

# How to Assess the Development of Entrepreneurship Education at University Level

## The Case of Denmark

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EDUCATION AT UNIVERSITY LEVEL**

*The Case of Denmark*

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# HOW TO ASSESS THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION AT UNIVERSITY LEVEL

*The case of Denmark*

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## Executive summary

In this book chapter we describe how Denmark's eight universities have developed their supply of entrepreneurship education during the past three years. The governmental initiatives that aim to promote entrepreneurial universities, and the Danish context, are presented and related to this development. An assessment model of entrepreneurship education which includes the wide scope of dimensions important to education in the topic, such as *content dimensions*, *stages in the entrepreneurial project* and *pedagogical dimensions* is presented. By applying this model we have been able to analyse the strengths and weaknesses in the supply of entrepreneurship education at the eight universities.

The results show that the Danish universities have developed well regarding entrepreneurship education, especially on the pedagogical dimensions which means that more courses are becoming *through* and *for* entrepreneurship, rather than *about* entrepreneurship. The dominance of universities with business schools do, however, suggest that entrepreneurship education in Denmark is far from reaching maturity. Our results also suggest that it is important to focus on how to sustain the supply of entrepreneurship education rather than just invest in new course development.

## Introduction

The Danish government has during the last decade been focusing on transforming the country's universities into entrepreneurial institutions (Blenker, Dreisler & Kjeldsen, 2006; OECD, 2008). A large range of state sponsored initiatives has been launched, all with a purpose of supporting various entrepreneurial activities, such as student incubators, tech transfer offices and entrepreneurship programmes (*ibid*). This is much in line with what has happened in other European countries as the process has been driven by pan-European strategies from the EU level (EC, 2011; Geuna, 2001; Kyvik, 2004). The goal of these governmental strategies has been to adapt the higher educational sector to the changing needs of society and the economy (Etzkowitz, Webster, Gebhardt & Terra, 2000). Universities today are requested to focus on the diffusion of knowledge and research findings as well as commercialisation of new research. Universities are also, to a larger extent, expected to get their own funding by capitalising on these activities, which is made possible by an increased autonomy for the universities (EC, 2011; Etzkowitz et al., 2000).

The educational activities have proven to play an important role in this process (Gibb, 1987), but these are often less prioritized than more visible investments in infrastructure (Heinonen & Hytti, 2010; Nygaard, 2010). This is somewhat puzzling as the field of entrepreneurship is recognised to have its roots in educational activities (Brush, Duhaime, Gartner, Stewart, Katz, Hitt, Alvarez, Meyer & Venkataraman, 2003). According to Katz (2008), we have experienced an immense dissemination of entrepreneurship education into departments outside of the business school, and we are now just beginning to see its effect on the overall entrepreneurial activities of the universities. The educational orientation of universities and student activities has, however, during the last decade been recognised as an important tool for universities to establish industry collaboration and increased overall entrepreneurialism (Davis and Diamond, 1997; Nygaard, 2010).

In this book chapter we present a study of how the eight universities in Denmark have transformed towards becoming entrepreneurial institutions. The focus is primarily on how these institutions have developed courses and programmes in entrepreneurship education. However, entrepreneurship education does not equal start-up training, especially not seen through the lens of the entrepreneurial university perspective, which recognises a broad scope of activities as being entrepreneurial (Etzkowitz, 2003). As the focus of entrepreneurship education is on skills, competencies and attitudes, activities such as innovation within established organisations is viewed as being equally important as new venture creation (EC 2012, Solomon, 2007). In order to capture the broad scope of entrepreneurship education in an inclusive, yet specific way, we have developed a categorization model which allows us to measure how the universities have developed their entrepreneurship education regarding focus on different type contents and stages in the entrepreneurial project. The model also allows us to capture which types of pedagogical methods are being used. This model's theoretical foundations will be thoroughly described in the following.

### **Theoretical Framework**

As described in the introduction to this anthology, it is evident that there has been an immense focus on transforming universities into entrepreneurial institutions. The dual process of cutbacks in public funding of universities (Geuna, 2001; Kyvik, 2004; OECD, 2005; UNESCO, 2004) in combination with an increased pressure of dissemination of research results and society's demand on universities to play a more active role in the regional economy, has been a real challenge to many universities (Debackere & Vaugler, 2005; Etzkowitz, 2003; Etzkowitz, Webster, Gebhardt & Terra, 2000; OECD, 2001). There are, however, many universities that are not active within research fields with a potential to generate innovations and growth companies (Debackere & Vaugler, 2005; Jensen,

Thursby & Thursby, 2003). Many universities have, thus, chosen different strategies than the typical so called “Stanford Model” (Etzkowitz, 2003); instead of establishing new organisations such as tech transfer offices, incubators and science parks, they have relied on their managements’ networking capital and the entrepreneurialism of their researchers in order to establish industry collaboration and retrieve funding from external sources (Davis and Diamond, 1997). What is often forgotten in this process is the role that the educational activities play (Heinonen & Hytti, 2010; Nygaard, 2010).

In the holistic process of transforming the university into an entrepreneurial institution, the educational activities are of major importance (Etzkowitz, 2003). The students play an important role in building the entrepreneurial culture at universities and connecting their activities to the industry in many different ways, e.g. through practice-based educational activities, internships and, naturally, as employees (Gibb, 2012; Pittaway & Cope, 2006). The field of entrepreneurship has its roots in teaching (Brush et al., 2003) and entrepreneurship education is thus a natural component of the entrepreneurial university (Heinonen & Hytti, 2010), as it has been seen to produce new ventures as well as innovative employees (Charney & Libecap, 2000; Gibb, 1987), but also because entrepreneurship programmes and centres have proven to have a positive effect on industry funding (Zeithaml & Rice, 1987).

During the past decades, researchers have used many different models in order to measure the development and spread of entrepreneurship education (cf. Katz, 1994, 2003, 2004, 2008; Solomon, 1979, 2007; Solomon & Fernald 1991; Solomon & Sollosy, 1977; Solomon, Weaver & Fernald, 1994; Vesper 1985, 1993; Vesper & Gartner, 1997). According to Katz (2008), we are reaching consensus within the field regarding what entrepreneurship programmes should contain, but we need better models to capture the wide scope of entrepreneurship education, both regarding the content and the teaching methods. Entrepreneurial activities come in many forms, and if we only



focus on new venture creation we miss out on many entrepreneurial activities that take place within established firms (Foss & Klein, 2012; Kuratko, 2005). In the next section we will present our categorization model and how it is based in the broad scope of content and pedagogical dimensions that is included within the field of entrepreneurship education.

### *How to Measure the Development of Entrepreneurship Education*

Our categorization model of entrepreneurship education is developed as a tool to be used in the process of transforming universities into entrepreneurial institutions. The model is based on the *systems of innovation* literature (Lundvall, 1992; Cooke, 2001) as well as the policy oriented *triple helix* research (Etzkowitz et al., 2000). These research streams recognize the systemic character of entrepreneurial activities, which do not only include venture creators, but also specialists within other fields such as finance (for example venture capitalists) and law (patent experts, etc.). Our model aims to connect the macro-level (political policy) with the micro-level (student competencies), by focusing on the mezzo-level (university education). In order to assure that universities take a holistic approach to entrepreneurship education and develop students with the various skills needed, we have included four content dimensions (entrepreneurship, intrapreneurship, finance and law) in our model. We have also included the specific pedagogies needed to teach entrepreneurship as well as the different stages that are included in a venture project; as different competencies are needed in each. The model, with its holistic approach to entrepreneurship, will be described more thoroughly in a later part of this chapter, but first we will describe how our systemic-oriented model is anchored in the entrepreneurship literature.

Entrepreneurship education is a topic with a broad scope regarding content and teaching techniques (Brush et al., 2003). Different stages in the venture project require different types of

activities (Bhave, 1994; Stevenson, Roberts & Grousbeck, 1985), and depending on industry sector and other types of context, these projects can be very dissimilar and have very different skill requirements (Aldrich & Baker, 1997; Davidsson & Wiklund, 2001). Entrepreneurship education can further be divided into two major categories: *specialized entrepreneurship courses* and *courses with integrated entrepreneurial elements* (Blenker, Korsgaard, Neergaard and Thrane, 2011). The latter do not have venture creation as their major focus, rather these courses aim to alter the attitudes of the students and strengthen their entrepreneurial competencies in order to make them more employable and oriented towards entrepreneurial activities within established organisations (*ibid*). It can be said that these courses rather focus on *corporate venturing* (Block and MacMillan, 1993; Burgelman, 1983, 1984, 1986; Zahra, 1991), or what has lately been termed *strategic entrepreneurship* (Foss & Lyngsie, 2011; Hitt, Ireland, Camp & Sexton, 2001), which within the policy world is often termed *intrapreneurship* (EC, 2008). Regardless of the focus being on new venture creation or strategic entrepreneurship within established organisations there are common skill demands when it comes to understanding financial and legal issues (Foss & Klein, 2012). The extent to which this is necessary depends of course on the specific venture activity and the industry sector (Vesper & McMullen, 1988). Some industries, such as biotech, require a thorough understanding of venture capital and IPR, whereas more mundane venture activities only require very basic financial and legal skills.

The broad scope of knowledge, skills and competencies that a venture process requires has to be taken into account in the course design. The context within which entrepreneurs operate frequently spans over many boundaries (Lazear, 2004, 2005; West, 2003) and is often internationally oriented (Jonsson & Jonsson, 2002; McDougall & Oviatt, 2000; McDougall, Shane & Oviatt, 1994; Rialp, Rialp & Knight, 2004). The entrepreneur frequently has to take on the role as a “jack-of-all trades” (Lazear, 2004, 2005), that is, he or she has to be able to perform many of

those activities that are separated by division of labour in larger companies (*ibid*). A multidisciplinary course design in which the instructors make an effort to situate the content in an international or global context is a fruitful way to cover the complexity of a venture process (Brush et al., 2003; Klapper & Neergaard, 2012).

In order to navigate effectively in society of today, it is important that you are able to leverage uncertainty and adjust to input signals from the environment (Gibb, 1987). This can only be done through an iterative process in which the information and knowledge is practically applied and tested (Biggs & Tang, 2007; Loyens, Magda, and Rikers 2008). Entrepreneurship education has always been viewed as a practical topic that needs different pedagogical methods in order to be taught effectively (Johannisson 1991; Kyrö and Niemi 2007; Politis 2005; Sarasvathy 2004). Ideally it should simulate the real life processes of an entrepreneur (Gibb, 2002, 2011; Hannon, 2005; Pittaway & Cope, 2007). However, this might not always be feasible in all courses (Klepper & Neergard, 2012). Creative and practically oriented teaching methods is needed in order to infuse entrepreneurial attitudes and mindsets into students, as the students often have adapted to the job-taker mindset that the university setting typically is oriented towards (Blenker et al., 2011). Mind-changing teaching methods are only possible if the students actively participate and take responsibility and ownership of the learning process, which takes place both within and outside the walls of the university (Biggs & Tang, 2007). In order to effectively teach entrepreneurship oriented content, there is, thus, much to take into consideration regarding teaching methods. A measurement model that aims to assess the development of entrepreneurship courses should therefore not only be specific and inclusive regarding the course content but also with regard to teaching methods. In the following a categorisation model that satisfies these requirements will be described.

### *A Categorisation Model for Entrepreneurship Education*

The model is divided into three main categories: *content*, *teaching methods* and *stages*. On the horizontal axis, the model is divided into eight categories, four content categories and four pedagogical dimensions. The four content categories are: *entrepreneurship*, *intrapreneurship*, *finance* and *law*. The four pedagogical dimensions are: *practical dimensions*, *student participation*, *multidisciplinary dimensions* and *international dimensions*. On the vertical axis the model is divided into four different stages that resemble the different stages of the entrepreneurial project: *idea*, *beginning*, *growth* and *running*. Depending on the focus of the course, it can get a score from 0 to 3 in all these categories. It is, thus, possible to categorize which stage of the venture process the course has its focus as well as which content and teaching methods it focuses on. In figure 1 below, an overview of the model is presented.

[Insert Figure 1 here]

There must be a clear focus on the content and the phase of the venture process in order for a course to get a star in one of the content categories. Two stars means that the course focuses heavily on the topic and three stars means that the course specializes in the topic, both practically and theoretically. The same logic applies to the pedagogical categories, but with some natural differences. In order to get one star, there should be a clear focus on the teaching method, whereas two stars means that it is used in the majority of the teaching situations and three stars requires that the course specializes in this specific teaching method. A course can, however, be categorised with three stars in more than one content and pedagogical category, as it is possible to specialize in more

than one field and phase of the venture project. In the following sections we will describe thoroughly how each of these categories is assessed.

*The Content Dimensions.* Assessing the content is a fairly straight forward process. In this part of the text we will describe which type of content that is included in each of our four venture stages.. When it comes to entrepreneurship in the first stage it is about coming up with an idea for a venture. A course that focuses on entrepreneurship in this stage is typically about creativity and involves different idea generation exercises. The content is fairly similar to courses that focus on intrapreneurship, finance and law in this stage. When it comes to intrapreneurship, the focus is on idea generation in established organisations. A course that gets scores in the finance/idea category focuses on the economic sustainability of the idea and when it comes to law, methods such as browsing patent data bases are central.

A course which scores in the entrepreneurship/beginning category typically focuses on the act of starting up a new venture. Marshalling of resources and managing ambiguity is of central importance at this stage (Baron, 2012; Sarasvathy, 2008). The content of the courses are typically on iterations and test of ideas, business planning and presentation skills such as elevator pitching. A course in intrapreneurship in this stage is fairly similar, but the focus is on established organisations as the context. A finance/beginning course focuses on the financial aspects of the activities in this stage, such as the financial analysis and market analysis for the new venture. A course that gets scores in the law category in the beginning stage typically deals with the legal processes of starting a company, how to file a patent, etc.

In the growth stage, much focus is on developing and growing the venture. Internationalisation and employment growth brings managerial as well as legal and financial

challenges to the table. Courses in this stage often focus on best practice strategies for growth and internationalisation, as well as mass marketing and human resource management.

According to Davidsson (2012), the entrepreneurial activities end when the venture has reached a break-even result. However, when it comes to education in the topic, there are many aspects and dimensions that still can be of interest for the student in the running stage. Continuous innovation, diversification and segmentation as well as serial and portfolio entrepreneurship and exit strategies are typical topics in this stage. In figure 2 an overview of what is included in the content dimensions related to the stage in the entrepreneurial project, is presented.

[Insert Figure 2 here]

*The Pedagogical Dimensions.* The pedagogical dimensions naturally follow the content dimensions and the stage categories, but there are many different ways to teach this content. Practical dimensions can be taught by either taking the students out of the classroom (e.g. field studies, real projects and interaction with the local industry), or by bringing the practice into the classroom (e.g. guest lectures, case competitions and prototype development). The *practice dimension* is often related to the *student participation dimension*. Entrepreneurial activities require proactive students who take an active role as learners rather than a passive role as listeners. A high degree of practical dimension in a course often implies that the students have to take a proactive role in performing the activities and assignments. However, if the practical elements of the course are only provided by guest lectures, the student participation will remain low.

As innovation and new economic activity often take place in the intersection between sectors, and entrepreneurs often perform many different roles, it is important to integrate multidisciplinary

dimensions in the classroom. Again, this can be performed in many different ways. One possibility is to have students with different disciplinary background, and actively work with their different competencies in the course assignments. Another possibility is that the educational team comes from different disciplinary backgrounds, and actively works to combine their competencies in the classroom.

Our last pedagogical category, international dimensions, can in some ways be seen as a content category. However, as the globalization process is accelerating, it is important to focus on international aspects, regardless of it being entrepreneurship or law that is taught. Entrepreneurs will have to relate to this dimension, either as competition at their home market or when deciding to internationalise their activities. The use of international cases, the focus on the internationalisation process or discussions of new technology that enables “born globals” i.e. companies that internationalise from day one, can be good techniques to teach this dimension. In figure 3 below an overview of our four pedagogical categories is presented.

[Insert Figure 3 here]

### **Methodology**

The data has been collected on a yearly basis for all universities in Denmark by the organisation the *Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship – Young Enterprise*, since 2010. The research team is led by a senior data analyst who has collected similar data by using the model on different universities since 2007. The data collection is performed by browsing of web pages where key words such as *entrepreneurship, business planning, intrapreneurship, corporate venturing, innovation, idea*

*generation*, *creativity*, and *patent* (in both Danish and English languages) are searched for. Key personnel at all of the universities are also contacted in order not to miss any courses, especially those which have recently been developed.

Four employees of the research team at the Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship – Young Enterprise analyse each course description individually and assess it according to the criteria in the categorisation model. At a minimum two team members assess each course in order to secure an objective categorisation. The course coordinator is contacted in order to double check the evaluation and to assess the number of participants.

The data in this article is analysed with descriptive statistics as there are only eight units of analysis (the eight universities in Denmark), and because we have access to the complete population.

## **Analysis**

In this section we will present the results of our analysis. We will, however, first start off with a presentation of the Danish context and how it has developed over the past three years, at university level.

### *The Danish Context*

During the past decade there has been a large variety of state sponsored initiatives in Denmark which all had the goal of initiating more entrepreneurial activities at the universities (Blenker et al., 2006; OECD, 2008). This has led to a significant overlap of activities. In 2010, the Danish government decided instead to channel their resources through one single coordinating organisation which should be responsible for developing entrepreneurship education at all educational levels,



from ABC to PhD, so to speak (Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation, 2009). This organisation became the *Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship – Young Enterprise*.

The Danish government also decided to allocate 6 million Euros over a three year period for entrepreneurial activities, which was structured as a competing fund which should be granted to the university with the best strategy for transforming into an entrepreneurial university. There were three finalists for the grant. *Aarhus University* and the *University of Southern Denmark* applied as single institutions whereas *Copenhagen Business School*, the *Technical University of Denmark* and the *University of Copenhagen*, all located in the capital of Denmark, applied for the grant as a troika. At the end of 2010, Aarhus University won the grant but the Copenhagen troika also was awarded a smaller amount of funding (0.6 million Euros). During 2011 and 2012, the universities have started up their activities.

The Copenhagen troika also managed to get funding from the EU which enabled them to start the initiative *Copenhagen Innovation and Entrepreneurship Lab* (CIEL). CIEL's goal is to establish a world class entrepreneurial eco-system at the three universities through collaboration at student and teacher level as well as research level and by establishing partnerships with industry (ciel-lab.dk). At the University of Southern Denmark there is a long standing initiative called the International Danish Entrepreneurship Academy (IDEA). IDEA, which was established in 2005, is a teaching and research oriented entrepreneurship initiative, where industry collaboration is one of the most important ingredients (idea-denmark.dk). The entrepreneurial university initiative at Aarhus University started its activities in 2011 and has a clear goal of establishing AU as the leading entrepreneurial university in Denmark. The focus is on establishing entrepreneurship courses at all faculties, which are aligned with the specific context of the faculties' students. Ten new core courses in entrepreneurship shall be established and seven programmes will be tuned

towards entrepreneurship, by the end of 2013. The focus is just as much on student employability and innovation in established organisations as it is on new venture creation ([eship.au.dk](http://eship.au.dk)).

Other noticeable initiatives at universities in Denmark are the Centre for Social Entrepreneurship (CSE) at Roskilde University which has been operating since 2008 and is focusing on research and education within the field of social entrepreneurship. The centre also has a strong focus on collaboration with the civil society ([ruc.dk/cse](http://ruc.dk/cse)). At Aalborg University they have just expanded their campus in Copenhagen which started up its activities in the fall of 2012. The goal is to have an extensive focus on entrepreneurship in the educational programmes at this campus ([aau-cph.dk](http://aau-cph.dk)).

#### *The Development of Entrepreneurship Education at Denmark's Eight Universities*

In order to analyse how entrepreneurship education has developed at the eight universities in Denmark it is natural to start with looking at the number of courses and participants at each university. This is, however, dependent on the size of the individual university. In table 1 below the number of students attending each university in the semesters of 2009/2010, 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 is presented. In figure 4 and figure 5 the number of entrepreneurship courses and the number of entrepreneurship students for the three years are presented.

[Insert Table 1 here]

[Insert Figure 4 here]

[Insert Figure 5 here]

We can clearly see that the three universities involved in the competition for the entrepreneurial university grant are well ahead of the other five universities. The highest number of courses is found at Copenhagen Business School (CBS) and the University of Southern Denmark (SDU), closely followed by Aarhus University (AU) (see figure 4). These three universities have increased the amount of courses compared to 2009/2010, but both the University of Southern Denmark and Aarhus University has decreased their number of courses compared to 2010/2011. It is also noticeable that the number of courses at Roskilde University has decreased significantly.

In figure 5 we see that the universities that have experienced the most positive development regarding the number of students attending the courses are the University of Southern Denmark (SDU) and Copenhagen Business School (CBS), which both manage to increase their numbers significantly. At most of the other universities this number has been decreasing. The most significant decrease can be seen at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) and Roskilde University (RUC). It is also noticeable that the number of participants in entrepreneurship education at Aarhus University, the entrepreneurial university, has decreased. As the universities vary much in size (table 1), we have calculated the percentage of students subject to entrepreneurship education at the eight universities, which is presented in figure 6.

[Insert Figure 6 here]

When we take the number of students of each university into account we see that both the IT University of Copenhagen (ITU) and the Technical University of Denmark (DTU), two rather small

universities, are doing fairly well, whereas Aarhus University (AU), which is Denmark's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest university, falls to the level of Roskilde University (RUC) and that the University of Copenhagen (KU) is performing really badly.

In Figure 7 the amount of ECTS credits (the European standard for comparing study achievement), is presented as a measure of how extensive the focus of the entrepreneurship courses are at the eight universities.

[Insert Figure 7 here]

Here we see a rather stable and positive development for most of the universities. It is, however, noticeable that there has been a large decrease of ECTS credits in entrepreneurship at Roskilde University (RUC) and a fairly significant increase at Copenhagen Business School (CBS).

In order to investigate what content the universities are focusing on we have looked at how the individual university has developed in our four content dimensions over the three years. The number is calculated by the percentage of the maximum score the aggregated number of courses can get. In figure 8 the results are presented.

[Insert Figure 8 here]

We clearly see that *entrepreneurship* and *intrapreneurship* are dominating the curricula in entrepreneurship education in Denmark, over the more specialized content dimensions *finance* and *law*. Copenhagen Business School (CBS) has progressed very positively in all categories. The

entrepreneurship courses at both the University of Southern Denmark (SDU) and Aarhus University (AU) have a high specialisation in the content categories. We see that most of the universities have either improved or remained stable on the content categories, which is positive as this means that the courses overall have improved and deepened their focus. The exceptions are Roskilde University that has experienced a negative development in all the content categories, and the IT University of Denmark (ITU) and Aalborg University (AAU), that have decreased regarding the content dimensions *intrapreneurship* and *entrepreneurship*. It should, however, be said that these universities are fairly small and have a limited number of courses, so a small change in the course supply comes out with a major impact in our model.

In order to analyze how the eight universities have developed regarding pedagogical methods, which also gives us an approximate measure concerning whether the courses are *about*, *through* or *for* entrepreneurship, as well as how well the content is taught, we have looked at each university's aggregated score on our four pedagogical dimensions. In figure 9 the results of this analysis are presented.

[Insert Figure 9 here]

Here we see fairly positive results as more or less all universities have improved in these categories. The pedagogical dimension that seems to be most problematic for the universities is the multidisciplinary dimension. Again, we see that the smaller universities, the IT University of Copenhagen (ITU), Aalborg University (AAU) and especially Roskilde University (RUC), have experienced a negative development on these dimensions. The troika from Copenhagen, i.e. Copenhagen Business School (CBS), the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) and University

of Copenhagen (KU), have managed to improve their entrepreneurship education on all categories in the pedagogical dimensions.

We have also investigated which stages in the entrepreneurial project that the entrepreneurship courses at our eight universities are focusing on. In figure 10, the results of this analysis are presented.

[Insert Figure 10A here]

[Insert Figure 10B here]

We see clearly that the main focus is on the idea and the beginning stages, which is quite natural as entrepreneurship often is synonymous with start-up activities. However, it is somewhat worrisome that there is such little focus on growth which is a category often emphasized by policy makers (EBST, 2011). Regarding the pedagogical categories we see that these naturally follow the content categories; however, we see that they have developed more positively than the content dimensions regarding the idea and the beginning stages, but decreased more than the content dimensions in the growth and running stages. It seems that the universities thus have had a strong focus on the two first stages in the entrepreneurial project, and that these courses on average are more *through* and *for* entrepreneurship, whereas the courses that focus on the later stages are more *about* entrepreneurship.

In order to analyse if there is a trend of entrepreneurship education developing outside of the business schools in Denmark, which according to Katz (2008), would be a measure of the field reaching maturity, we divided the universities into two groups, those with a business school and

those without a business school. There are three universities in Denmark that have a business school, Aarhus University (AU), Copenhagen Business School (CBS) and University of Southern Denmark (SDU). Aalborg University (AAU) recently established a management and business department (2011), which is organized as a collaboration between the social science department and the engineering department, but it is still in its developmental phase ([www.aau.dk](http://www.aau.dk)). In figure 11a the aggregated results of figure 4-6 are presented, and in figure 11b the aggregated results of figure 8-9 are presented, for the two groups.

[Insert Figure 11A here]

[Insert Figure 11B here]

[Insert Figure 11C here]

Even though the number of courses has decreased slightly at the three universities with business schools, we see that they have increased regarding the number of participants and the amount of ECTS credits. What is also noticeable is that the courses have improved in quality, both regarding content and pedagogical methods. The courses, thus, focus more intensively on the topic and are becoming increasingly *for* and *through* entrepreneurship, rather than *about* entrepreneurship. The development of entrepreneurship education, at the universities without a business school, looks completely the opposite. Even though the number of courses has increased slightly, the amount of ECTS credits and the number of participants at these five universities have decreased. We cannot see any real progress in neither the content nor the pedagogical dimensions,

rather we see that the intrapreneurship category, a topic that should be especially suitable to universities without a business school, is decreasing.

### **Discussion and Implications**

Overall, our analysis of the development of entrepreneurship education at the eight universities in Denmark identifies a small but positive development. It looks like the efforts of the Danish government to transfer the country's universities into entrepreneurial institutions through educational development are working. Our categorization model gives us a good overview of how the field has developed at the individual university and it enables us to identify strengths and weaknesses. It is positive to see that the universities are developing regarding pedagogical methods, as this implies that the courses are focusing more on teaching *through* and *for* entrepreneurship rather than *about* entrepreneurship. The analysis does, however, show that a couple of the universities, especially the smaller ones, have developed negatively, i.e. they have not been able to sustain the supply of entrepreneurship courses.

The development of entrepreneurship education at universities with a business school compared to the universities without a business school looks very different. Regarding the question posed by Katz (2008), if the next paradigm of entrepreneurship education is developing outside of the business school, this does not seem to be the case in Denmark. What this implies is that the field is far from being mature in Denmark. As the field is still in its early stage we are bound to see a dynamic development with new course content and pedagogical methods being tested and restructured. Endurance is of importance in this process. It is clear that the government of Denmark with their investment in entrepreneurship education recognizes that the field of entrepreneurship has its roots in education and that innovation in established organisations is just as important as new



venture creation. However, it is important to recognize that we need to focus on the sustainability of the field and not just the development of new courses and programmes in the short run. Development of education takes a long time and the real results only materialise in the long run. The data presented in our analysis show that the universities without business schools seem to be struggling with sustaining the supply of courses. This is a challenge that needs to be solved.

The three universities that have developed most positively regarding entrepreneurship education in Denmark are the universities at which a business school is located. It is also these three universities that participated in the competition for the entrepreneurial university grant. Our analysis shows that the initiative called the Copenhagen Innovation and Entrepreneurship Lab (CIEL) might be a way to develop and sustain entrepreneurship education at the weaker (regarding entrepreneurship education) universities. There is a lot of potential in using Copenhagen Business School's knowledge within the field in order to develop the field at the other two partnering universities, the Technical University of Denmark and the University of Copenhagen. CIEL has, however, just recently started up its activities, but it will be interesting to follow what effect this will have in later surveys, especially at the University of Copenhagen which is the largest university in Denmark and which today has very little focus on entrepreneurship education.

The result of our analysis also supports the choice of Aarhus University as the future entrepreneurial university of Denmark. We see that the development of entrepreneurship education at Aarhus University has been fairly stable even though the number of courses and participants has decreased slightly; they have managed to improve the courses regarding content and teaching methods. The results in figure 6 show that there is great potential to increase the number of students targeted by entrepreneurship education at this university, as it is Denmark's second-largest university and fewer than five percent of the students are presently involved in entrepreneurship education. We cannot see any positive results of the entrepreneurial university initiative yet

regarding entrepreneurship education, but as the strategy is very clear on what will be accomplished by the end of 2013, it will be interesting to see how the university has developed by the next year. Hopefully, they will be able to sustain the courses they already have and not just replace them with newly developed ones.

Our categorisation model has proven to be an effective assessment tool when evaluating the supply of entrepreneurship education on an aggregate level at universities. It gives us a good image of how the field has developed both regarding content, focus on different stages in the entrepreneurial project and which pedagogical methods that have been used. The assessment of teaching methods is especially important as it gives us a good image of whether the courses are *about, for or in* entrepreneurship.

### **Concluding Remarks and Suggestions for Future Research**

The investments of the Danish government in entrepreneurship education as a means to transforming the universities into entrepreneurial institutions are moving in the right direction. Our analysis shows that the universities that received the latest government investment have developed positively and have great future potential within the field, but the real results have yet to materialise. The entrepreneurship education field in Denmark is far from mature as our analysis shows that the universities with a business school are far ahead within the field compared to universities without a business school. The smaller universities are struggling with sustaining their supply of entrepreneurship education, and our results show that it is just as important to focus on how to solve this problem as it is to develop new courses and programmes.

Our assessment model of entrepreneurship education has proven to be an effective tool in analysing the supply of courses and programmes on an aggregated level. As the model has its roots

in the systems of innovation literature it takes a holistic and systemic approach to entrepreneurship education. It can, thus, be used by policy makers who wish to assess where investments in the field will have largest effects, as it reveals potential gaps in the supply of entrepreneurship education. The model can also be used to assess single programmes regarding strengths and weaknesses, in order to understand how to adjust the courses involved. In order to assess entrepreneurship education at other levels of the educational system, it might be the case that the model needs to be altered regarding its content dimensions, but the overall structure should function well whether it is the supply of entrepreneurship education at elementary level or at PhD level, that is being assessed, as it is both inclusive and specific.

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## Tables and Figures

**FIGURE 1**  
**The Categorisation Mode**

Stages/ Categories	Intrapreneur- ship	Entrepreneur- ship	Finance/ VC	Law	Practical dimensions	Student participation	Inter- disciplinary	International dimensions
Idea								
Beginning								
Growth								
Running								

**FIGURE 2**

**The Content Dimensions: examples of course content in the different stages**

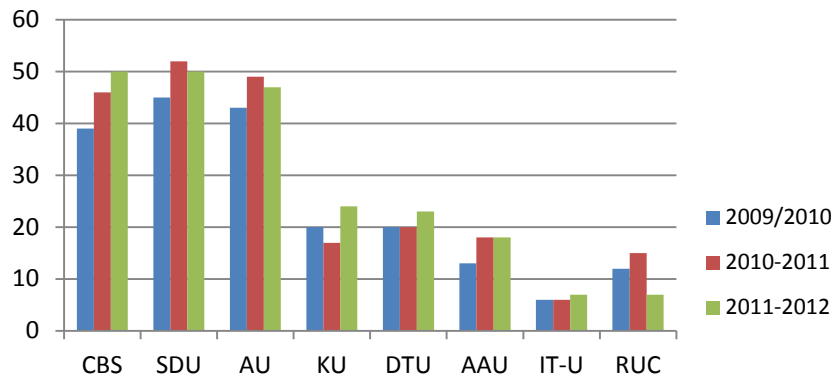
Stages/ Categories	Intrapreneurship	Entrepreneurship	Finance/ VC	Law
<b>Idea</b>	Idea generation and creativity exercises in the context of established organisations	Idea generation and creativity exercises targeted to new venture creation	Financial feasibility plans	Search in patent databases
<b>Beginning</b>	Marshalling of resources; iterations of new business ideas; elevator pitches; business plans	Marshalling of resources; iterations of new business ideas; elevator pitches; business plans	Financial analysis; market analysis; seed capital	Legal processes related to start up activity; filing a patent
<b>Growth</b>	Human Resources Management, Internationalisation	Human Resources Management, Internationalisation	Financial analysis for growth; venture capital; acquisition	International law, IPR; employment legislation, in the context of growing a venture
<b>Running</b>	Continuous innovation, product diversification and segmentation	Serial entrepreneurship; portfolio entrepreneurship; exit strategies	Financial analysis; valuating the company; selling a company; acquisition	International law, IPR; employment legislation, in the context of running a company

**FIGURE 3**

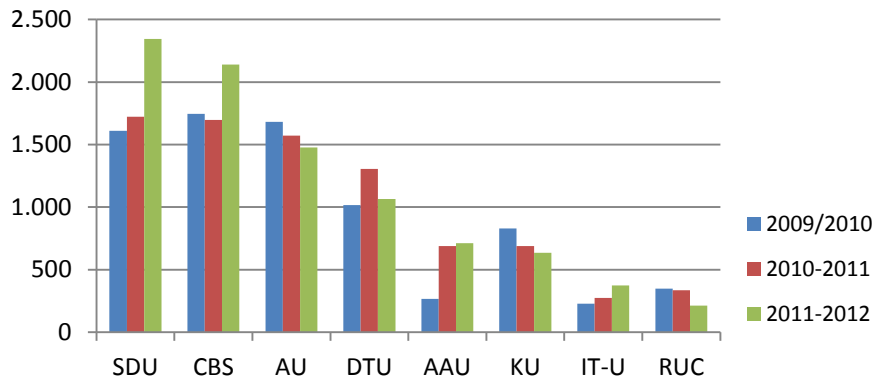
**The Content Dimensions**

Practical dimensions	Student participation	Interdisciplinary dimensions	International dimensions
Take the students out of the classroom to the real world or bring the real world into the classrooms	Encourage to be proactive. Student centered exercises in order to create active and responsible learners	Working with the different disciplinary background of the students or the teaching team, or both	International cases; born globals; the globalization process

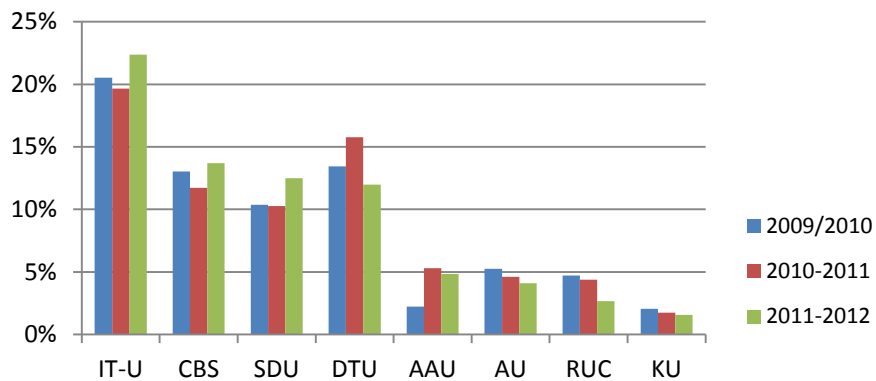
**Figure 4**  
**Number of Entrepreneurship courses at the 8 eight universities 2009-2012**



**Figure 5**  
**Number of Entrepreneurship students at the 8 eight universities 2009-2012**

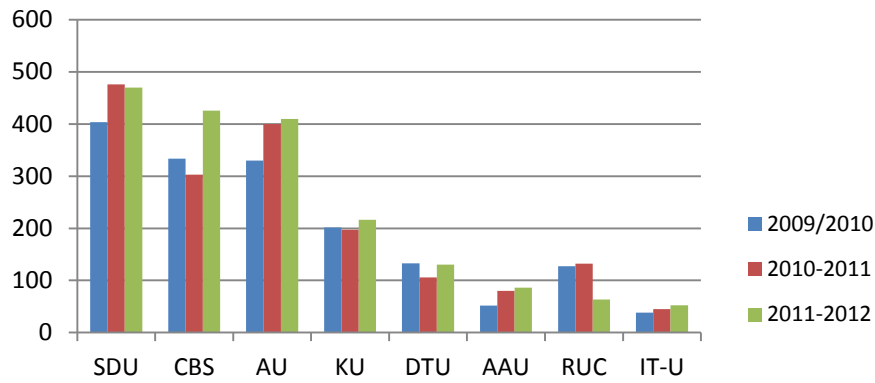


**Figure 6**  
**The percentage of entrepreneurship students at Denmark's eight universities 2009 – 2012**



**Figure 7**

The amount of ECTC credits in entrepreneurship education at Denmark's eight universities 2009 – 2012



**FIGURE 8**

How Denmark's eight universities has developed regarding entrepreneurial content dimensions 2009 – 2012

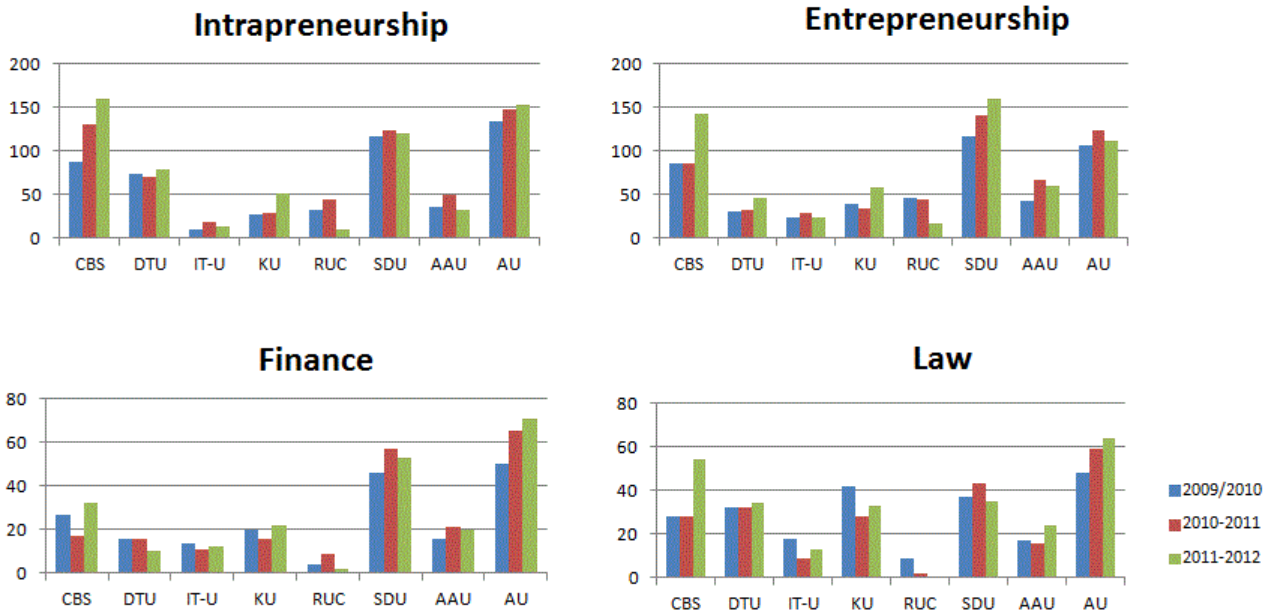




FIGURE 9

How Denmark's eight universities has developed regarding entrepreneurial teaching dimensions 2009 – 2012

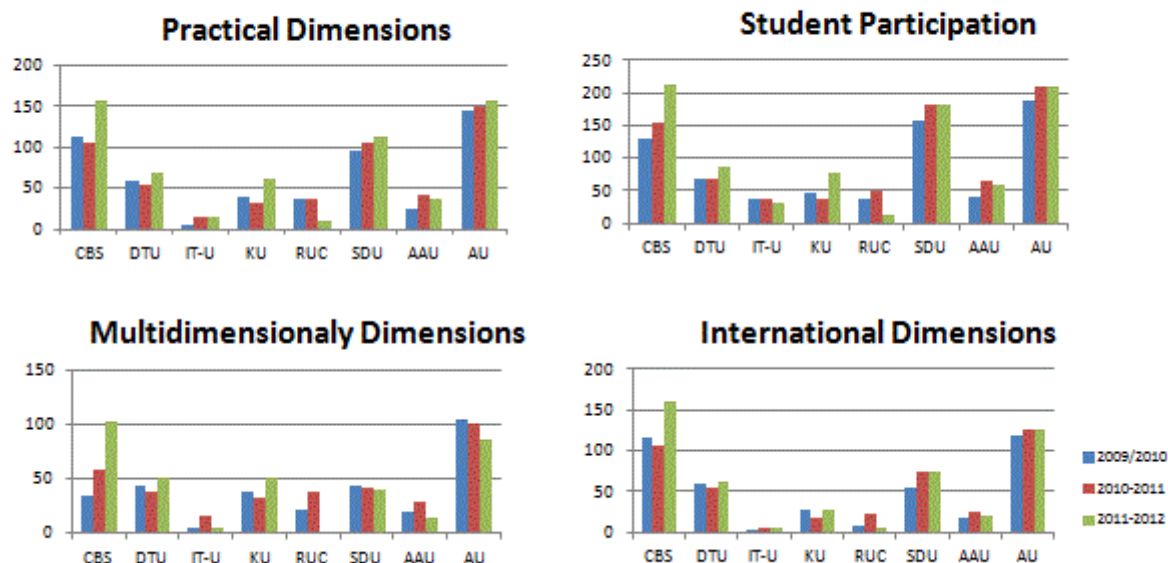


FIGURE 10A:

How Denmark's eight universities has developed regarding stages in the entrepreneurial project 2009 – 2012

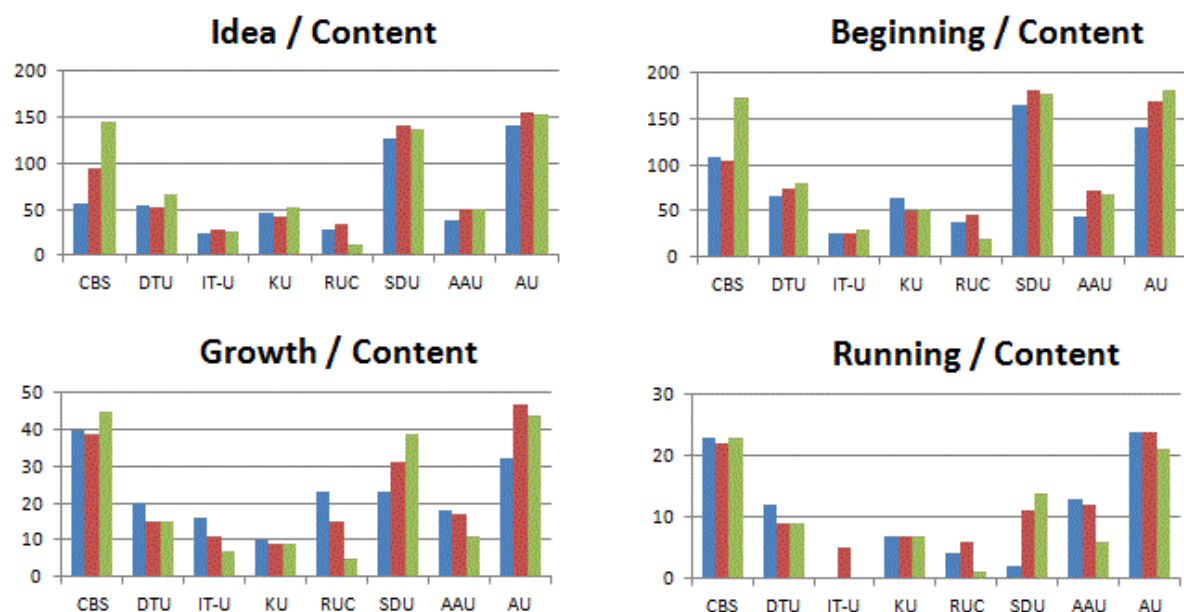
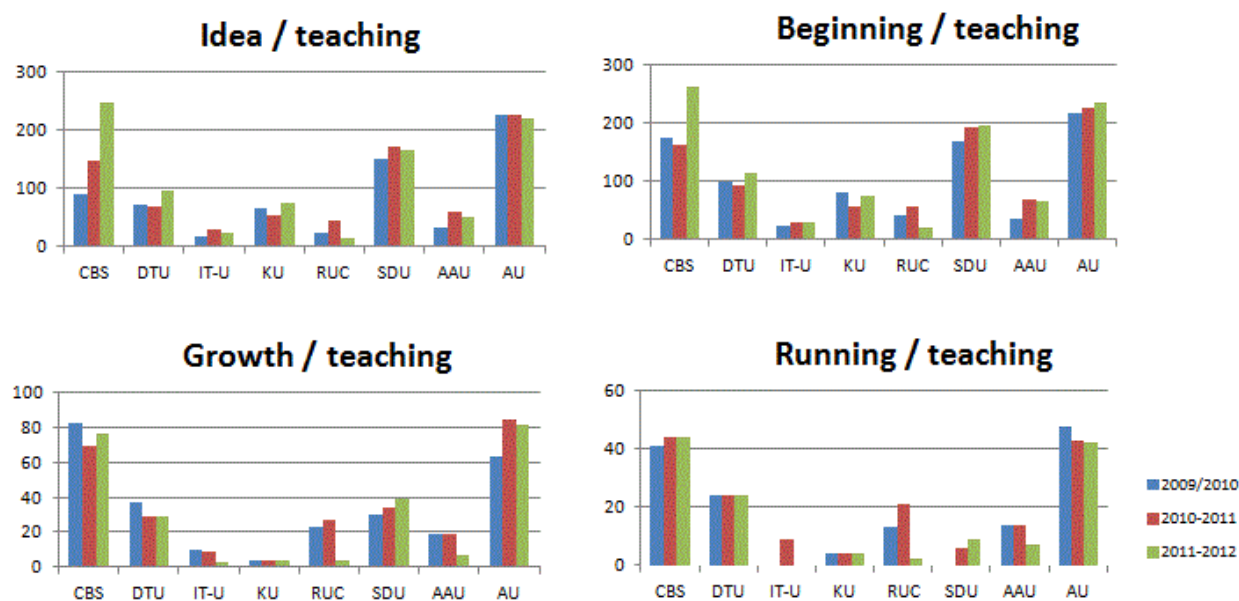
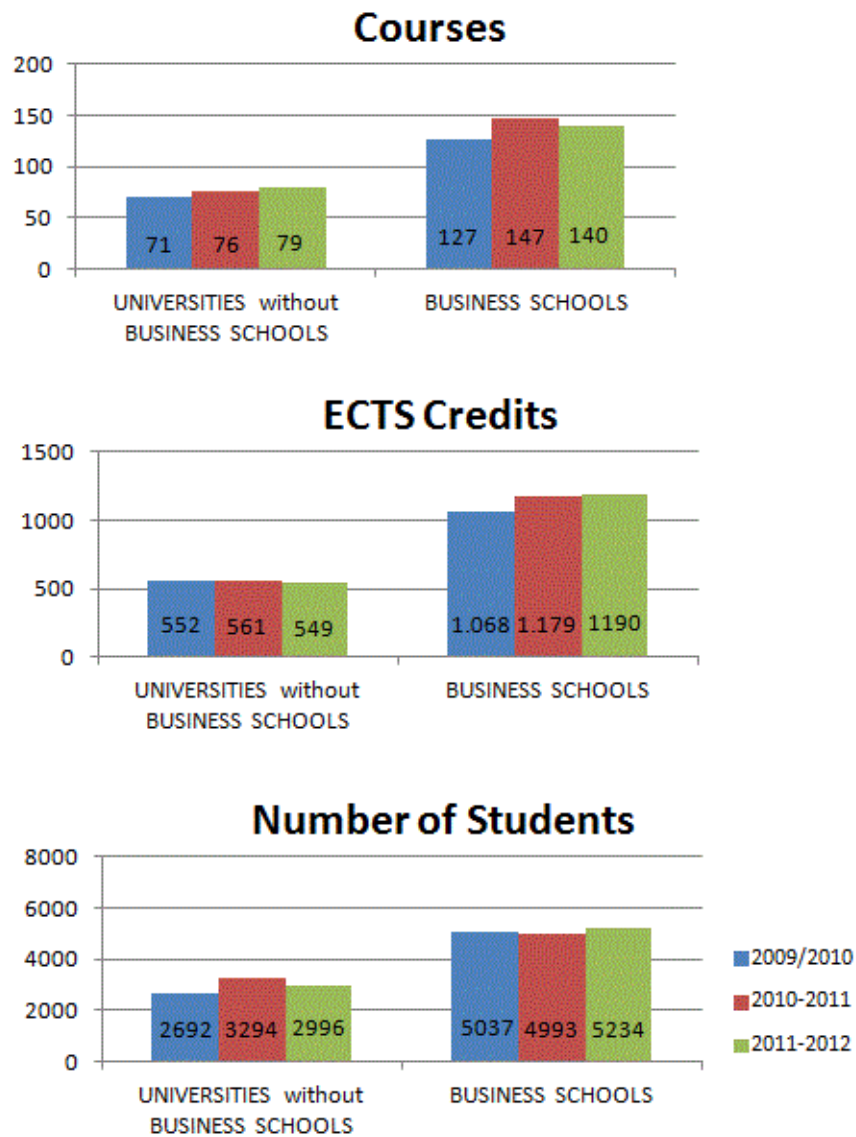


FIGURE 10B

How Denmark's eight universities has developed regarding stages in the entrepreneurial project 2009 – 2012

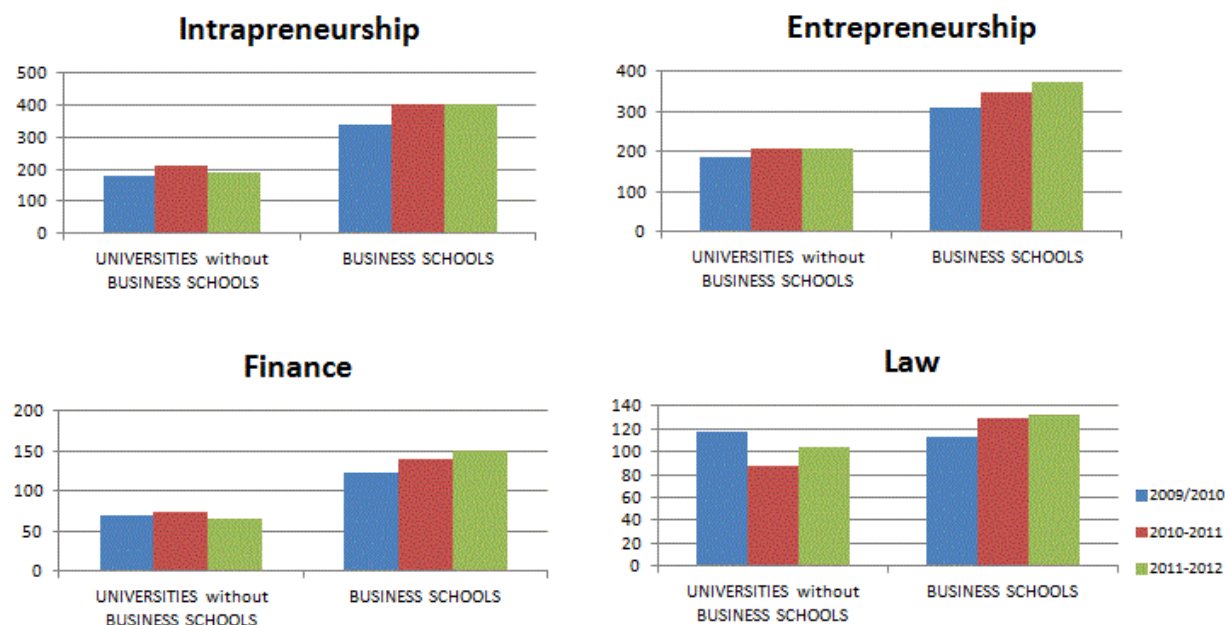


**Figure 11A**  
Courses, ECTS and number of students



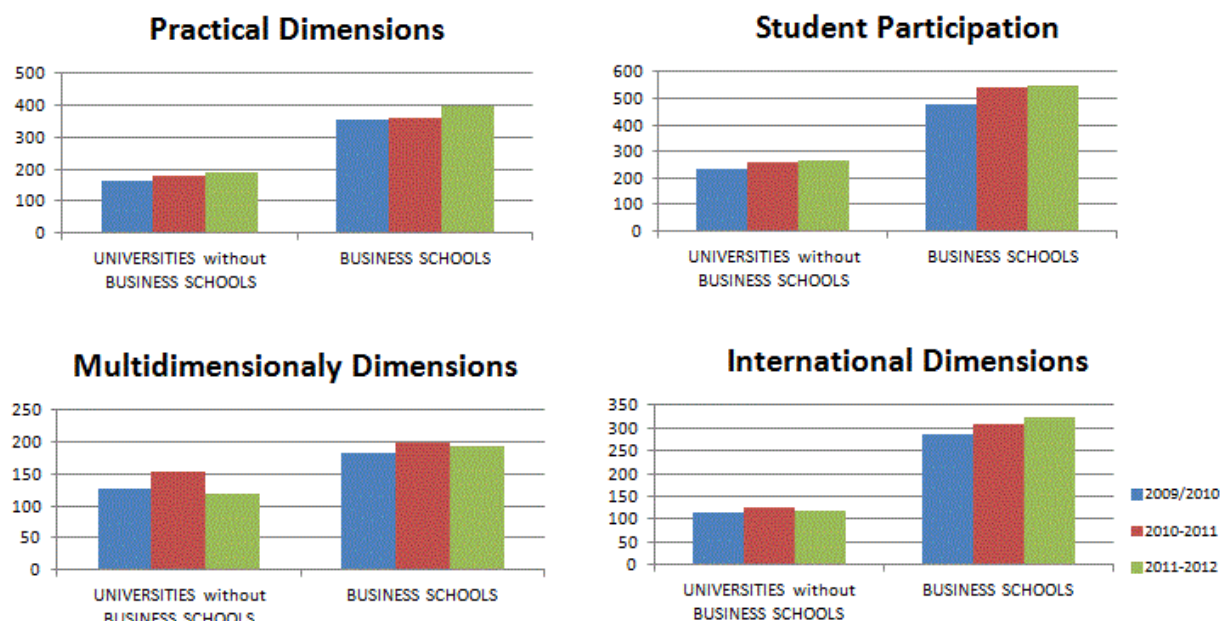
**FIGURE 11B**

A comparison between Danish universities with and without a business school - Content



**FIGURE 11C**

A comparison between Danish universities with and without a business school - Pedagogical dimensions



	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Copenhagen Business School (CBS)	13.440	14.476	15.617
Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DTU)	7.608	8.269	8.873
IT-Universitetet (IT-U)	1.116	1.398	1.667
Københavns Universitet (KU)	40.486	39.562	40.712
Roskilde Universitet (RUC)	7.398	7.657	7.982
Syddansk Universitet (SDU)	15.536	16.760	18.763
Aalborg Universitet (AAU)	11.959	13.039	14.702
Aarhus Universitet (AU)	32.024	34.126	36.093
In Total	<b>129.477</b>	<b>135.287</b>	<b>144.409</b>

**Table 1:** The number of students enrolled at the eight universities in Denmark, 2009 - 2012

## SMG – Working Papers

[www.cbs.dk/smg](http://www.cbs.dk/smg)

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- 2003-9:** Kate Hutchings and Snejina Michailova: Facilitating Knowledge Sharing in Russian and Chinese Subsidiaries: The Importance of Groups and Personal Networks Accepted for publication in *Journal of Knowledge Management*.
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- 2003-14:** Christian Vintergaard and Kenneth Husted: Enhancing Selective Capacity Through Venture Bases.

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- 2004-6:** Jens Gammelgaard, Kenneth Husted, Snejina Michailova: Knowledge-sharing Behavior and Post-acquisition Integration Failure
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- 2004-13:** Snejina Michailova & Kate Hutchings: Knowledge Sharing and National Culture: A Comparison Between China and Russia

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