

The Danish perspective on applied research and its European dimensions

EXPERT MEETING ON THE KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE: THE LINK BETWEEN EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, Copenhagen, December 1-3, 2009

Agenda

- ❑ A brief analysis: setting the scene and defining ideals and goals
- ❑ Realities of professional life in a Danish welfare perspective
- ❑ The way ahead

A brief analysis

- John St. Mill: A strong State needs strong individuals
 - Does a welfare state and modern society needs strong professions and institutions?
 - Strategies of professionalism – knowledge, profession and openness
- Globalisation and modernisation
- Individualisation
- = the sandwich of professions

The realities of professional life in a Danish perspective

- New Public Management – 25 years of strategies beyond profession identity
- University Colleges founded on policies of fiscal and efficiency goals
 - Only Master programmes with universities
 - No right or duty to research, but based on development
 - No full scale Bologna; gaps between UC's and Universities
- Dreams on measurement
- We have to define and outline the dream
- We have to design the education for welfare and business

The way ahead

- An entrepreneurial attitude towards profession and work
- Professional identity – rights and norms
- Praxis, suited for, not subjected to
- Applied Science,
- Circulation of knowledge founded on a strong infrastructure of knowledge
 - Communities of expertise, inner coherence, addressing the sedimentation of knowledge (how do we learn)
- Research, not necessarily academics
- Partnerships – not suppliers and customers
- Political landscapes horizontally and vertically