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Die Stimme der Hochschulen

Not Just Bologna: Making German HE More Competitive

NAFSA 59th Annual Conference
Dr. Michael Harms

So, what IS happening in German HE?

- Competition is kicking in
- Introduction of tuition fees
- Further development of a “quality culture”



Competition between institutions is increasing

- Institutional boundaries are blurring as institutions are offering the same “product”: HEI compete for the brightest national and international students
- Competition also for researchers and funds
- More autonomy does not mean more money, but more flexibility
- **Developing an institutional profile and a “mission” will be THE challenge of the future**



General tuition fees have been introduced in

- Baden-Wuerttemberg
- Bavaria
- Hamburg
- Lower Saxony
- North Rhine-Westphalia
- Hesse (in the Winter Semester 2007/08)
- Saarland (in the Winter Semester 2007/08)



As yet, no fees in

- Berlin
- Brandenburg
- Bremen
- Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
- Rhineland-Palatinate
- Saxony
- Saxony-Anhalt
- Schleswig-Holstein
- Thuringia



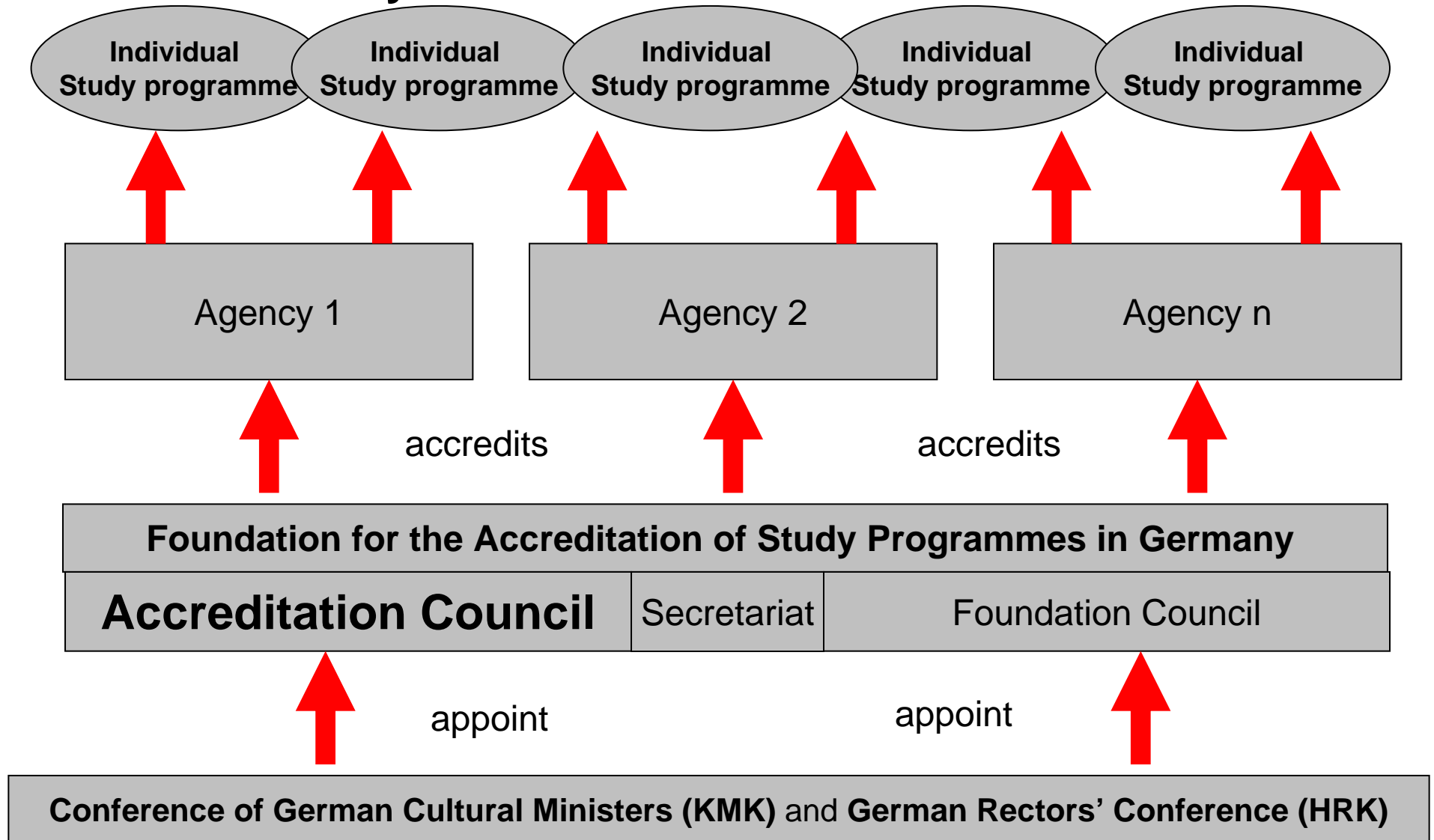
Talking about money:

- In most cases 500 EUR per Semester
- Challenges and risks:
 - bureaucracy
 - deterring students from disadvantaged social backgrounds
 - reduction of public money
- Opportunities:
 - extra money for the system
 - will improve teaching conditions and student services
 - can contribute to further autonomy of the universities



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The German System of Accreditation (see www.akkreditierungsrat.de)



Accreditation of Study Programmes

Bachelors' + Masters' degree	Bachelors' degree, accr	Masters' degree, accr	Accredited programs
Universities: 3,308	429	489	27.8 %
Colleges of art / music: 81	4	8	14.8 %
Fachhochschulen: 2,271	689	468	50.9 %



New instrument: Process accreditation (currently being discussed)

- Improvement of internal organisational and decision-making structures in order to make more efficient use of available resources
- looks at the university as a learning organisation responsible for guaranteeing the quality of the degree programmes it offers
- accrediting internal university quality assurance processes can help to make accreditations less of a burden and more effective in the long term
- recommended by the Accreditation Council on 8 May

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**Thank you for your
attention!**

**Dr. Michael Harms
Harms@hrk.de**