

**Conceptual Questions prepared for the DECOWE conference by
prof. Ulrich Teichler in 2009:**

- a) To what extent should educational systems make people ready for work? What is the relative weight of different kinds of competencies for the successful employment and work of students?
- b) How much do job requirements as well as patterns of competencies vary according to occupations, economic sectors and countries? Do we note the stability of traditional patterns, convergent trends or other dynamics?
- c) How do job requirements, competencies as well as links between competencies with employment and work differ according to educational levels?
- d) What is the actual role of educational institutions in fostering vocationally relevant competencies – as compared to socio-biographic background, “credentialism” and reputational ascriptions, initial training and learning after starting a job start as well as continuing professional training and learning?
- e) To what extent does and should educational institutions “respond” to presumed job requirements or be proactive actors of innovation and new configurations of competencies?
- f) How important is feedback from pupils for the development of teachers (trainees)?