



Report from  
Group Session 3  
Students Review?!

Reporter: KONO Momo (Kobe University)  
NIAD-UE University Evaluation Forum 2013  
Student's Role in Higher Education  
Quality Assurance



# Major Premise

- Simply imitating activities practiced in other societies (e.g. European countries) without paying attention to difference in cultural/historical contexts is not promising
  - Student participation to the process of QA is something rare/limited in the Japanese higher education environment.
  - There should be differences between Japanese and European contexts.



# Summary of student involvement in European QA

- Students as full members/partners of QA
- Support for students, staff, institutions

# Key differences between Japanese and European practices

- Treating students as partners is treating them as *matured people*.
- At Lincoln University, students participate in the panels for faculty search as full members (gives good impact)
- Impact of freshman education:
  - Professionalization of student union (constructive part of university)
- Supporting staff with big picture and enthusiasm

# How students can be involved: what is deterrence?

- Limited opportunity for Japanese students to participate in QA process
  - Less motivated/inspired: higher emphasis on future employability
  - Very limited Student Union (enforced in UK in the process of tuition-raise)
  - Faculties' perspective to students: partners or consumers?
  - Students' confidence to serve as partners in QA process



# What are required to inspire students to be engaged?

- Not to try to have 100% coverage of students.
  - Various students have various voices



# What are required to inspire students to be engaged?

- Flexible and interesting process of engagement is desirable.
  - making it *fun*, otherwise even faculty members will be bored!
- Making a “hoop” to sustain students’ participation.

# What are required to inspire students to be engaged?

- **Use of SNS**

- For ex. QAA produces message for students on YouTube
- **Facebook page** of UK University President
- Senior managers to reach students
- **Online feedback system** (students are invited via email)