og i dag er den sjette studentergang undervejs.

En omfattende *consortium*-aftale regulerer indhold og bidrag fra de enkelte institutioner. Aftalen blev genforhandlet i 2013 og fornyes af de respektive institutioner i foråret 2014.

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I 2012 blev 4Cities-uddannelsen udvalgt til det europæiske eliteprogram Erasmus Mundus Master Course, hvilket økonomisk udløste en bevilling på 666.600 euro = 5.000.000 kroner alene for den første studenterårgang. Dette program løber til 2018 med mulighed for forlængelse.

I august 2013 blev den akkrediteret af *de Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie* (VLUHR Quality Assessment). I forbindelse med akkrediteringen udarbejdedes en omfattende selv-evaluering. Det følgende er en opsummering af denne.

Uddannelsen står for at blive prækvalificeret af FIVU i foråret 2014. En prækvalifikation er nødvendig for at KU kan deltage fuldgældigt i uddannelsessamarbejdet og tildele en grad ved dimission.

Den to-årige kandidatuddannelse foregår med et semester i fire europæiske hovedstæder, der hver repræsenterer en særlig bytype. København repræsenterer således den nordiske velfærdsby. Den humanvidenskabelige betoning af arkitektur, byplanlægning, kultur og design i den københavnske del reflekterer de kvaliteter, som i de senere år har placeret København på verdenskortet som "the most livable city".

Der optages normalt en enkelt dansker pr. studenterårgang, hvorfor påvirkningen af det nationale arbejdsmarked er begrænset. Undervisningen til 4Cities-studerende udbydes samtidig til danske KU-studerende, som herved får en international og tværfaglig kontaktflade, ligesom de får opøvet færdigheder i engelsk som akademisk sprog.

Fortegnelse over bilag

Læsevejledning

Kort beskrivelse af uddannelsen:

Kompetenceprofil, rekrutteringsgrundlag, opbygning, sammenligning med beslægtede uddannelser, kvalitetssikring

Alumneundersøgelse med oversigt over deres beskæftigelse

Liste over aftagere og udvalgte høringssvar

Positiv akkrediteringsrapport fra *nederlands-vlaamse accreditatieorganisatie*

Kort beskrivelse af uddannelsen

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The strength of this masters programme results from the integration of analytical skills typical for the (social-)sciences and the more design oriented skills of planning and architecture. The need for interdisciplinary knowledge and skills as opposed to the more narrowly defined academic disciplines is strong.

The programme focuses on:

- Glocalisation - the processes of globalisation and localisation - as a general context leading to a renewed importance of the city and urbanity in the 21st century. The city is considered a nodal point in post-national developments.
- Europe as the unit of analysis: Europe and the European unification process is seen as part of and a reaction to this globalisation processes. Our scope is Europe seen through its cities and urban networks.
- Interdisciplinarity and internationality as a surplus value. The programme focuses on transdisciplinary approaches and transdisciplinary practices (not the least bridging urban planning and urban sociology, geography, etc) with a focus on the socio-spatial analysis of cities.
- An education build on strong cases: Brussels (capital of EU, small global city) – Copenhagen (the Scandinavian mode of regulation), Vienna (metropolis at the centre of Europe: gateway to the East), Madrid (the Mediterranean cities) and a number of surrounding cities.
- The importance of fieldwork: research experience in each city and comparative or transnational research as the basis for a final masters thesis
- A number of excursions and visits: a central attractor will be that we incorporate well prepared excursions in each block. Each excursion will incorporate a socio-spatial introduction to the city (a city walk) and an institutional visit with a focus on certain aspects of policy or management. Moreover a number of projects and institutions will be visited.

Kompetenceprofil

The programme objectives of Urban Studies are listed below:

1. Students think and act in an autonomous and scientific manner on urban planning and sustainable urban development in an interdisciplinary way (skill-based):

Students master general scholarly competences. This means that students are able to conduct rigorous research in urban society, space and forms in an

academic considered way. Students are able to set up a research design involving an original research question, to conduct the research, draw conclusions and (if required) formulate proposals or solutions. Master students in Urban Studies assemble the learning skills to allow them to continue to study or to carry out research in a manner that may be largely self-directed or autonomous.

2. Students have an advanced insight into and understanding of academic and technical or methodological knowledge related to urban studies from an interdisciplinary point of view (knowledge-based):

The master student in Urban Studies can reproduce, demonstrate, define or indicate knowledge and understanding of urban theories in different disciplines such as socio-political approaches to the city, spatial approaches to the city, planning, urbanism and architecture, literature in the city, sustainability in the city and methodological tools in urban studies.

This also includes project and design oriented knowledge coming from academic disciplines (planning, urban renewal planning etc.) and practical exercise (fieldwork). The theory is discussed during lectures and worked on in readings and essay writing and it is also implemented via several case studies (based on the four cities students are staying in and on multiple excursions). In this way students strengthen their ability to tackle a broad spectrum of urban issues.

The scientific knowledge mainly takes into account the following fields:

- (a) The bases of urban theories in different disciplines.
- (b) The city as a social product: factors, global context (globalization, Europe, Fordism/post-Fordism, modernism/post modernism etc.)
- (c) The local context and heritage
- (d) Planning and design processes and systems, and project management
- (e) Understanding the main urban process in growing and decline in relation to the principal functions composing the urban space
- (f) Knowledge of scholarly research methods and scientific reporting
- (g) Practical and daily knowledge on cities, urban policy and planning, and on urban cultural institutions and projects
- (h) Knowledge on national and regional differences, their nature and their consequences
- (i) Knowledge of the social and spatial developments in Europe
- (j) Follow-up of the progress and new debates within academia regarding their field of study in a fast, critical and independent way, and this in various academic disciplines

3. Students construct practical skills to apply this knowledge and understanding in urban situations and problems (skill-based):

This means that the students interpret the knowledge acquired and use it in their argumentation and conclusions demonstrating that they have gained insight into the knowledge of urban studies. Students can deal with complex problems and translate their reflections into adequate application and problem solving. This provides a basis or an opportunity for originality in developing and/or applying ideas, often within a research project. In the professional field the graduates can propose solutions or elaborate proposals for urban problems and design alternatives through planning, project management and scenario research. For this purpose, certain kinds of didactical courses have been developed.

4. Students show creative, interdisciplinary skills, both obtained from theory and practice (skill-based):

It is an important objective that students gain from experimenting with the simulation of project development, using planning techniques (structure, master plan) and 'creative techniques' (beyond scenario technique), and from visiting best practices and carrying out many excursions in different environments.

5. Students make judgments with a critical mind and open attitude (attitude-based):

After two years of study students can demonstrate the ability to formulate judgments with incomplete information. This also includes reflecting on social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments. Students can argue rationally and draw independent conclusions based on a rigorous, analytical and critical approach to data.

6. Students develop the skills to communicate – in a clear and unambiguous way - their conclusions and the underpinning knowledge and rationale to specialist and non-specialist audiences (skill-based):

To develop this skill some didactical tools are implemented to train students in this important part of the master. Students have the ability to communicate clearly in speech, writing and other appropriate modes of expression and presentation.

7. Students develop social skills, managerial skills such as working in multicultural, multilingual and interdisciplinary surroundings, working in groups with members of different cultural and professional backgrounds (skill and attitude based).

Uddannelsens opbygning

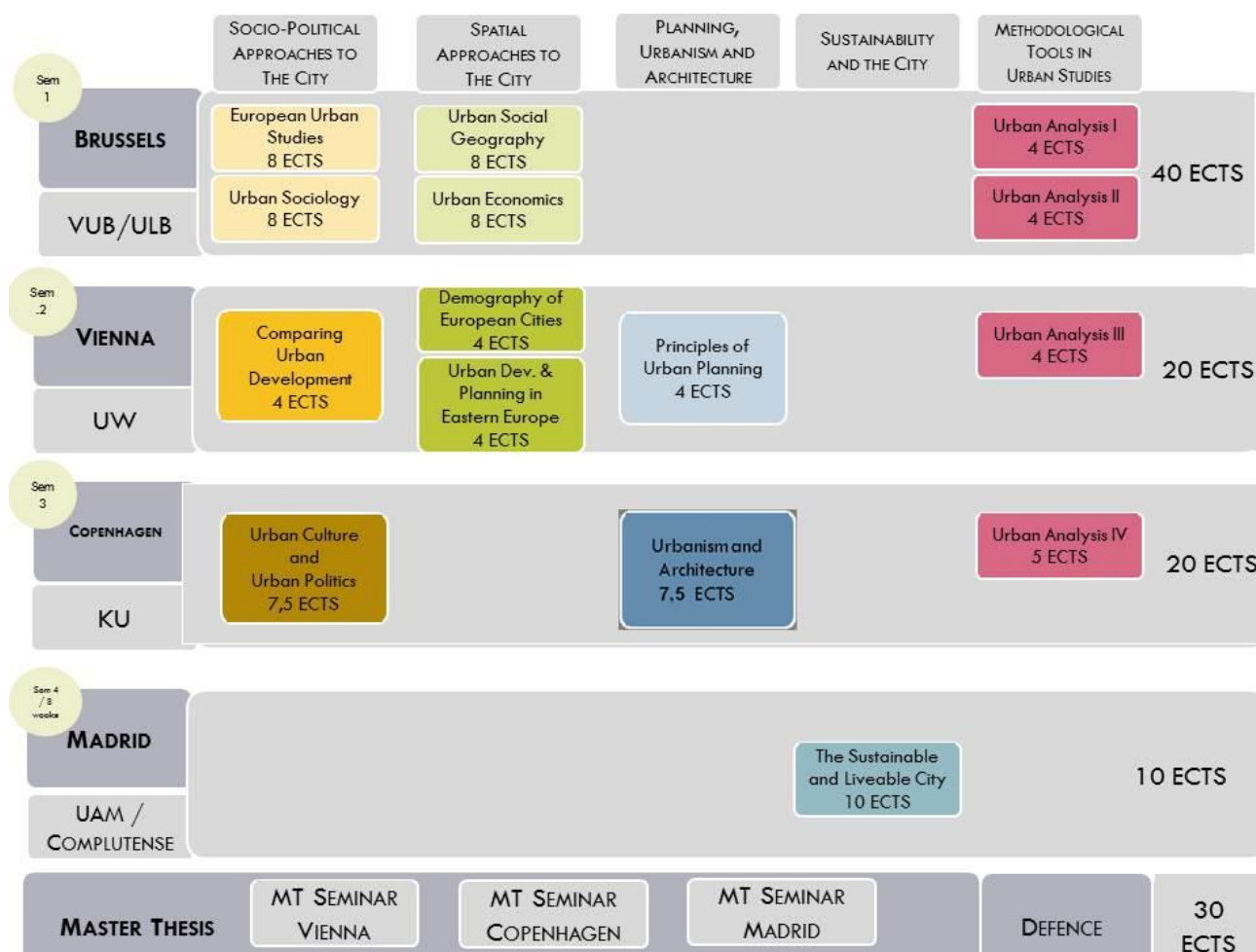
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Uddannelsen er i øjeblikket opbygget med følgende kurser i semesterfordeling. Uddannelsens *Academic Board* arbejder dog for tiden på ændringer i curriculum.

Særligt om specialet

Specialet planlægges og der udføres empiri på de tre specialeseminarer i Bruxelles, Wien og København. Sidste semester i Madrid er kort (april-maj) og planlagt til at den studerende før og efter skriver specialet.

Specialet forsvares i september ved en middag hvor alumner, nyoptagne og indskrevne studerende samt undervisere deltager.



Rekrutteringsgrundlag

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Uddannelsen har 25 pladser med studiestart 1. september årligt.

Af det store ansøgerantal (se nedenfor) vælges 20 studerende fra EU-lande og 5 fra ikke-EU.

Academic Year	Eligible Applications EU	Eligible Applications Non-EU	Total applications (eligible-non-eligible)	Total interested (info e-mail)
2008	17	11	28	?
2009	38	18	56	?
2010	58	38	96	495
2011	67	24	91	538
2012	68	44	115	748
2013 (EMMC)	164	435	996	2343

Uddannelsen og det øvrige uddannelsessystem

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For overskuelighedens skyld er der sammenlignet med uddannelser der ligger 4Cities på de væsentligste kompetenceområder.

Sammenligning mellem beslægtede uddannelser				
	<i>Urban Studies, KU mfl. Cand.mag.</i>	<i>Ingeniøruddannelser, fx Urban Design ved AAU cand.polyt. Og Cand.scient. techn.</i>	<i>Arkitektuddannelser, fx Landscape Architecture ved KU cand.hort.arch.</i>	<i>Samfundsvidenskabelige uddannelser, fx Spatial Designs and Society ved RUC Titel afhænger af kombinationsfag</i>
Methodological and analytical tools in Urban Studies – cartography, neighbourhood analysis, interviews, statistics etc	x		I mindre omfang	x
Interdisciplinarity – across the faculty boundaries of social sciences and the humanities	x			x
Fieldwork and excursions – 5 capitals (Budapest included) and a number of other European cities	x			I mindre omfang
Adaptability and flexibility (being able to adapt to 4 different capitals during 4 semesters in cooperation with 20-25 other students of different nationalities)	x			
The European city as a socio-political object with special regards to cultural history and an institutional and intellectual focus	x			I mindre omfang
The city as a spatial and architectural object; cultural practices and aesthetic and artistic dimensions of urban culture included	x		x	x
Theories of urban planning, urbanism	x	x	x	x
The history of urban planning, urbanism	x			x
Sustainability and the city	x	x		

Kvalitetssikring

The programme has been under continuous close scrutiny since its conception: Erasmus Curriculum Development grant (2006, 2007), accreditation procedure NVAO (2008), POLIS programme visitation (sister programme at VUB, 2009), four Erasmus Mundus submissions (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012) and the self-evaluation report for the VLUHR Quality Assessment (2012).

UNICA er en officiel partner: Its role is to promote academic excellence, integration and co-operation between member universities throughout Europe

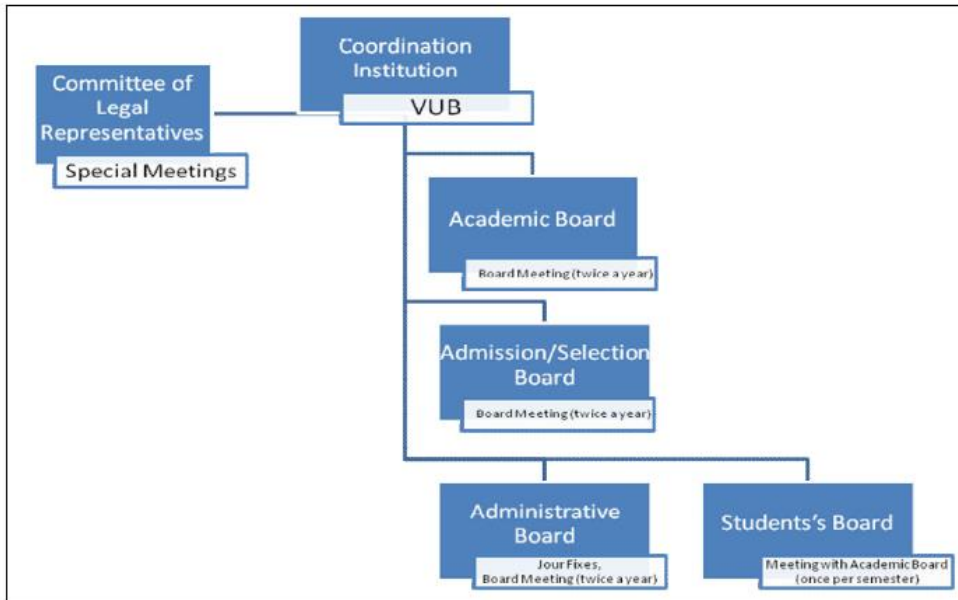
Derudover er uddannelsen naturligvis underlagt KU og fakultetets øvrige kvalitetssikringspolitik.

Organisation

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The organisation of the consortium is based on six governing bodies that are made up of specific representatives and in charge of specific roles.

The organizational chart can be explained as follows:



The Academic Board is responsible for the overall quality control of the programme. Its main function is to oversee the programme as a whole and to make sure that possible shortcomings are detected and discussed and that a strategy is defined with clear targets for each of the partners. This works well and has always worked well in the past.

The *Academic Board* is composed of all *Local Academic Coordinators* of the 4CITIES Master in Urban Studies and other professors involved in the programme can join. The Academic Board is chaired by the Consortium Coordinator. It is responsible for the academic content of the 4CITIES Master in Urban Studies.



MEMORANDUM

24 JANUARY 2014

Alumni of Urban Studies: Questionnaire on job experience

EDUCATION & STUDENT SERVICES

The following text is based on an alumni questionnaire on job experience after graduating from the Erasmus mundus program Urban Studies.

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The questionnaire was answered in December 2013 by 48 of 80 graduates from the 4Cities program:

Stud.mag. Astrid Johansen
<http://humanities.ku.dk/>

- In which sector(s) or kind of jobs have you been employed after 4Cities until now?
- Did you search for a long time for a job? To what degree are you satisfied with your current job?
- Would you mind mentioning exactly where you work, on what kind of topics? Or any other information about your professional experience after 4Cities is welcome here.

Summary

After graduation from the 4Cities program graduates work in many different fields. The broad aspect of the program in relation to its ability to embrace the humanities, natural sciences and social sciences give the graduates from 4Cities qualifications to explore many different facets of business both in the public – and private sector. On top of that the multicultural skills and

the European perspective gained while enrolled at the 4Cities program make people able to work all over Europe and internationally.

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Employment after graduation

It is easy for the graduates from the 4Cities program to get a job post exam. For most of the alumni, who answered the questionnaire it has taken about 2-3 months of applying to get a job. For a few it has taken 6-12 months. While looking for a full time job or while studying further for an MA or Ph.D. at university graduates from 4Cities engage in voluntary and non-profit work and are engaged in different projects such as voluntary education for being a bicycle trainer in order to teach adults how to cycle, political activism and research in Poland or they are concerned with exhibitions or writing books and articles.

Public sector

The graduates from 4Cities who choose to work in the public sector work both on national, regional and local level. They work on city planning, municipal master plans, transportation plans, and social urban renewal in big cities all over Europe such as in the Urban planning of the Municipal Administration of the City of Budapest, as responsible of one of the boroughs of Oslo, and Citythinking in Sevilla. They work on 'local development and enhancement of living conditions of local communities through the enhancement of the quality of spaces and architecture in historic centres in Palestinian cities and localities as well as raising the public awareness on the values of preserving historic settings' in Palestine at UNESCO Ramallah Office-Palestine.

In addition to that they occupy positions as political advisers not only on urban planning and - development but also on economics, growth and generally on political agenda and change management for instance as head of section at the Ministry of Business and Growth Denmark, Klaipeda, Lithuania and in Budapest. They work on urban development with sustainability as

a focus area for instance in Local Government Denmark (KL) on the new project “Denmark without Waste”.

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Private sector

Graduates from 4Cities also find their way into the private sector. They work on a wide range of projects all over Europe and in Egypt and the Middle East. They work inside the field of urbanism and use the multidisciplinary skills they have gained from 4Cities in their work such as sociospatial analysis projects at Kon-text, research on urban innovation and mobility-related issues at Chronos, urban development with focus on social and spatial issues at Hausenberg, administration and supervision of funding and opportunities at CastYourArt, Curator at the project City 2.0 at TEDx, Vienna, developing the scientific research and innovation agenda on the JPI Urban Europe project at Austrian Institute of Technology in Vienna, urban planning and architecture at ECOPA, which is based in Egypt and work in some Middle East cities.

Entrepreneurship, freelancing and innovative projects

In addition to that graduates from the 4Cities program become entrepreneurs, freelancers and in other ways occupied in creative and innovative projects, and start a great variation of businesses. For instance zURBS a non-profit social-artistic urban laboratory, which is occupied with ‘participatory artistic projects that evolve around an urban theme’. The organization is based in Zürich, but it is moving towards working all over Europe already with projects in Switzerland, Germany and Belgium.

Some of the graduates from 4Cities have found jobs outside their studied field and use their acquired analytical – and multicultural skills for instance working in international acquisitions of companies in the Americas at KFB Holding, in IN.MAP KG, which produces video and film in the music and culture field or as head of section in the Ministry of Business and Growth Denmark.

Academia and PhD studies

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After graduating from the 4Cities program, some continue to study for a PhD or work in academia as lecturers at universities all over Europe.

Graduates are enrolled as PhD students at Queen Mary University of London, Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Gran Sasso Science Institute (GSSI), Italy, University of Ghent, Belgium, University of Lausanne, Switzerland where they study and research a wide range of subjects in the field of urbanism such as: ‘the production of (urban) space, alternative urban development strategies and the relationship between art/culture and urban space’, ‘multi-scalar mobility of (urban) policies alternative to urban entrepreneurialism’, ‘urban metabolism’, ‘local democracy, urban and regional governance, governance networks’, and ‘urban planning (zoning) from a sociological point of view’.

The graduates from the 4Cities program go on to lecture or research on subjects in relation to urbanism for instance teaching ‘applied urban research’ at the University of Vienna, lecture in Real Estate Management at Postuniversitair Centrum KU Leuven Kulak, or research at Hafencity Universität Hamburg.

Weaknesses and strengths in the 4Cities program

The weaknesses in the program according to the alumni seems to be the multidisciplinary character of the program in terms of the way the program embraces both the humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. A few of the graduates doubt where they belong outside of academia post exam. Very few of the alumni who answered our questionnaire voice any of the concerns cited above. Most graduates have found jobs that they are satisfied with, and seem engaged with a lot of different projects concerning a variety of subjects in their field.

The strength of the programme is first and foremost the ubiquitous European focus, which makes the students able to work all over Europe and internationally. The broad aspect of the program in relation to its ability to embrace the humanities, natural sciences and social sciences gives the gradu-

ates the possibility of working with urbanism from every imaginable angle; with an artistic and architectural angle, or an innovative and sustainable angle, or with a participatory angle. The broad aspect of the program makes it an elite academic program, where graduates can pursue careers in their field in both the public – and private sector and in academia at high level.

The strengths of 4Cities seem to be the same as what some of the graduates consider flaws. Graduates from 4Cities seem overall very satisfied with their current jobs and the experience they have gained after 4Cities.

A list of work places

Workplace	Title or what they do
Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) og Gran Sasso Science Institute (GSSI), Italy	Ph.D. student.
Klaipeda Municipality	Municipality, policy making. Adviser to the mayor
Department of Urban Planning of the Municipal Administration of the City of Budapest	In charge of social urban renewal.
IN.MAP KG	Self-employed, entrepreneur in video-/film production in the music and culture field.
Kon-text, Vienna	Work on sociospatial analysis projects.
KFB Holding, Austria	Work on international acquisitions of companies in the Americas.
Chronos	Research freelancer on mobility behaviours ect.
Kind & Samenleving vxw	Participation with kids on child friendly spaces.
University of Lausanne, Switzerland	Ph.D. student

Family business and still looking for a job in the studied field of urbanism.	
zURBS a social-artistic urban laboratory	Think tank and social-artistic urban laboratory.
UNESCO Ramallah Office-Palestine	Assistant urban planner and coordinator
IDMC	Project coordinator.
Leibniz-Institute for Regional Geography	Evaluate urban development.
Austrian Institute of Technology in Vienna	Management assistant and scientific work on the joint programming initiative JPI Urban Europe.
Still looking for a full time job or Ph.D. programme	
Arts and management University of Vienna	Self-employed freelancer and lecturer teaching applied urban research.
University of Ghent	Ph.D. student.
Still looking for a job in the studied field of urbanism (have been looking for 2-3 month).	
Hausenberg New company	Project-consultant. Project and Communication Assistant coordinating EU projects ect. Planner for one of the boroughs in Oslo. Ph.D. research on urban security.
CastYourArt	Administration and funding
Movimiento Atlas, Educación, Terapia e Investigación Somática del Movimiento	Asistente en Comunicación y Gestión

TEDxVienna University of Vienna at the department of Regional Studies	Curator, City 2.0 Lecturer
ECOPA	Leading firm in planning and architecture currently active in almost all of Egypt and some cities in the Middle East
Postuniversitair Centrum KU Leuven Kulak	Lecturer in Real Estate Management
Ministry of Business and Growth Denmark	Head of section
Inter-Environment Wallonie	Coordinatrice Parking Day
Bakery Kotter	Sales Assistant
HafenCity Universität Hamburg	Researcher
Local Government Denmark (KL)	Project Assistant
Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB)	Ph.D. student
TU München	Researcher
UN-HABITAT Bolu Municipality, Turkey	Intern Urban Planner
Queen Mary University of London	Ph.D. student
Planning office for efficient energy use in buildings	Freelancer
Dansk Bygningsarv	Communication and concept of geographic mapping methods and cultural theoretical analysis of elsewhere identity.
Copenhagen Business School, Department of Management, Politics and Philosophy	Assisting the management and entrepreneurship group.
Citythinking	

Urban Studies: Aftagere involveret i prækvalifikation

Virksomhed	Kontaktperson	Tilbage melding
Dansk Arkitektur Center	Senior projektleder Anna Esbjørn	Telefoninterview
Københavns Kommune, Center for Byudvikling	Lokaludvalgssekretær Susanne Raben Rasmussen	Telefoninterview
Region Hovedstaden	Specialkonsulent Cecilie Matzen	Svaret på mail
Erik Brandt Dam Arkitekter	Administrerende direktør Erik Brandt Dam	Støttebrev
Aftagerpanel for Institut for Kunst og Kulturvidenskab, KU	Blandt andre Projektudvikler ved Statens Scenekunstscole Miriam Frandsen Marianne Kruckow Kultur og Fritidsforvaltningen – Planlægning, Københavns Kommune	Svaret på mail
Alumneforeningen for Institut for Kunst og Kulturvidenskab, KU	Kontakt gennem fuldmægtig Charlotte Jerne, IKK	Svaret på mail

Dato 16.01.2014
Sag -
Emne Master in Urban Studies, 4Cities.
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**ERIK
BRANDT
DAM
ARKITEKTER**

Til rette vedkommende

Uddannelsen: Master in Urban Studies, 4Cities.

Erik Brandt Dam Arkitekter har gennem flere år samarbejdet med professor Martin Zerlang i forbindelse med arkitektkonkurrencer – konkurrencer om Israels Plads, Nørreport Station, Stændertorvet i Roskilde, Hobro Havn, Museumshaven ved Statens Museum for Kunst og senest Frederiksværk. I visse af disse konkurrencer har der været eksplicitte krav om sammensætning af tværfaglige teams, og i alle disse konkurrencer har det været overordentlig positivt at forene den arkitektfaglige kunnen med dels et kulturhistorisk og kulturalanalytisk perspektiv, dels en kommunikationsmæssig kompetence.

Jeg kender til 4Cities-programmet fra Martin Zerlangs beskrivelser og, på foranledning, fra læsning af studieordningen. Det forekommer mig, at uddannelsen på flere led har berøringsflader til arkitektbranchen. Den skaber kandidater, der har kompetencer inden for det kulturhistoriske og kulturalanalytiske felt, som er en udfordring for de fleste større arkitektopgaver. Den skaber også kandidater, som med den sociologiske dimension vil kunne bidrage i forhold til de brugeranalyser/brugerundersøgelser, der er en del af det analytiske forarbejde ved en arkitektopgave. Endelig må uddannelsen med den vægt, der er lagt på såvel skriftlig som mundtlig fremstilling, skabe kandidater, der vil kunne bidrage positivt til det tekstarbejde, der altid ledsager udformningen af projekter – og i det hele taget det formidlingsarbejde, som er en uomgængelig dimension i et arkitektfirmas arbejde.

Med sin kombination af kulturhistorie, kulturalanalyse, kulturgeografi, sociologi og med sit internationale og komparative perspektiv forekommer det mig, at 4Cities-uddannelsen på flere måder har berøringsflader til arkitektbranchen og dermed også jobmuligheder i samspil med denne.

Med venlig hilsen



Erik Brandt Dam

Lektor, KADK
Master i Arkitektonisk Kulturarv, NORDMAK
Arkitekt MAA, Landskabsarkitekt MDL

Høringssvar fra aftagerpanel, Institut for Kunst og Kulturvidenskab

Description of MA in *Urban Studies*,
4Cities

Ud fra mit overordnede branchekendskab (teater og dans) – er uddannelsens kompetenceprofil super relevant, men mere møntet på de andre fag.

Der står:

Applicants are eligible for the programme if they have an 180 ECTS bache-lor in geography, sociology, literature & cultural studies, architecture & planning, economy, political sciences, public management, tourism, history, criminology, leisure studies, media studies or a similar discipline

og når fx de studerende skal ende med at få job indenfor:

- *Research and teaching on issues of urbanity and urbanism*
- *Urban policy advice*
- *Urban project management*
- *Urban planning and design.*

Så mangler jeg ordet 'culturel' project manager, for at kunne se at det ikke kun handler om politik og byplanlægning, men også om byernes kulturliv og kunstens påvirkning og brug af byrummet .

Jeg mener absolut at uddannelsen dækker et arbejdsmarkedsbehov – hvor det er vigtigt at fokusere på tværfagligheden og på byernes fremtidige virke.

Der står en del om *Practical and daily knowledge* og *project management* og at '*students encounter high levels of engagements with relevant industry partners and policy makers.*

Informal networking, field trips to organizations, visits by guest speakers from areas such as cultural regeneration, public art and the cultural indus-tries are an important aspect of the programme.'

Men er der en decideret praktik periode hvor de skal bedrive/assistere med *project management*?

At man som færdig studerende allerede har erfaring med projektplanlægning fra en praktik, vil absolut gøre dem mere attraktive.

23.01.14

Med venlig hilsen

Miriam Frandsen, Projektudvikler ved Statens Scenekunstscole

Kære Charlotte,

Jeg har nu læst beskrivelsen, og det er min opfattelse at:

Uddannelsen dækker et behov, som med stor sandsynlighed vil vokse i forhold til byudvikling, og profilering af byrum og miljøer. Helt konkret ville det være et udemærket supplement til ansættelse af arkitekter, antropologer og ingeniører, som i dag er dem vi bruger mest til denne slags opgaver.

Behovet er særligt at kunne omsætte politiske ønsker til en praktisk og fagligt funderet vision for udvikling af byområder.

Skulle man supplere, vil det være mit forslag, at der netop også fokuseres på de (især kommunal)politiske perspektiver, dog uden at gå på kompromis med grundlæggende faglige kompetencer, som stærke analytiske evner, interkulturelle kompetencer, indsigt i kultur og kunst i de offentlige rum og grundlæggende akademiske kompetencer, så som evner til at omsætte videnskabeligt funderede analyser til pragmatisk planlægning.

Jeg ville også foreslå, at man ikke sætter muligheden for universitetsansættelse som den første mulighed for "afsætning"/ Employment Profile. Det er fint, at beskrive, at de studerende forskningskvalificeres, men det er nok ikke der, de fleste vil finde en fremtid. Det er i Urban policy advice.

Management og design – bare dér er der i DK 98 kommuner, som kunne have glæde og nytte af et par stykker...

Mange venlige hilsner

Marianne Kruckow

Kultur og Fritidsforvaltningen – Planlægning, Københavns Kommune

Besluit

**Accreditatierapport en -besluit met een positieve beoordeling van de
accreditatieaanvraag voor de opleiding Master of Science in Urban Studies (master)
van de Vrije Universiteit Brussel i.s.m. Universität Wien, Université Libre de Bruxelles,
University of Copenhagen, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid en Universidad
Complutense de Madrid**

datum	1. Inleiding
28 augustus 2013	Bij brief van 22 maart 2013 heeft het instellingsbestuur van de Vrije Universiteit Brussel te
onderwerp	Brussel een accreditatieaanvraag ingediend bij de Nederlands-Vlaamse
Definitief	Accreditatieorganisatie (NVAO) voor de opleiding Master of Science in Urban Studies
accreditatierapport en -besluit	(master). Deze aanvraag is ontvangen op 22 maart 2013 en ontvankelijk verklaard op
(001651)	27 juni 2013.
bijlage	
1	De accreditatieaanvraag steunt op het visitatierapport van een externe beoordeling uitgevoerd door een visitatiecommissie ingesteld door de Vlaamse Universiteiten en Hogescholen Raad (Vluhr).

De visitatiecommissie kende de volgende samenstelling:

Voorzitter:

- Prof. dr. Stijn Oosterlynck, Assistant Professor at the department of Sociology;
Universiteit Antwerpen;

Leden:

- Prof. dr. Sophie Watson, Professor of Sociology at the Faculty of Social Sciences, The
Open University in Milton Keynes, United Kingdom (vakdeskundige);
- Prof. dr. Joseph Heathcott, Associate Professor of Urban Studies at The New School in
New York, USA (vakdeskundige);
- Dr. Guido Cuyvers, Departementshoofd Departement Sociaal Werk, Katholieke
Hogeschool Kempen (onderwijsdeskundige);
- Mr. Karel Van den Berghe, student Bachelor in Geography, Universiteit Gent (student-lid).

Secretaris:

- Mrs. dr. ir. Els Van Zele, staff member of the Quality Assurance Unit of the Flemish
Higher Education Council (VLUHR);

De visitatie heeft plaatsgevonden op 26 en 27 september 2012. Het visitatierapport dateert
van februari 2013.

De NVAO komt tot de volgende vaststellingen:

- De externe beoordeling is opgesteld en onderbouwd overeenkomstig het toepasselijke Accreditatiekader bestaande opleidingen hoger onderwijs Vlaanderen van de NVAO en volgens de daarbij behorende beslisregels;
- De visitatiecommissie heeft voor de externe beoordeling het door de Vluhr vastgestelde visitatieprotocol gevolgd;
- De externe beoordeling verschaft inzicht in de samenstelling van de visitatiecommissie;
- De externe beoordeling bevat een onderzoek ten gronde naar de aanwezigheid van voldoende generieke kwaliteitswaarborgen.

De NVAO is in het licht van het vorenstaande tot de slotsom gekomen dat de externe beoordeling over de voorliggende opleiding regelmatig en gedegen tot stand is gekomen.

3. Inhoudelijke overwegingen

De NVAO steunt haar inhoudelijke besluitvorming in hoofdzaak op de onderstaande elementen uit het visitatierapport.

The programme 4Cities) is co-organised by 6 universities at 4 locations:

- Brussels: VUB- Department of Geography at the Faculty of Science and ULB - Department 'Institut de Gestion de l'environnement d'Aménagement du Territoire' (IGEAT) at the Faculty of Sciences and at the Department of Social and Labour Sciences at the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences;
- Vienna: Universität Wien - Department of Geography and Regional Research, at the Faculty of Earth Sciences, Geography and Astronomy;
- Copenhagen: Københavns Universite - Department of Arts and Cultural Studies at the Faculty of Humanities;
- Madrid: Universidad Autónoma de Madrid - Department of Geography at the Faculty of Literature and Philosophy and Universidad Complutense de Madrid - Department of Sociology at the Faculty of Political Science and Sociology.

Doelstellingen

The panel finds that the programme's objectives adequately attend to the development of academic skills, to recent developments in the discipline, and to the processes by which new theories are formed. However, more attention should be paid to competence-oriented learning. A competence matrix can provide the evidence that all the programme competencies are covered. The programme is by its nature truly international. All the involved institutions value the 4Cities master as a truly international master programme and an example of how synergy can be found across discipline boundaries and sites to establish a strong international brand.

The panel is impressed by the pioneering role in the bottom-up Europeanization of higher education, both in terms of the specific learning and the ways in which the programme and the learning experience are designed. They believe that the final qualifications are derived from the relevant academic disciplines and research fields and capture very well the essence of urban studies as a multi-dimensional and interdisciplinary field of research and practice. The panel is convinced that the pronounced mission statement is successfully carried out by the management team and provides a clear context for the discipline related objectives of the programme but they would like to encourage the master to clarify and write down its mission more extensively.

The panel concludes that the programma adequately emphasizes knowledge development. Current developments and new trends are integrated into the programme and there is a strong attention to experience in the professional field through the multitude of (fieldwork) assignments and projects throughout the programme. The programme pays good attention to the development of research skills and research attitudes. In practice, students tend to fall back on the methodologies of their prior discipline to conduct research for their Master's theses. However, the panel encourages the programme to continue its emphasis on the integration of methods and perspectives across disciplines.

The programme adequately materializes the aims and objectives, both with respect to the level and orientation and with respect to the discipline-specific requirements. It gives students good opportunities to obtain the final qualifications and it creates adequate conditions to enter the professional field. The materials in the programme are up to date, relevant and covering all necessary aspects. Moreover, the 4 participating cities provide a sound basis for comparative analysis and experience. The programme is highly responsive to suggestions for improvements and so far, it has addressed all the challenges except the translation of the final qualifications into clear learning targets (in terms of competences) for the course components. The panel is convinced that this will be important.

The programme provides a thoroughly coherent, logical, and rigorous path of study. All courses contribute to the examination of various aspects of urban studies, neatly distributed over the 4 semesters, with a gradual evolution from the more introductory analytical module towards more project-oriented inter-disciplinary modules. Each semester in itself offers a coherent section of course components. At the same time, each semester builds on the previous semester, creating a developmental arc toward higher learning that culminates in the Master's thesis. At the end of each semester, an assessment is organized. The Master's thesis is supervised throughout the two years.

The students commented that the workload is substantial but feasible. The workload is not perfectly evenly spread over the 4 semesters but they know beforehand when to hand in assignments and when workload peaks occur. Imbalances in the past have been addressed adequately and adjustments were debated before having been implemented. The workload for any particular course also depends on the background of the student. The panel found that most information about the study time is qualitative in nature and is not measured by means of standard procedures, applicable to measuring workload. It is of the opinion that more formal workload measurement instruments should be introduced to monitor the workload in a more consistent manner.

Students' application and the selection is centralized and managed by the coordinators, but students can subscribe in one of the contributing universities. The admission requirements are clearly formulated. They comply with the university policies, regulations and institutional codes of practice on recruitment and admissions. The panel is of the opinion that the number of students (20) is favorable for the deployment of the programme's methodological concept. The panel is of the opinion that the International Academic Board of the programme has a good grasp and control over the intake process and is aware of the differences in the prior knowledge of its students. The panel suggests to organize specialized preparatory courses for students lacking some elements of the required and useful prior knowledge.

Pagina 4 van 9 The Master is a two years, 120 study ECTS-credits study programme. This is in line with the formal regulations described in the Act on the Restructuring of Flemish Higher Education.

The programme applies a strong methodological concept towards studying various aspects of cities, by having them live in the cities they examine through scholarship. In the view of the panel constitutes 'Living the city' a signature asset of the programme. The programme uses a good variety of learning activities in each semester. The panel believes that the majority of the teaching methods aligns with the didactic concept but suggests, in accordance with the students' request, the inclusion of more discussions and more interactive approaches. The panel is of the opinion that the materials for the distinct courses are of an overall good quality. Each university uses its own online learning environment to support the courses, and students seem to cope the use of six different platforms.

The panel evaluates the examination questions as having an overall adequate quality and fairly representing a cross-section of the subjects addressed in the distinct courses. There is a good variety of test- and examination formats, consistent with the different evaluation traditions and the 4 different national systems and in line with the university policies. There is no system to guarantee the quality of the examinations. Lecturers make their own examination questions, in line with the objectives for the course. The panel suggests an external examiner or a mechanism to control the quality of the examinations for the programme as a whole should be considered. The transparency of marking the examinations could be improved. Students have a right to ask for feedback but at some universities they need to be quite pro-active to obtain personal feedback about their results.

The thesis comprises 30 ECTS, which is in conformity with the regulations in the Act on the Restructuring of Higher Education in Flanders.

The panel evaluates the academic level of the theses as adequate. Most students use research methods they learned in their previous study programme. The panel recommends that the programme encourages to integrate more than one method, approach, or theoretical framework into the Master's theses.

The Master's thesis guidance consists several workshops and seminars held each semester and each student has a supervisor. The thesis is evaluated by the supervisor and a second reader. The students defend their Master's thesis in front of a jury, formed by professors of the programme. There is no one single approach towards supervision of the Master's theses. Students and the panel suggested introducing a more predefined format, outlining the rights and obligations of the student.

Inzet van personeel

The research expertise and academic record of the staff involved in teaching in the programme is of a very good quality, demonstrated by the list of research outputs, relevant for the teaching in the programme. The staff demonstrates broad and active international research experience. The research of the staff is introduced in the lectures, and the students appreciate the teaching quality.

The teaching staff consists 6,58 FTE. Given the relatively small size of the student body, the student/ ZAP ratio of 3.8 is favorable. The distribution of the staff in age categories is fairly balanced, but 6 senior lecturers are near retirement. The panel would like to recommend attention to the formation of a new 'core faculty' for the programme and suggests that the responsibilities of the staff be explicitly indicated in their job descriptions and assessment

Pagina 5 van 9 frameworks in order to guarantee formal support of the institutions. The panel hopes that the new status of the Erasmus Mundus recognition would allow some more financial support for the management of the programme as well.

The panel evaluates the overall quality of the teaching staff as good. The master is mainly taught by the academic staff from the departments contributing to the programme at the six universities. The panel describes their expertise as very good in all six universities. The professors are experts in their research field, lead renowned research groups, are authorities in their respective domains and demonstrate good pedagogic knowledge and approaches. In addition, also numerous experts from the field contribute to the programme. The personnel policy is exercised by the local university regulations.

Voorzieningen

The panel notes that the facilities have an overall good quality. The various locations are amply equipped with modern techniques to foster effective learning. All universities associated with the programme dispose of good library facilities and once registered in a certain library, electronic access is available for the remainder of the programme. All students have their own laptop and have access to the local university networks. The teaching staff can easily be reached during the students' stay. At the beginning of the programme the programme director and the International Relations and Mobility Office (IRMO) central VUB service look into VISA issues, housing and social security issues. During the preceding semester, the programme coordinator in the next city informs students about practical things and the 'stay' in their city. Some students only obtain a VISUM—although all paper work is done in time—after the first 2 months of teaching and consequently, miss part of the programme. The panel supports the demand from the programme directors to address these issues at a higher administrative and legislative level.

The panel notes that the student support and guidance is very well organized and the academic staff can easily be reached and approached at the six institutions. The panel raises some concerns about the management structure for the master. Though rotation in principle is a good idea in order to more evenly spread the responsibility and the management workload over the different partners, there is a lot to be said for keeping the position and all the papers, files and other data in one place. A second concern is that the management at VUB is almost exclusively situated at the level of the programme and the faculty. The panel urges other supporting services (e.g. the Career Service) to take a stronger interest in this programme in order not to miss out on some valuable learning opportunities. The panel remarks that, while high by European standards, the total effective cost of the programme is well communicated to the students. It suggests that the Board constantly monitors and updates the actual cost of the programme, with the goal of minimizing the substantial cost for the students.

Interne kwaliteitszorg

The quality of the course components and of the programme as a whole is mainly guarded at the various universities. Various instruments and initiatives are taken. Good informal contact between the teaching staff and the students provides important input for the evaluation of the programme. The assessment panel is of the opinion that satisfactory means are established to guard the quality of the programme, but that there is still room for improvement, most notably by also having the semesters in Madrid and Copenhagen be evaluated separately.

Pagina 6 van 9 The programme is monitored by the Board and consistently evaluated after each cohort of students has graduated, and in addition after some semesters. The assessment panel finds that not only the results of these formal evaluations, but also the incentives stemming from the informal feedback of the students and of the alumni survey, clearly result in discussed strategies for further improvement of the programme. The panel evaluates the follow-up of the recommendations, made by the previous external quality control exercises (e.g. initial accreditation), as appropriate. In addition, the programme has also been evaluated or accredited by the domestic systems for external quality control in the various contributing universities.

The assessment panel is of the opinion that the involvement of the students is good, given the good formal structures that are in place (student representatives at the Board meetings) as well as the strong informal contacts, the evaluation of individual semesters and the strong commitment of the staff.

The informal contacts of the academic staff with the professional field function quitewell through their networks, but could be formalized.

Currently there is no real functioning alumni association for the programme, but the alumni value such a structure. The assessment panel suggests that the programme directors should support the founding of one. The assessment panel is further of the opinion that the alumni could be better heard in curriculum discussions as well.

Resultaten

The assessment panel finds that the aims and objectives of the master are indeed realized and that the Master's theses have an overall good quality. The quality of the course components is good and students have good opportunities to attain the objectives of the programme. The graduates are well prepared to enter the professional field. They find employment in a variety of sectors and engage in a wide range of occupations. The alumni, with whom the panel spoke all have jobs closely related to urban planning and social urbanism. The alumni all made particular reference to the usefulness of the networking opportunities gleaned through movement between four different cities across Europe.

The majority of the students complete their study in the time foreseen and the dropout rate is very small. The master closely follows up on the results of teaching and reasons for dropout. The results indicate that the students benefit from the programme and obtain good positions in the professional field. With respect to further improvement of the programme, the panel suggests formulating real target figures, which could enforce managerial decisions to be taken in the future.

Conclusie

De NVAO is in het licht van het vorenstaande tot de slotsom gekomen dat het eindoordeel van de commissie deugdelijk is gemotiveerd. De NVAO kan zich dan ook aansluiten bij de bevindingen en overwegingen voor alle facetten en onderwerpen, zoals verwoord in het visitatierapport. De eindconclusie uit het visitatierapport wordt gevolgd.

De tabel geeft per onderwerp en per facet het oordeel van de visitatiecommissie weer.

ONDERWERP	ORDEEL	FACET	ORDEEL
1 Doelstellingen opleiding	V	1.1 niveau en oriëntatie	V
		1.2 domeinspecifieke eisen	E
2 Programma	V	2.1 eisen gerichtheid	G
		2.2 relatie doelstellingen - programma	V
		2.3 samenhang programma	E
		2.4 studielast	G
		2.5 toelatingsvoorwaarden	G
		2.6 studieomvang	OK
		2.7 afstemming vormgeving - inhoud	G
		2.8 beoordeling en toetsing	V
		2.9 masterproef	G
3 Inzet van personeel	V	3.1 eisen gerichtheid	E
		3.2 kwantiteit	V
		3.3 kwaliteit	G
4 Voorzieningen	V	4.1 materiële voorzieningen	V
		4.2 studiebegeleiding	G
5 Interne kwaliteitszorg	V	5.1 evaluatie resultaten	V
		5.2 maatregelen tot verbetering	G
		5.3 betrokkenheid	V
6 Resultaten	V	6.1 gerealiseerd niveau	G
		6.2 onderwijsrendement	G

Eindoordeel: positief

De onderstaande tabel geeft per onderwerp het globaal oordeel van de NVAO weer.

ONDERWERP	OORDEEL
1 Doelstellingen	V
2 Programma	V
3 Inzet personeel	V
4 Voorzieningen	V
5 Interne kwaliteitszorg	V
6 Resultaten	V

Eindoordeel: positief

6. Besluit¹

betreffende de accreditatie van de Master of Science in Urban Studies (master) van de Vrije Universiteit Brussel.

De NVAO,
Na beraadslaging,
Besluit:

Met toepassing van het decreet van 4 april 2003 betreffende de herstructurering van het hoger onderwijs in Vlaanderen, wordt het accreditatierapport en –besluit met positief eindoordeel voor de opleiding Master of Science in Urban Studies (master) van de Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Universität Wien, Université Libre de Bruxelles, University of Copenhagen, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid en Universidad Complutense de Madrid goedgekeurd en wordt de opleiding geaccrediteerd. Het betreft een opleiding zonder afstudeerrichtingen die te Brussel, Wenen, Madrid, Kopenhagen wordt georganiseerd.

De in het eerste lid bedoelde accreditatie geldt vanaf de aanvang van het academiejaar 2013-2014 tot en met het einde van het academiejaar 2020-2021.

Den Haag, 28 augustus 2013

Voor de NVAO,



R.P. Zevenbergen
(bestuurder)

¹ Conform de bepalingen vermeld in de handleiding accreditatie kan een instelling opmerkingen en bezwaren formuleren op het ontwerp van accreditatierapport. Bij e-mail van 21 augustus 2013 heeft de instelling gereageerd op het ontwerp van accreditatierapport. Dit heeft geleid tot een enkele correctie het accreditatierapport.

– naam instelling	Vrije Universiteit Brussel
– adres instelling:	Pleinlaan 2 B-1050 BRUSSEL BELGIË
	In samenwerking met:
	- Universität Wien
	- Universidad Complutense de Madrid
	- Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
	- University of Copenhagen
– aard instelling	ambtshalve geregistreerd
– graad, kwalificatie, specificatie	Master of Science in Urban Studies
– niveau en oriëntatie	master
– studieomvang	120 studiepunten
– opleidingsvarianten	
– afstudeerrichtingen:	geen
– studietraject voor werkstudenten:	-
– vestiging opleiding	Brussel, Wenen, Madrid, Kopenhagen
– onderwijstaal	Engels
– studiegebieden	Psychologie en pedagogische wetenschappen Wetenschappen Politieke en sociale wetenschappen
– bijkomende titel	geen