

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

The College System

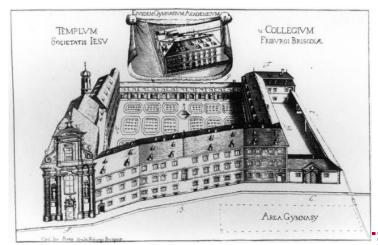
Dr. Nicholas Eschenbruch University College Freiburg













Post-war Universities

Egalitarian State Education

Attending university is a citizen's right.

State-run universities, low tuition

Attendance greatly increased since the 60s

Disciplinary Tradition

Early commitment to one discipline.

If minors are added, no real integration.

Acad. knowledge as Education

Research-orientation alone is sufficient as education.

Neither universities nor students seek further educational interaction.



A Framework for Commitment

A relational framework

A commitment to learning relationships between students, teachers and staff is at the heart of a college institution.

A curricular framework

Learning relationships are embedded in a shared, interdisciplinary curriculum.

An institutional framework

The relationships and the curriculum are supported by the institutional setting.

Resulting in...

an academic space that is also a social and experiential space, rich with meanings.





Institutional Variables

Size No less than 100, no more than 1000?

Residence Higher intensity – of what exactly?

Teaching exchange How much inside, how much outside?

Selection focus Excellence and diversity?

Extracurriculars Enrichment or diversion?





Places for Change

Conceptual level

What does higher education mean in this time and place, and what should it mean?

Institutional level

How can a college set an example and initiate change in a surrounding university?

Policy level

How can higher education be differently organised and administered?

International level

How can we co-operate to make the most of a rich heritage of academic traditions?





Some change initiatives





Bard College Berlin A LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY







The Future of the University

Practical Intellectuality?

Colleges could be places to renegotiate the relationship between academic knowledge and its application.

People in Cyberspace?

Colleges could be places for personal educational encounters in the digital age.

The role of research

Colleges could be places to renegotiate the space of research in higher education.

Preparing for the unknown

Colleges could be spaces to find out what exactly education for an unknown future means.







"The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one big thing." Attr. Archilochus of Paros; quot. Berlin, Isaiah: The Hedgehog and the Fox. An Essay on Tolstoy's View of History, London: Orion 1992 [1953]: 3







Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

Dr. Nicholas Eschenbruch, UCF Director of Education Bertoldstraße 17 D-79085 Freiburg Tel. +49 761 203-67342 eschenbruch@ucf.uni-freiburg.de



"The ideal of using the present simply to get ready for the future contradicts itself. It omits, and even shuts out, the very conditions by which a person can be prepared for his future. We always live at the time we live and not at some other time, and only be extracting at each present time the full meaning of each present experience are we prepared for doing the same thing in the future. This is the only preparation which in the long run amounts to anything."

