



The Importance of Being International

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Séminaire Relations Internationales CPU-MESR, 27 et 28 mai 2010, Poitiers



Why to be international

Is internationalization a “fashion driven” process?

- Politicians like it very much and put universities under pressure, even if they really do not fully understand its costs and benefits.
- The bias of international ranking systems.
- International vs. domestic “markets”: the role of Europe.



How to be international

Each university should find its own approach to internationalization

- The “*genius loci*” effect.
- Internationalization may be an important tool to mitigate the problems of national systems.
- Nowadays, international alliances are essential to promote the development of advanced higher education and research programs. The choice of the “best” partners may be the most critical part of the process.



A short presentation of UniTN



UniTN facts & numbers (1)

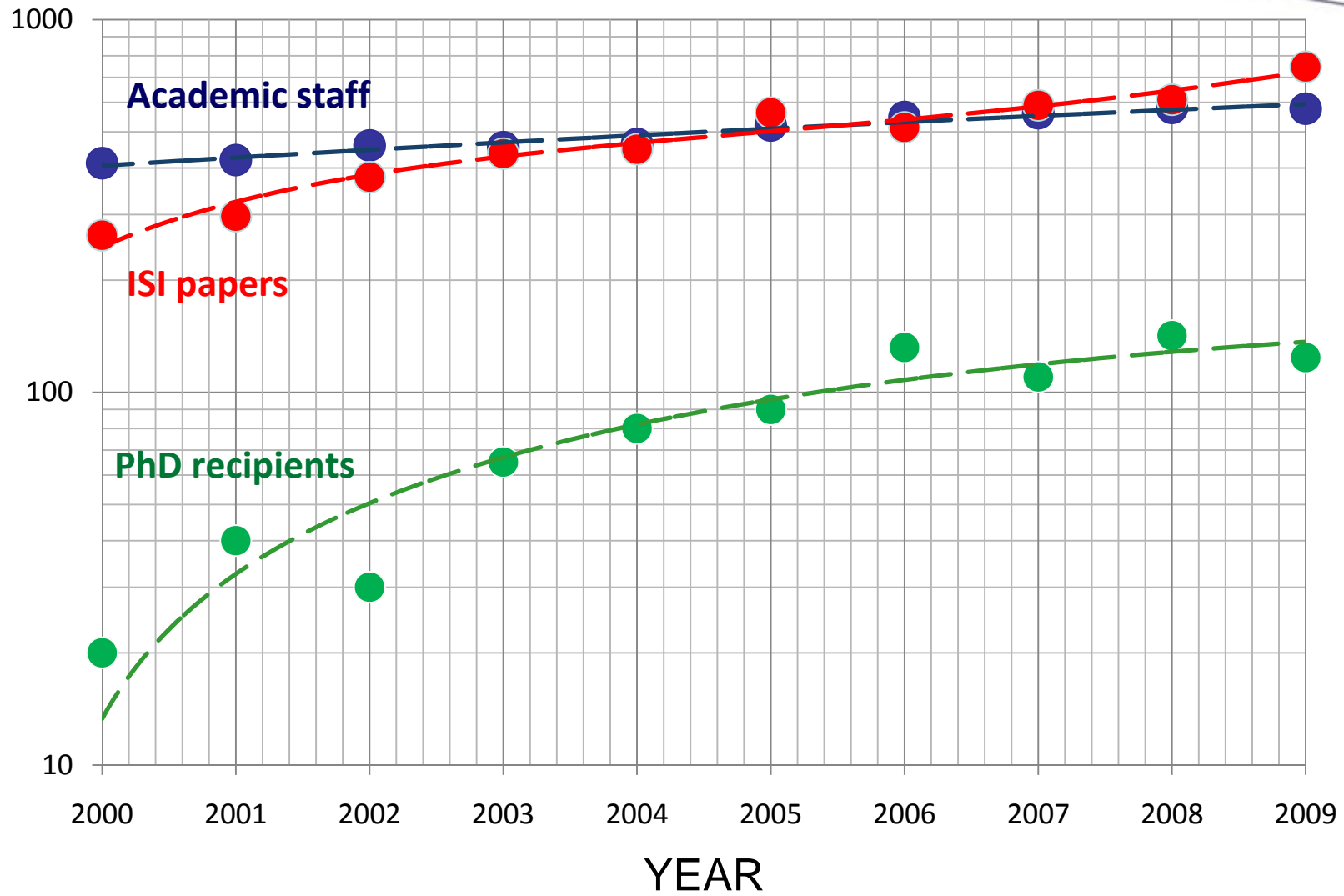
Established in 1962 as a Free University.
State University since 1983.

Starting from Jan. 2010 a new hybrid model has been adopted:
UniTn continues to be a State University but all public funds are
provided by the Local Government of Trentino. A “living lab” for
the whole Italian University system.

600	Faculty members
300	Post-Docs and visiting professors
600	Technical & administrative staff
16000	Students



UniTN facts & numbers (2)



UniTN facts & numbers (3)

QS TOP UNIVERSITIES

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University of Trento

Undergraduate Profile | [Click here for Graduate/Postgraduate Profile](#)

2009	2008	2007	2006
401-500 World Rankings	-	-	-
	248	-	-
		Arts & Humanities	212
		Engineering & IT	247
		Life Sciences & Biomedicine	
			Natural Sciences
			Social Sciences

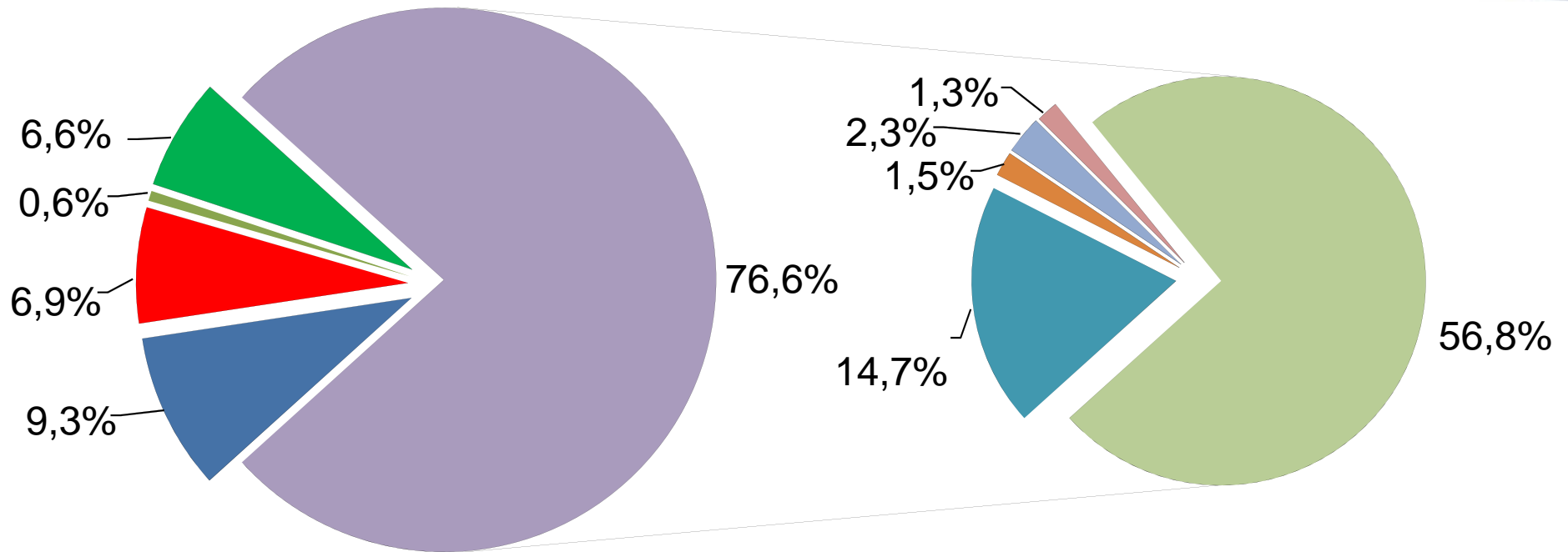
Source: [Times Higher Education - QS World University Rankings](#)

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Financial resources:



~ 145 M€

- Public funds
- Tuition fees
- Teaching grants
- Private enterprises
- Research grants

- State
- Regional funds
- European Commission
- Other funds



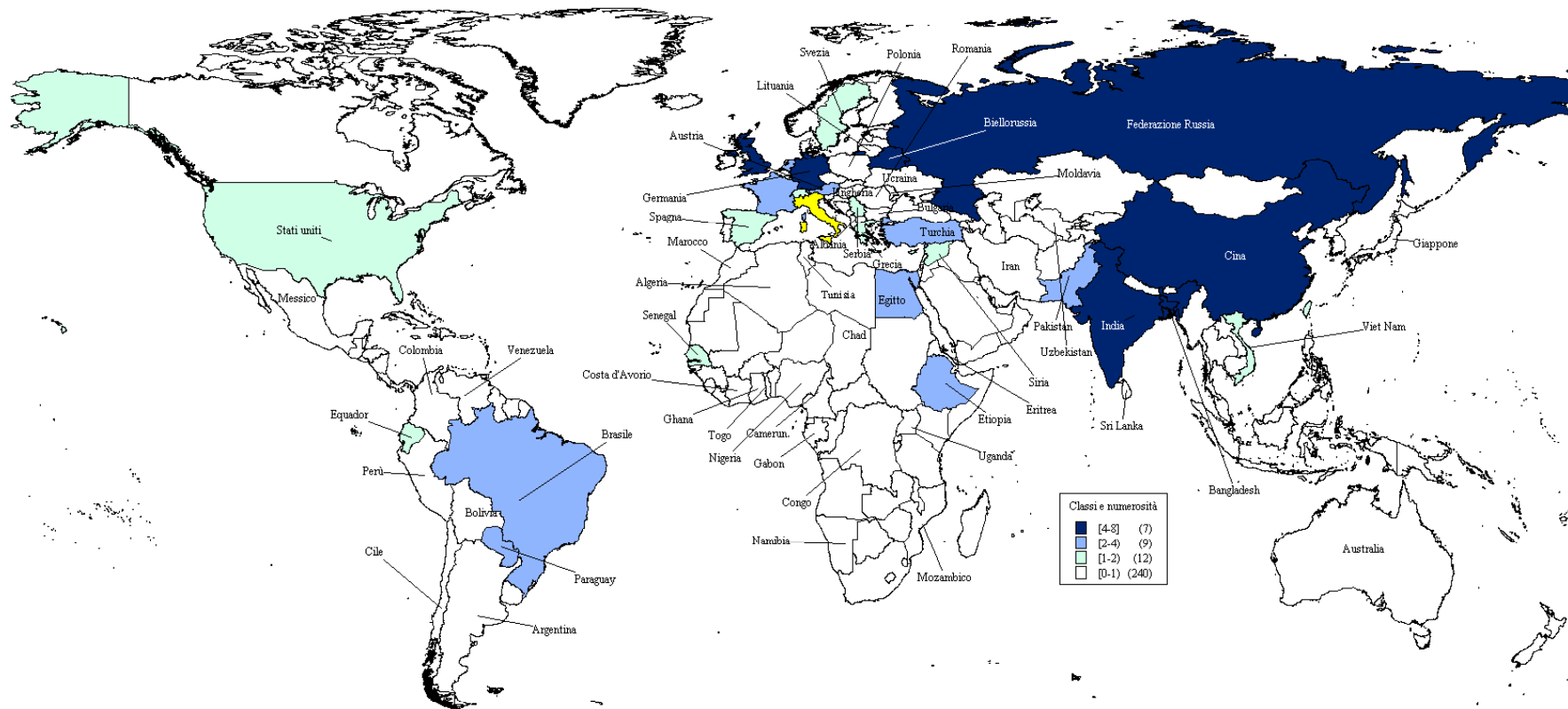
Our approach to internationalization (1)

- Promote the mobility of students and professors (Erasmus program *et al.*).
- Develop joint and double degrees with international partners.
- Attract graduate and Ph.D. students, Post-Docs and professors from abroad.
- Support young researchers (YR) to stimulate their participation to European programs (e.g. “coach” for ERC YR grants).
- Work in tight connection with the local research network in order to be more competitive at the international level (e.g. joint participation to the EIT competition).

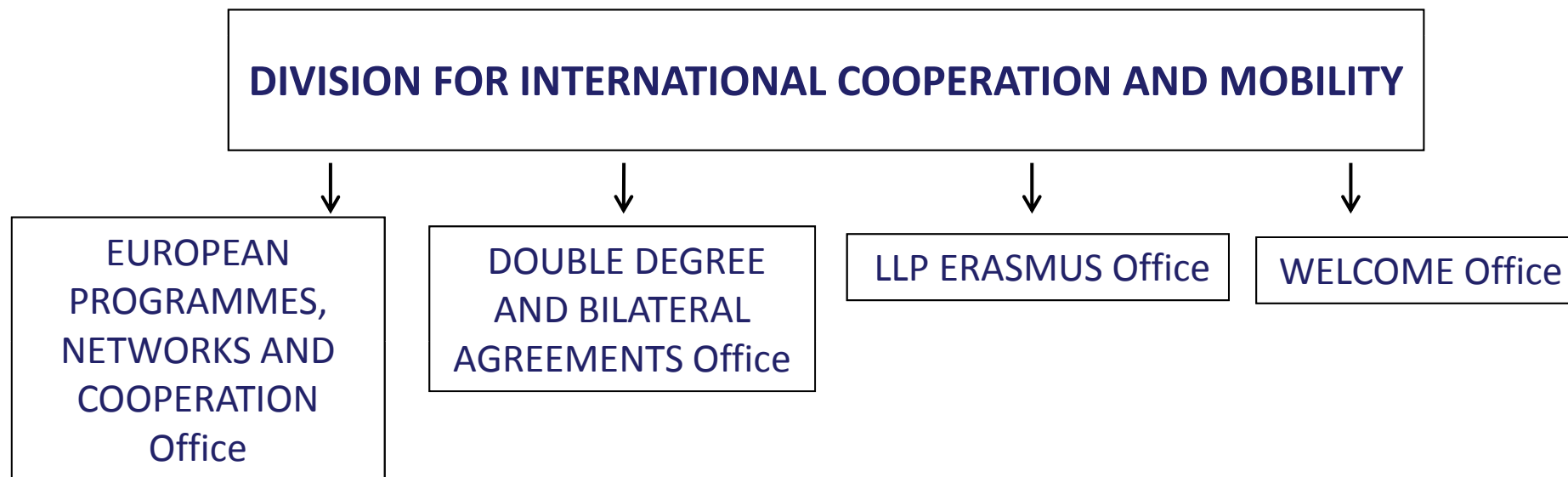


Our approach to internationalization (2)

About 1/3 of our Ph.D. students come from abroad
(mainly UK, Germany and BRIC countries)



Our approach to internationalization (3)



About 15 administrative staff members support the Vice rector for international relations. Our good Trento formula: **strong joint cooperation between academic and administrative staff.**



Internationalization@home

Increase the offer of Master programs entirely taught in English. So far:

Cognitive science,
International management,
Economics,
Innovation management,
Mathematics,
Physics,
Computer science,
Telecommunication engineering,
European and international studies.



International research partnership (1)



The Microsoft Research - University of Trento Centre for Computational and Systems Biology

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Highlights

- 15/03/2009 CoSBI Annual Report now available
- 10/02/2010 CoSBI paper on BMC Systems Biology ranked "highly accessed"
- 25/11/06 BienX code on a Nature News Feature



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Forthcoming event



The 8th Conference on Computational Methods in Systems Biology

Welcome to CoSBI



CoSBI has two main goals: to enhance biology AND computer science. We want to increase our understanding of fundamental biological processes at system level by using programming language theory to design new conceptual tools. We create computational abstractions that can be executed to visualize the time course dynamics of biological systems.

At the same time computer science is looking more and more to parallelism even in PC processors.

[Read more](#)

CoSBI Lab



[Join the CoSBI team](#)





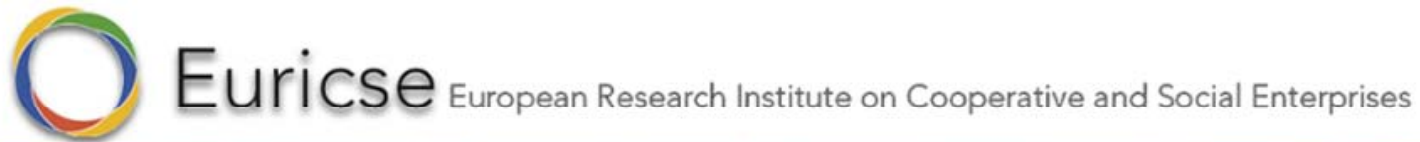
*Quegli che pigliavano per altore altro che la natura,
maestra de' maestri, s'affaticavano invano*
*Those who took other inspiration than from nature,
master of masters, were labouring in vain*

per me ad ottinere

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International research partnership (2)



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Threshold effects

To be really effective at the international level it is essential to promote the development of “Higher Education clusters” at the European regional level. This idea is becoming progressively more popular.

However, there is still a lot of work to do ...





Thank you for your attention!

www.unitn.it/international



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