



*First insights to MicroHE survey on institutional
openness towards Short Learning Programmes*

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Digital Credentials Masterclass

Survey on Short learning programme adoption in Europe

Targeting institutional leaders in higher education in order to understand

- current levels of provision...
- strategies and future plans...
...with regards to short learning programmes.

- 91 valid responses gathered (survey is open for further data collection)
- Focusing the survey on the provision and recognition of Short Learning Programmes (SLPs):
short degree programmes are a group of courses (units, modules or other learning building blocks) with a common subject focussing on specic needs in society and which are part of larger degrees.

Survey respondent profile (N=91)

- Mainly from public universities (63%) and universities of applied sciences (17%)
- Representing institutions of different sizes, e.g., large (33%), small institutions (28%)
- Education professionals (34%) and staff involved in curriculum design, quality assurance or research (33%)
- Substantial work experience – 71% with > 10 years experience

Finding 1: Institutions Lack Understanding of SLPs and Micro-credentials

- Institutions are lacking practical already existing examples of Short Learning Programmes and micro-credentials

“What would be a SLP for us?”

- Institutional chain of command missing for SLPs (e.g., roles are unclear)
- Business model is missing and in some cases no plans to develop one

Finding 2: Common recognition mechanism enables adoption ...

- **Our study indicated that the lack of SLP recognition mechanisms lead to reduced intention to adopt SLPs** E.g., when...
 - "...SLPs cannot be easily accredited by accreditation agencies"*
 - "...other institutions would not recognize the credentials",*

Finding 3: Adequate Resource Allocation Enables SLP adoption

- **Optimal resource allocation is a managerial issue and based on our findings, can increase SLP adoption. However, major differences observed even within faculties about the awareness levels on SLPs**

Finding 4: SLP Enabled Profitability Coincides with SLP adoption

- **Institutions that have a high intention to adopt SLPs believe that SLPs are a way to increase the profitability of the institution, e.g., by enrolling more students**

Finding 5: Flexibility, personalization and recognition are critical when using SLPs to respond to the demands of the labour market

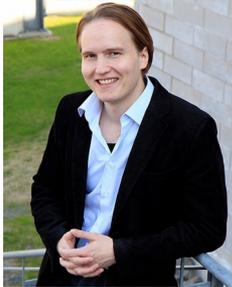
- **Institutions in favor of using SLPs as means to respond to the demands of the labour market emphasize the importance of flexibility, personalization and recognition**

Initial take-aways

- Common recognition mechanisms and standards for recognition of SLPs (and micro-credentials)
- Resource allocation is critical in institutions for SLPs (change of mindset, change in practices)
- Business logic needs an update. Institutions need to realize this to boost adoption
- Institutions cherish the goal of using SLPs as an instrument to improve employability, they just might not know how
- ...more to follow soon...

THANK YOU

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