

## QUALITY CONCEPT AND QUALITY POLICY OF HOCHSCHULE BIELEFELD – UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS (HSBI)

In its "Self-Conception", Hochschule Bielefeld – University of Applied Sciences and Arts (HSBI) describes itself as a learning organisation. This expresses that the university is actively looking for ways to improve, in particular in terms of its core activities in studies, teaching and further education, research, development and transfer, but also with regard to its services, its learning and working environment, its role as an employer, and its structures and processes. Its systematic and ongoing occupational safety and health protection efforts are also of great importance.

In the university's view, a conception of quality development that is adequate for science and research has to aim at increasing the quality of results in fulfilling the core activities. The basis for this is the strong intrinsic motivation of university members. The instruments (for accreditation, planning, evaluation and reporting) are primarily an agreement on objectives, unvarnished feedback on the status quo and planning measures for improvement. With regard to efficiency and acceptance, the quality management system should be designed as unbureaucratic, but also as transparent, as possible.

The HSBI endeavours to offer prospective students an attractive course programme that suits their needs and to support students in achieving their study goals. The continuous improvement of course programmes, of study conditions, of the qualification and satisfaction of students are core aspects of the quality culture in studies and teaching. Permeability and equality play an important role in this. For the learning objectives and contents, the university takes into account latest findings of research as well as requirements from professional practice.

Of course, in implementing course programmes, compliance with legal regulations and internal guidelines from university development plans or statutes as well as obligations from cooperation agreements are considered.

In order to receive feedback from professionals and practitioners, HSBI integrates experts from other universities, companies and institutions into its quality development measures.

The high quality standards of HSBI are also valid for study programmes that are offered in cooperation with partners such as companies or other universities. Cooperation partners are involved in the quality development measures. Responsibilities are regulated in the respective cooperation agreements. Once a year, university governance, centralised and decentralised units coordinate joint strategic quality objectives and evaluate their achievement within planning discussions.

The university promotes the diversity of subject-specific cultures and grants decentralised units and faculties the freedom they need in the design of certain processes.

University governance guarantees structures as well as personnel, material and facility resources for achieving the quality objectives and includes and enshrines them in the university development plan.