International research assessment revisited - A comparison between the research performance of KTH and selected UK universities

- Folke Snickars, Faculty Board, KTH
- Björn Marklund, Rector’s Office, KTH
- Tom Letcher, Evidence Ltd, UK
KTH Research Performance Assessment Project

- Evidence Ltd has experience from UK RAE
- Interesting method to bench learn in research assessment
- Access to data in UK Higher Education Research Yearbook

- KTH has asked Evidence to create test KTH footprints
- Comparison is with 10 selected UK universities as peers

- Aim is to be proactive concerning research assessment
- Bibliometrics foreseen as part of national funding system
- Methods and indicators for an internal allocation system
- Project may serve as model for School dialogues
Performance Indicators

- Research degrees Licentiate
- Research degrees PhD

- Research funding
  - Government grants
  - Research Council grants
  - Government Agency grants
  - Foundation grants
  - Private sector grants
  - EU

- Staff
  - Professors
  - Associate professors
  - Research associates
  - Senior and junior lecturers
  - Research staff
  - Funded doctorate students

- Bibliometrics
  - Publications
  - Rebased impact
Subjects for Assessment

- KTH
- Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Information Technology
- Engineering Physics
- Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Photonics
- Chemical Engineering
- Biotechnology
- Engineering Mechanics
- Material Science
- Civil Engineering and Architecture
- Engineering and Business management
- Environmental Engineering
- Urban Studies
- Engineering Science (other)

- UK HEA
- Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Physics
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Biological Science
- Mechanical Engineering
- Metallurgy and materials
- Civil Engineering
- Built environment
- Business and management Studies
- Environmental Science
- Town and Country Planning
- General Engineering
Background Data

- KTH Annual Report
- Data from Statistics Sweden (SCB)
- ISI Thomson University Publication Database 1996-2005
- UK RAE 2001-2004
  - Imperial College, Sheffield, Leeds, Southampton, Birmingham, Manchester, Surrey, Edinburgh, Strathclyde, College London
Three Perspectives

Financiers

Publishers

Universities
Physics vs Engineering Physics

**KTH**

1. Total
2. Per FTE

**Imperial Coll London**

1. Total
2. Per FTE

**Univ Leeds**

1. Research active staff
2. Research fellows
3. Research assistants
4. Research degrees (PhD)
5. Studentships
6. RGCI
7. Articles in ISI journals
8. Rebased Impact
Civil Engineering

KTH

Imperial Coll London

Univ Leeds

1 Research active staff
2 Research fellows
3 Research assistants
4 Research degrees (PhD)
5 Studentships
6 RGCI
7 Articles in ISI journals
8 Rebased Impact
1 Research active staff
2 Research fellows
3 Research assistants
4 Research degrees (PhD)
5 Studentships
6 RGCI
7 Articles in ISI journals
8 Rebased Impact
1 Research active staff
2 Research fellows
3 Research assistants
4 Research degrees (PhD)
5 Studentships
6 RGCI
7 Articles in ISI journals
8 Rebased Impact
Physics

- London
- Surrey
- Strathclyde
- Southampton
- Sheffield
- Manchester
- Leeds
- Imperial
- Edinburgh
- Birmingham
- KTH

Yearly publications 2001-2005/R&D active staff 2004
KTH School Indicators

- Number of applicants for academic positions
- Number of teachers with doctoral degree
- Number of female teachers
- Number of applicants to undergraduate programs
- Student’s average grading of courses
- Throughput of undergraduate students after three semesters
- Inbound and outbound undergraduate exchange students
- Number of graduates holding a position after six months
- Study time for completing PhD degree
- Average impact value of publications
- Number of citations
- Research income from competitive funding agencies
- Income from commissioned research and education
Some Lessons Learned

- Possible to make comparison of publication work
- Comparable data on staff and funding with difficulty
- Shows the need to be careful with information systems

- Creates a background for internal work on indicators
- Shows the need to be knowledgeable in the subject areas

- KTH present in broad range of subjects
- KTH shows particular strength in core engineering fields
- KTH publication performance varies over time

- KTH exhibits same level of productivity as UK peers
- Productivity varies substantially across universities in field