



Gent
Uppsala
Groningen
Göttingen

University
Network



1. WHAT IS **U4**?

U4 is a strategic partnership between Ghent University (BE), the University of Göttingen (DE), the University of Groningen (NL), and Uppsala University (SE).

Since 2008 the U4 network stands for a preferential partnership in international projects and for joint initiatives in higher education, research and institutional management.



2. MISSION

To strengthen the international position of the individual institutions through intensive cooperation in Education, Research and University Management

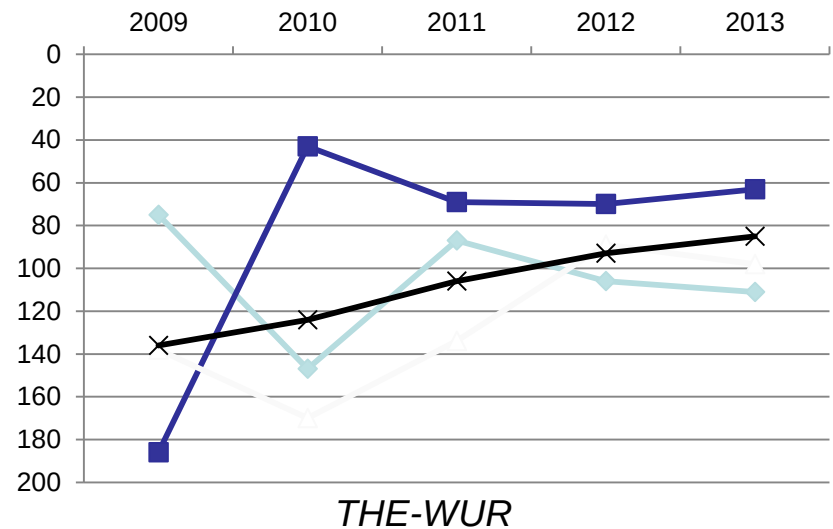
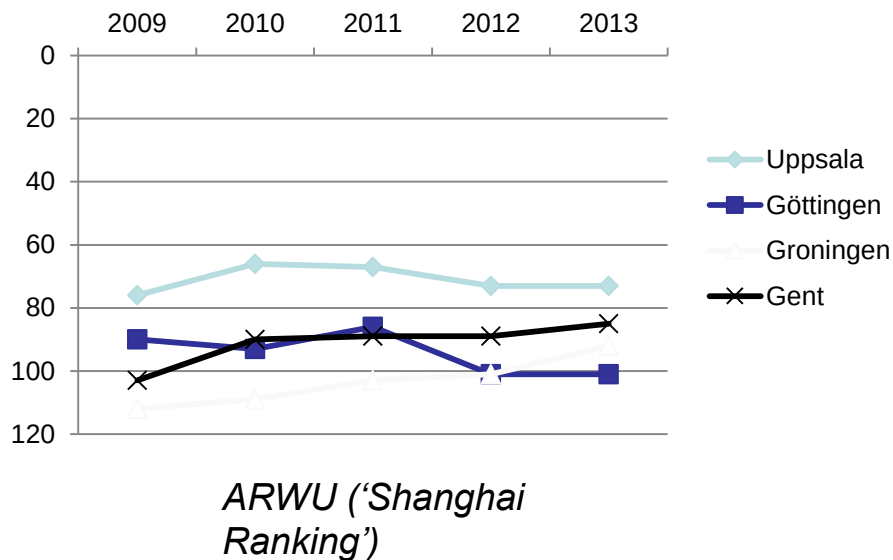
Against the background of the fast changing global and European Higher Education context characterized by an ever growing quantity of short-term and/or project oriented bilateral agreements, the U4 network is:

- Durable ('long-term')
- Institutional ('university-wide')
- Cross-Project ('scope')
- Cross-Faculty ('multidisciplinary')
- Quality driven



3. GHENT, GÖTTINGEN, GRONINGEN, and UPPSALA

- Similar profile: multidisciplinary (fully fledged) universities
- History of Cooperation (Groningen axis)
- Reputation of excellence (cf. rankings)
- Complementary Strengths





4. AIMS

1. Preferential partnership in transnational, EU and International Projects
2. Joint initiatives in Education, Research and Institutional Management
 - Joint programmes (Joint/Double Degree) on Ma and PhD level
 - Student/Staff exchange and training opportunities
 - Knowledge exchange
 - Pooling resources
 - Joint Marketing & Communication



5. ORGANIZATION

Four Academic Clusters

- Humanities (Ghent)
- Medicine and Pharmacy (Groningen)
- Science and Technology (Uppsala)
- Social Sciences, Law and Economics (Göttingen)

‘5th cluster’ for Institutional Management (alternate host) – multilevel

- University Directors
- HRM depts.
- Doctoral School Depts.
- Library/Collection Coordinators



6. ONGOING ACTIONS

- Academic Leadership in a Global Context
- Erasmus Mundus Action 2 projects
- Intercultural Perspectives in Teaching and Learning
- HR & Career Services
- Joint Programmes (6)
- Legal Research Network
- Multilingualism
- Museums and Collections
- NEU4EU – ‘Ageing Brain’ PhD network (neurosciences)
- Peer review/Benchmarking
- PhD Winter School Antiquity
- SONaR – PhD seminar Social Theory of Network and Relations
- U4 DAAD (‘strategische partnerschaften’): ‘PhD and researcher mobility’
- U4 lectures
- U4 students network





