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Libera Università di BOLZANO >> Sua-Rd di Ateneo

Parte III: Terza missione

▶ QUADRO I.0	I.0 Descrizione generale delle attività di terza missione
	<p>The UNIBZ's activities of Third Mission comprise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Lifelong Learning and Continuing Education referring to all learning activity undertaken throughout life, with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competences within a personal, civic, social and/or employment related perspective (European Commission 2001). 2) Technology Transfer & Innovation what is closely linked to research; it can be defined as the movement of an idea, practice, object, tacit knowledge, know-how, technical knowledge, intellectual property, discovery or invention resulting from research conducted at universities (in cooperation with external partners or not) into a non-academic environment where it can lead to social and commercial benefits at local, regional, national or global levels. 3) Social/Public Engagement, defined as a partnership of university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors to enrich scholarship, research and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching and learning; prepare educated, engaged citizens; strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; address critical societal issues; and contribute to the public good according to the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Committee on Engagement (2005). <p>Thus, the UNIBZ follows European standards and visions for Third Mission. The Third Mission encompasses a wide range of activities involving the generation, use, application and exploitation of knowledge and other university capabilities outside academic environments and in the society.</p> <p>Since 2011, the UNIBZ has established various LLL programs, one addressing people who already have an education and are working and want to broaden their knowledge at the University (Studium generale), one addressing children (JuniorUni) and one addressing senior students. All these programs successfully opened the UNIBZ for the public. The Studium generale (total 60 ECTS) offers courses, e.g. in ethics, economy, law, ecology and environment, computer science, arts, and languages. The JuniorUni opens the lecture halls, seminar rooms, and labs for children with an age of 5-16 and presents science in understandable words and easy experiments. With the Senior Student Card, senior citizens can visit lectures within our life-long-learning programs. All programs are widely recognized by the public and base, to a large extent on the voluntary engagement of researchers and teachers of the UNIBZ.</p> <p>In 2013 the UNIBZ decided to establish a knowledge platform, which focuses on an interaction of researchers at the UNIBZ and enterprises as well as companies in South Tyrol. Despite of various joint projects, the potential of interaction, innovation and technology transfer is not yet sufficiently explored in the Autonomous Province of South Tyrol. A working group organizes meetings of both researchers and companies in order to explore research and innovation requirements and tasks. With the development of the Technology Park in South Tyrol, with a research focus on alpine technologies, food technology, energy, and environmental sciences, also a structural basis is given for this interaction. The concept of the Technology Park was worked out by the UNIBZ in cooperation with other research institutions and enterprises and published on the Provincial level through a booklet.</p> <p>The UNIBZ continuously offers workshops, seminars, and conferences, which are open to the public and, in particular address topics, problems, and questions which are of high regional relevance, e.g. urban development and public health under climate change, river management in the Southern Alps, wildlife management, transformative society and sustainability. Thus, the UNIBZ expresses its responsibility to provide a knowledge and discussion platform for the society of South Tyrol. Research results are also presented by films on research projects and activities, respectively.</p> <p>Since 2013, every two years the UNIBZ performs a Research Day, on which the faculties and competence centres present their main research areas in an easily understandable way. The public, stakeholders and decision makers are invited to this event. Additionally, within the Researchers' Night, also practical aspects of research are presented by various working groups, thus making research touchable.</p> <p>In 2014, a joint initiative was started together with Eurac to present frequently the research journal Academia to the public (first joint issue no 68).</p> <p>It has to be pointed out that in 2011-2013 UNIBZ has developed and carried out hundreds of activities within the Third Mission every year, both encouraging the public to come into the university and going out into schools, companies, local governments, cultural venues in order to participate in and to contribute to social and public events and issues. These activities will be continuously optimized, also based on the feedback of the public (e.g. course assessments with Studium generale, questionnaires on particular activities). The activities within our Third Mission on the individual researcher level is continuously monitored by our research information system BORIS.</p> <p>Additionally to the assessment and evaluation of research and teaching activities, all researchers of the UNIBZ are evaluated with regard to their Third Mission activities.</p> <p>The Third Mission of UNIBZ is also subject of the Leistungsvereinbarung/Convenzione programmatico-finanziaria between the Province of South Tyrol and the UNIBZ, as an agreement on a 3-years development plan.</p>