

The FIESOLE Group: History and Development

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What we set out to do

The Fiesole Group was founded in 2006 with the aim of improving teacher training for academics who work across Europe and beyond. Its overarching aims can be summed up as follows:

- * making academics mobile
- * employability, mobility, pedagogy
- * maximising potential, enhancing quality, promoting mobility

The magic mix of:

- * teacher training
- * ETP
- * intercultural awareness and training
- * mobility
- * academic identities
- * career development
- * LSP - working within academic environment

What products/proof of impact would be of interest?

- * toolkits
- * blueprints/guidelines
- * case studies
- * policy initiatives
- * memorandum/a
- * existing collaborations
- * operating models

Existing evidence

- * regular meetings of FIESOLE Group
- * written evidence - notes, articles, papers, citations
- * Max Weber

Teaching certificate - what we would need to do

- * feasibility study
- * proof of need of a European wide certificate
- * examples/audit of existing national models
- * comparison/benchmarking/evaluation
- * Bologna
- * look at existing networks of universities

Next steps

- * fix expanded network: EUJ, Siena, LSE, Humboldt, UPF, CEU, Copenhagen, Trinity Dublin, Sciences Po
- * global: Tsinghua or Fudan, Columbia
- * decide on types of existing/future funding
- * inventory of our own capacity

Remember

- * what do WE want?
- * what do THEY need?
- * what is it all WORTH?

What we have achieved

*** Survival!**

10 years of collaboration which have been supported by our own institutions - debt of gratitude

10 years of meetings, symposia, small scale conferences, conference presentations

10 years of phone-calls, e-mails, articles, reports and other proof of active communication both formal and informal

*** Relevance of mission**

10 years of developing and responding to the changing needs of young professional academic

10 years of reading articles, processing information, reassessing validity of aims and objectives through practice not just theory

10 years of using theory to develop practice, and using good practice to influence both the policy and the policy makers

*** Redefining notion of "group"**

10 years of showing that the best way of making a group work is to choose and stick with individuals and institutions which already work or should work together

*** Caring about people**

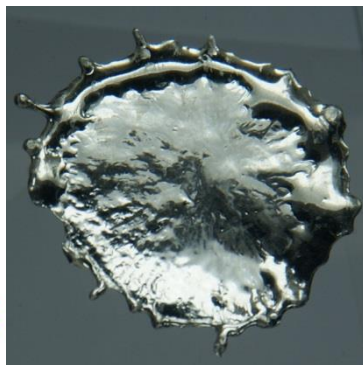
10 years of finding out what people actually need and using and developing methods which provide practical help based on sound theory and proven practice

*** Applied research and active support**

10 years of using the daily job to develop ideas for conferences. The academic is at the heart of what we do, not our own research

10 years - tin and diamond!

**THE
FIESOLE
GROUP**



In FIESOLE & beyond
facilitating academic
mobility in Europe