

Press Release

European Business Schools and their Challenge to UK Research Reputations.

The UK is only just retaining its position in the European Research Rankings for business research according to Charles Baden-Fuller and Siah Hwee Ang of City University Business School. But the gap between the leader, London Business School, and the number two, INSEAD, has narrowed to only three points. Moreover, the continentals claim five positions in the top 10 compared to three in the last ranking exercise carried out in October 2000. Tel Aviv, Erasmus Rotterdam, Tilburg, and Groningen join with INSEAD to provide the stiffest continental competition. And in the top 40, the UK accounts for 20 schools, down from 23 last time. The tables are based on the best quality research that is published in the leading academic international journals over the six-year period 1995 to 2000.

Why are the mainland-Europeans catching up? One reason is that the US schools that dominate internationally excellent research are increasingly forming alliances with the top research schools on the continent. In their *LRP: Long Range Planning Article*, Charles Baden-Fuller and Siah Hwee Ang show why the US schools prefer to partner with the continentals: the Americans like to gain access to European data on a country by country basis.

Most UK schools are not playing the right game. For example, Oxford, Cambridge and Manchester, all good schools, have formed only 3 effective US research collaborations over the last 6 years, in contrast to 53 by INSEAD, 33 by LBS, 18 by KUL Belgium, and 12 by Erasmus Rotterdam.

In the battle for global attention, where reputation dominates, UK business schools have a lot to do. They have started with an advantage, and the gap is eroding fast. Next week's RAE may reinforce the parochial view that the UK is doing well, for it will not show that British schools are slipping in the international league tables.

(approx 300 words)

For more information, please call:

Charles Baden-Fuller on 020 7706 3976 (home) or 020 7040 8775 (Long Range Planning editorial office)

Reference:

“Building Reputations: The Role of Alliances in the European Business School Scene” by Charles Baden-Fuller and Siah Hwee Ang, *LRP: Long Range Planning*, Elsevier Science: www.lrp.ac