Self-Organisation in Germany’s Higher Education IT

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Self-Organisation in Germany’s HE IT

1. Pinpointing Germany?
   Is there any consistent view of Germany?

2. Self Organisation
   How can you work together, when there is no national framework?

3. Zentren für Kommunikation und Informationsverarbeitung
   ZKI: centres for communication and information processing:
   the association of the HE IT centres
Pinpointing Germany

16 lands

16 ministries of higher education

16 specific regional laws of higher education
only 2 lands promote cooperation

16 different laws of data privacy
different legal status of universities

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Funding

- mainly by the lands
- third-party funding for specific projects
- funding by federal agencies, DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) or EU for specific projects

- no „alumni-culture“
- gap between „rich“ and „poor“ lands
  - (abolished) tuition fees in some lands / compensation
  - funds distributed by the national government (e.g. computers for education) are given to universities only in some lands
Self Organisation (examples)

- National non-profit service providers
  *DFN-Verein, providing the IT-network for HE*

- National co-operative societies
  *HIS, developing software for university administration*

- Regional co-operation between individual universities
  *mail-service, backup / 2nd-level backup, acquisition and provision of standard hardware, …*

- Regional IT service centres for special enterprise-scale applications like ERP

- National non-profit associations with a focus on information interchange
  *ZKI*
ZKI – Zentren für Kommunikation und Informationsverarbeitung

- 180 members representing universities that educate approximately 90% of Germany’s students.
- 56 supporting members including all big IT-companies, software developers, and many small companies.

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ZKI board of directors (2014 – 2016)
activities
- twice-yearly congress for the participating HE IT directors
- publications www.degruyter.com/view/j/piko + www.zki.de/publikationen/

working groups (univ. staff members)
- campus management
- e-learning
- graphics and multimedia
- network services
- service management and security
- software licensing
- supercomputing
- identity management
- web
- central and distributed IT systems
- university IT centres
- univ. of applied sciences IT centres

committees with temporary assignments
- IT strategy
- human-resources development
- frameworks for cooperation
- eduroam off campus
Thank you for your attention

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