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Towards a Shared Vision for Higher Education

Cross-Cultural Insights & Projects
Vol. IV

edited by
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Foreword

With this reader, we submit the fourth volume of relevant project-papers, written by participants of the University Staff Development Programme Witzenhausen (UNISTAFF), 2001 - 2004. The three previous volumes, published in 1997, 1999 and 2002 contain projects elaborated by UNISTAFF-participants in the years 1994-1996, 1997-1998 and 1999-2000 respectively. The basic objective of this series of readers is to support the emerging transformation of universities into institutions, which are responsive to the growing demands for change in the fields of organisation, curricula and teaching, and research management.

Many people have contributed in one way or the other to this book. First of all our thanks go to the authors of the various articles, who impart their highly relevant experiences and visions to a wider public. It was not possible to include all project papers since some of them had a distinct domain-specific focus. We did not try to polish the English language of the papers, but maintained the individual peculiarities of every author's text. Further more, we would like to thank International Further Education and Development (InWEnt) for its significant financial support, without which the Institute for Socio-cultural Studies (ISOS) would not have been able to publish this volume. Not least, we would like to acknowledge our debts to Susanne Bierwirth who provided invaluable support to the outlay of the manuscript and to Anthony Alcock for his proof reading.

We hope that this volume will meet with the same favourable response as the previous ones and thus helps to further contribute to the development of a climate of change in our universities.

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Witzenhausen, July 2005

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