

# **Best and Next Practices: Bridging the Gap between Higher Education and Employers through Work Integrated Learning, Cooperative & Experiential Education**

Synthesis of Academic Salon Reports

WACE's Eighth International Symposium  
June 25th 2010 – Graz, Austria

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## The **ACADEMIC SALON** – Did it work?

13 Academic Salons

Well balanced attendance

Successful integration of Salon and Saloon characteristics

Valuable time and space for presentation, discussion, synthesis and innovation

Powerpoint presentations were not missed – actual posters might have helped – handouts managed to bridge the gap

Very valuable documentation by all facilitators to share (in this short summary and in detail on the WACE website)

# Key Words

**RETURN ON INVESTMENT** (crediting of extra year, all money issues)

**RESEARCH** (on impact and effectiveness) and **PUBLISHING** (and sharing) results

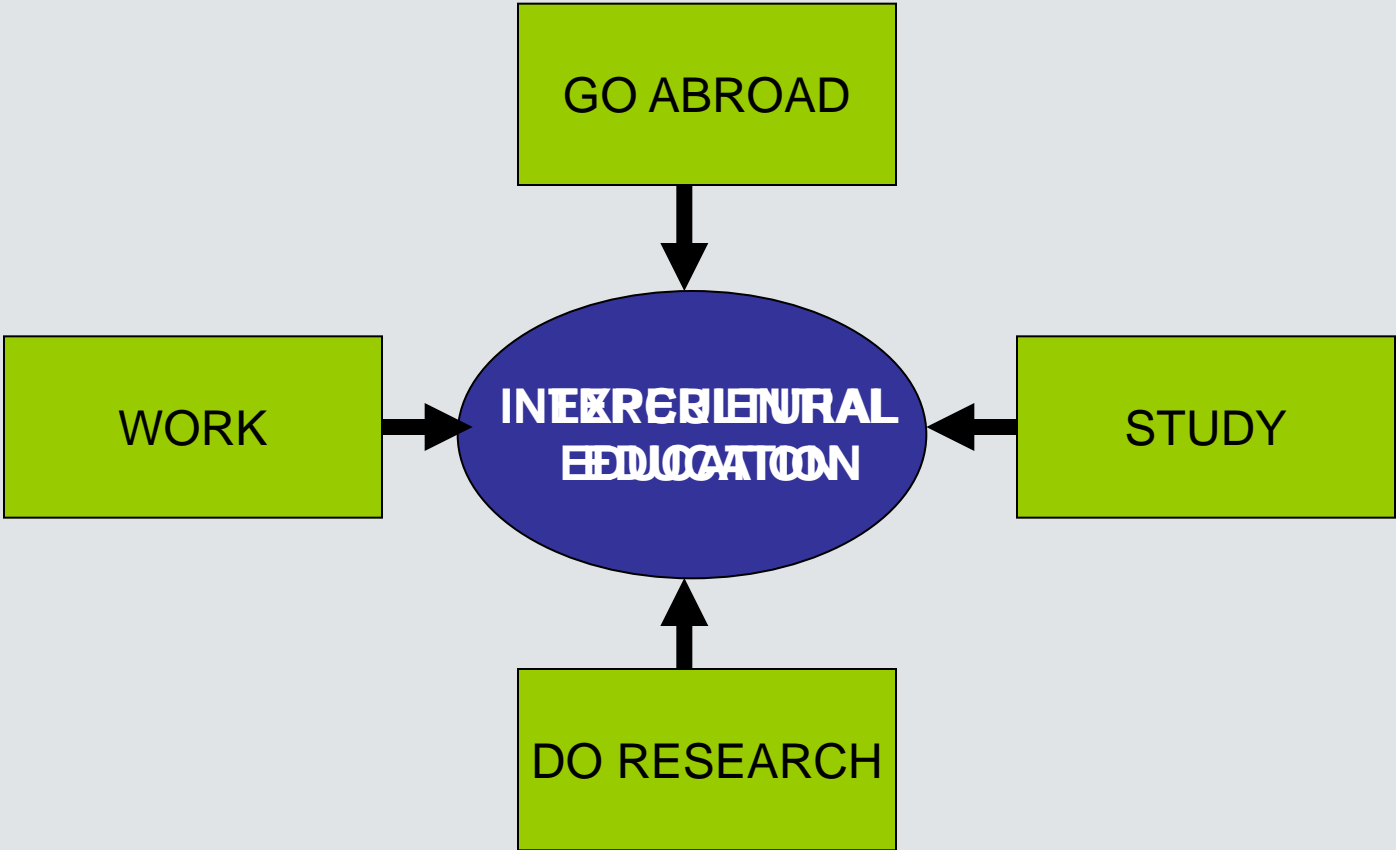
**COMPETENCES and SKILLS** (definition, range of requirements and assessment)

**MANUAL** and **TRAIN THE TRAINER** (methods, techniques, faculty and employers – „recipies“)

**ENHANCING AN ACTIVE ROLE** of stakeholders (faculty, students, employers, community) – prerequisite for **CRISIS MANAGEMENT**

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

# Repositioning of WORK INTEGRATED EDUCATION in an international and intercultural context



# FINAL REMARK

**„.... In the end it will again come down to everyday administration details and worry as soon as we arrive at home (or upstairs in my case)....“**

# ABSOLUTELY FINAL REMARK

**Let us pause a moment and recall one single moment of unique quality and value out of the past three days – and tie it firmly to one key issue we really want to tackle to keep on improving the work integrating learning environment we personally feel responsible for.**