

## ***“employability” Liechtenstein***

**1) What are the main challenges for your country in terms of employability? (eg Is graduate unemployment a problem? Are there restrictions on access to certain jobs? Is there a careers and guidance service?) What would help you most as an output from this working group?**

The study programmes of Hochschule Liechtenstein are specifically geared to the needs of the Liechtenstein or regional economy and are designed to supply qualified expert personnel for the region. A survey among all Bachelor and Master graduates conducted by IMAD (Innsbruck, A) in the summer of 2007 showed that practically all graduates had obtained a job already before the end of their studies or shortly thereafter.

The study programme strengthened all relevant competences to a high degree and posed significant challenges. Respondents said that the programme had a high practical relevance and offered a good preparation for their employment thus giving them a good start into the professional world. The graduates were able to shape and secure their professional development in a positive manner in several regards which was often associated with income growth.

This survey proves that the study programmes are marked by a high level of "employability"

**2) Is there a dialogue in your country between higher education institutions and employers? If so, at what level does this take place – national, regional, institutional etc? What sort of issues does it cover?**

YES; this takes place at several levels and in several sectors:

- cooperation with companies, associations, and other business organisations to implement joint study programmes, further education seminars etc.
- Participation of experts in special boards and study programme advisory councils (curriculum development etc.)
- Inclusion of experts in exam commissions for Bachelor, Master and Repeat Diploma examinations.
- the business community has established academic chairs for specific priority topics at Hochschule Liechtenstein; the intent is to intensify the exchange with the business world;
- Realisation of joint projects in the field of research and transfer;
- cooperation in the sector "professional traineeships" for students;

**3) Can you provide two examples of good practice in your country in relation to any of the themes to be covered by the report?**

see also Item 2:

a) Expert advisory council for the Bachelor and Master study cycles (5-7 experts from the business community are always involved, reports are submitted to the study cycle management and university management)

- b) Establishment of academic chairs by the business community on the topic of "Entrepreneurship" and "Business process management" -> Designing of study courses on these topics
- c) participation in exam commissions and rating of student performance from a practice-oriented perspective (aus Sicht der Praxis); report back to study cycle management