

Summery of the Book “Promovieren im Design – ein Kinderspiel? – Writing a PhD in Design – a cakewalk?”

“Promovieren im Design – ein Kinderspiel? Writing a PhD in Design – a cakewalk?”, the book written by Prof. Dr. Marina-Elena Wachs and Prof. Dipl.-Des. Dorothee Weinlich, published in the year 2011 by Blumhardt publisher (Hannover), is the first book in Germany, which gives an overview and a first guideline for a structural way to write a doctoral thesis in design.

On the way to an accepted design science, the long tradition of the Anglo-Saxon practise based PhD in comparison to a doctoral thesis in design and to art research possibilities, the book helps to find a context based line to formulate the research thesis as well as to find financial support and connection possibilities to design communities of different disciplines.

With an international comparison to USA and GB, between Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences and with a selection of references for scholarly women, this book gives you support to go ahead in design /-science.

At the same time it creates a setting up for academic education in Europe within the scope of the Bologna Process. The Bologna Process aims to connect the European Higher Education Area with the European Research Area and to foster international cooperation between universities and institutions, such as the European Universities Association, consistent with the Lisbon Strategy goal of making the EU the most competitive economy in the world. The ministers of participating countries agreed on integrating Doctoral Education as third cycle of studies, conferences stressed the importance of original research as a core aspect of doctoral training, and affirmed that doctoral programs should include interdisciplinary doctoral programs in graduate and research schools. It would be a good advice to look at the “standards” of formulating a doctoral thesis in design, regarding at the Higher Education level of the European Research Area for example 10 years later on; we will see...

With the Book “Writing a PhD in Design – a Cakewalk?” it is our goal to come to a structural Higher Education Area in design science and we would like to underline the European competence in creating a design scientific comparable field to other academic disciplines, not at all with this first book for writing a (structural) PhD in Design; but creating an inspiring scientific field to do design research, to create the process of writing the doctoral thesis in the European Research Area.