THE KOÇ UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

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In Brief

• About Koç University
• Research Activities
• Attracting Talent
• Closing Thoughts
An Overview

• Private, non-profit institution founded in 1993 by the Vehbi Koç Foundation
• 95% of faculty members have received their degrees from overseas
• Ranked one of top four in Turkey in per faculty member research output based on Institute of Scientific Info (ISI) publications
An Overview

Colleges:
Administrative Sciences and Economics
Engineering
Sciences
Social Sciences and Humanities
Law
Nursing
An Overview

Graduate schools
Business
Social Sciences and Humanities
Sciences and Engineering

Research Center on Anatolian Civilizations
Educational Philosophy

- Creative teaching/ participatory learning
- Search for truth through research, criticism, and creativity
- Tradition of discussion
- Involvement in extra-curricular activities
- Cooperation with international institutions
- Lectures by internationally renowned academics and business leaders

Contribute to the quality of education at Koç University
Research Activities

• 71 externally funded research projects (active) covering a wide range of topics from business, social sciences, humanities, sciences and engineering.

• The only Jean Monnet Chair selected from Turkey this year

• L’Oréal International award for female scientists; Young scientist award for Life Sciences
Breakdown: Research Activities

Total number of active projects: 71  (February 10, 2009)
On a National Scale

• TUBITAK
  – Support Program for Scientific and Technological Research Projects (1001)
  – Short term R&D Funding Program (1002)
  – Career Program (3501)

• Istanbul Municipality
• State Planning Organization
• Industry
TUBITAK 1001 support
On an International Scale

- COST
- National Institute of Health
- NATO
- Industry
- EU Framework Programs
Framework Programs: Current Status

• Collaborative Projects:
  – FP6: 5
    • SIMILAR, NEMO, 3DTV, PhOREMOST, MINOS
  – FP7: 4
    • HELIUM3D, MEMFIS, ENACT, TRANS-NET

• Marie Curie Actions:
  – FP6: 2 International Reintegration Grants
  – FP7: 4 International Reintegration Grants
How WE Attract Talent

• Quality and caliber of the student body
• Excellence in educational and research programs
• Strong interdisciplinary programs
• Research support
• Travel grants: Harvard Fellows Program
• Summer post-doc Researchers Program
How WE Attract Talent

- State of the art infrastructure
- Competitive salary
- Facilities (Laboratories, Library, Campus housing, Daycare)
- Healthcare
Thoughts from our Faculty

• Flexbility with regards to research activities
• Setting conducive for research
• Infrastructure: Initial funding for laboratory set-up
• A “team” environment – Potential opportunities for research collaboration within faculty
• Interdisciplinary programs
From our Faculty

“Koç University has always had a very good reputation in the country, and has been doing a very good job in reversing brain-drain, in gathering productive and successful scientists from overseas. In the academic field, you would contribute to science more if you live in a peaceful environment, and that’s how I felt when I first visited KU. ..”
From our Faculty

“…One reason that I came to KU is because this university looks for people and groups to move in new directions. The independence that the academic position in KU provides with respect to the choice of research areas was very attractive to me and was one of the main reasons that I decided to enter academia in KU…”
THANK YOU!

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