REMUNERATION – Measuring and Rewarding Performance



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Total Rewards Strategies

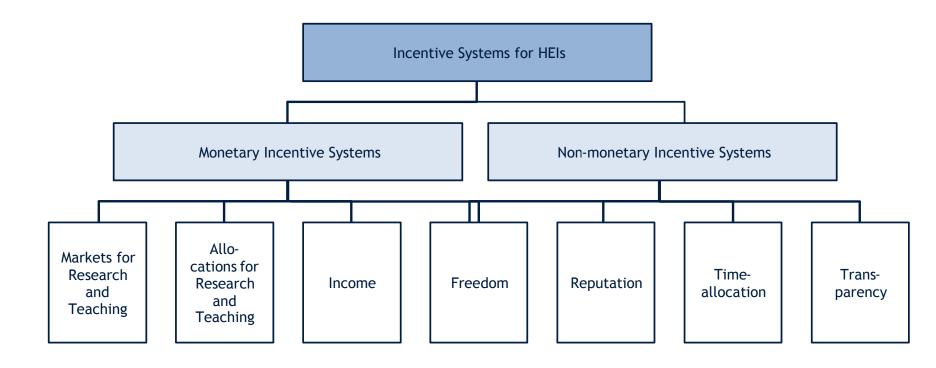
Compensation		
Base pay	Wages and salaries	
Merit pay	Base-pay increases based on employee performance	
Incentives	Cash bonuses based on employee performance	
Promotions	Base-pay increases based on potential to per- form new job	
Pay increases	Base-pay increases based on length of service with the organization	
Benefits		
Health and welfare	Payment for injuries and illness both on and off the job	
Paid time off	Payment for vacation time or excused days from work	
Retirement	Payment for work no longer performed based on length of employment	
Personal Growth		
Training	Skill development through on- or off-the-job instruction	
Career development	On-the-job coaching to develop skills	
Performance management	Ongoing goal setting and feedback to develop skills	

- Fix vs. variable
- Permanent vs. temporary
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Source: Heneman 2007, 3.

Incentives at HEIs





Remuneration: system-level framework

- Employment legislation and policies
 - Employment status of academics
 - Salary regulations
 - Wage agreements with unions

Financial autonomy

- Lump sum budgeting vs. line items
- Fixed amounts for certain remuneration elements



Remuneration reform in Germany

- Fundamental reform via federal law in 2002
- Details of implementation determined by federal states and HEIs

Basic salaries in Bavaria (June 2017, in EUR)

Salary class	Experience level			
	Level 1 (5 years)	Level 2 (7 years)	Level 3	
W1	4,444.41 (Junior Professor)			
W2	5,516.74	5,741.92	6,079.68	
W3	6,530.03	6,755.19	7,036.66	

Key changes:

- New salary categories with lower basic salaries, but introduction of performancerelated remuneration elements
- Replacement/supplementation of seniority increases by variable salary elements determined by HEIs (within state-level framework)



Institution-level framework

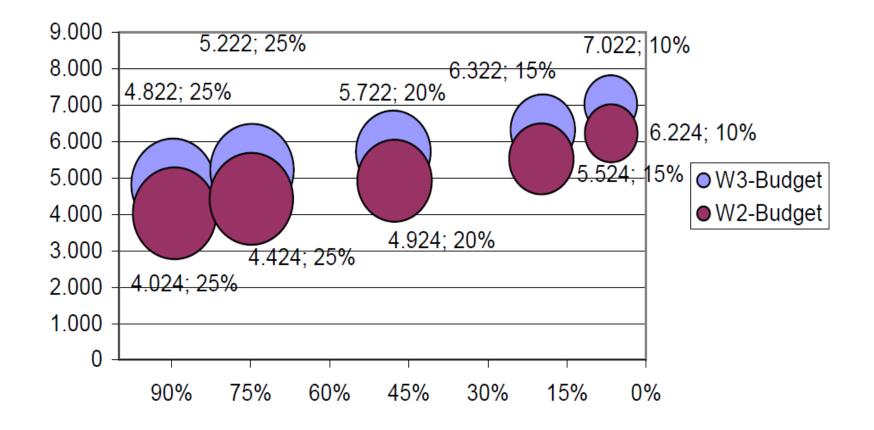
- Use of different **remuneration elements** (e.g. basic salaries, retention premiums, merit pay, one-off bonuses)
- Degree of structuring: systematic approach vs. free negotiations
- Formalization of policies, guidelines and procedures

Prominent model:

- Salary categories for academic positions with several levels each
- Progression within positions based on seniority and/or performance; progression among them via promotion



Multi-stage model University of Bremen





Key aspects of performance-based remuneration

- (1) Measuring performance
- (2) Relating performance to remuneration
- (3) Designing procedures
- (4) Relation to internal funding



Measuring performance

Quantitative vs. qualitative assessments

- Hard factors: greater simplicity, transparency and objectivity (at least at first sight), but difficult to find adequate indicators perceived as fair
- Soft factors: less transparent, but greater latitude for decision-makers to account for case specifics and perceived as more adequate in academia
 - Use of hard factors as main/exclusive criteria is rare
 - ➤ Possibility for mixed approaches (e.g. quantification of qualitative assessments)

Dimensions of performance

- Focus on teaching and research
- Possibility to account for wider range (e.g. academic self-governance and "third mission")
 - Diversity relevant for link to institutional strategy



Relating performance to remuneration

Degree of structuring

- Free, individual negotiations increase latitude for decision-makers, but are less transparent and more time-consuming
- Pre-defined levels (e.g. in salary structure) restrict latitude, but: simplify processes, increase comparability, facilitate planning, and allow for connecting different remuneration elements
- Formula / fixed-prices models encounter difficulties related to using indicators (and are rarely used)

Permanent vs. temporary increases/bonuses

- Influence on motivation (e.g. negative effects of "taking away" increases)
- Financial implications: permanent increases lead to long-term commitments
- Possibility to relate type of benefit to type of performance (e.g. permanent increases for performance increases expected to last; one-off bonuses for particular achievements)

Use of additional instruments

- Temporary increases tied to performance agreements
- Possibility of "free negotiations" next to structured approaches



Designing procedures

- **Initiation:** application by academics vs. nomination by superiors vs. regular "screening"
 - Resource intensity differs among approaches
 - Perception of fairness can also differ
 - Option of mixed approaches (e.g. application of academics combined with recommendation by deans)
- **Timing of procedure:** possible at any time vs. regular intervals
- Formalization of procedure
 - From basic process to rights and responsibilities of bodies and actors to assessment criteria
 - Potential to increase transparency
- Relation to other types of evaluation
 - Increased amount of information available
 - Potentially critical feedback effects
- Involvement and decision-making rights: policies and guidelines and individual decisions



Relation to internal funding

Amount of funding

- Funding responsibilities/pool located at central or unit level
- Quota for different remuneration elements or units (flexibility and possibility for profile development vs. planning capacities and diversity of instruments / fairness among units)
- Long-term effects and financial planning
 - Need to secure future funding for permanent increases
 - Differing impact of elements on availability of funding in the future

The "higher education single pay spine" in the UK

Spine point	2013-14 GBP	2014-15 GBP	2015-16 GBP	2016-17 GBP
1	13,621	13,953	14,323	14,767
2	13,977	14,257	14,599	15,052
3	14,344	14,631	14,953	15,356
•••				•••
22	24,289	24,775	25,023	25,298
23	25,013	25,513	25,768	26,052
24	25,759	26,274	26,537	26,829
•••		•••	•••	•••
46	49,216	50,200	50,702	51,260
47	50,688	51,702	52,219	52,793
48	52,204	53,248	53,780	54,372
49	53,765	54,841	55,389	55,998
50	55,375	56,482	57,047	57,674
51	57,031	58,172	58,754	59,400

- Determined among the Universities' and Colleges' Employer Association (UCEA) and the higher education trade unions
- Subject to regular negotiations
- Covering support and academic staff

Source: https://www.ucu.org.uk/he_singlepayspine



Pay grades at the University of Oxford

Pay spine step	Salary	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 10a
55	£66,836		9*	
54	£64,895		8*	
53	£63,009		7*	
52	£61,179		6	11
51	£59,400		5	10
50	£57,674	9*	4	9
49	£55,998	8*	3	8
48	£54,372	7*	2	7
47	£52,793	6	1	6
46	£51,260	5		5
45	£49,772	4		4
44	£48,327	3		3
43	£46,924	2		2
42	£45,562	1		1
41	£44,240			
40	CADINEE			

- Grades for most positions; individual negotiations for professors and readers
- Yearly automatic progression for first steps within grades
- "Discretionary range" for promotion and retention premiums and merit pay

Source: http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/reward/paystructure/



Performance-based remuneration at the University of Oxford

For **professors / readers** (next to individual negotiations)

 "Professorial Distinction Awards": highly competitive, mostly permanent salary increases for exceptional performance

For other academics

- "Awards for Excellence Scheme": annual review of all academics rewarding consistent exceptional performance in all key job areas with advancement to next salary level or non-recurrent payment
- "Recognition Scheme": GBP 200 as one-off payment for specific contributions or achievements



University of Oxford: "Professorial Distinction Awards"

<u>Application</u> by eligible candidates (list of publications, CV, names of three external assessors, etc.)

<u>First examination</u> by Divisional Distinction Award Committee

<u>Second Examination</u> by Senior Appointments Panel of University's Personnel Committee (i.e. VC, 3 Pro-VCs, Registrar)

Potentially: Request for additional information / comments from Divisional Distinction Award Committee

<u>Decision</u> by Senior Appointments Panel <u>based on criteria</u> approved by University's Personnel Committee

Source:



Key aspect to consider

- Designing remuneration systems that balance collegiality and adequacy with strategic approach and performance orientation
- Finding the right mix of remuneration elements
- Accounting for difficulties of measuring performance and relating performance to remuneration
- Considering the relation to internal funding

Thank you!

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