THE NATIONAL SYSTEM – An initiative from the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT)

Started in 2008 with 2 editions. There are no grants in 2010 due to economic constraints.

IN NUMBERS - The initiative at the University of Aveiro (UA)

RESEARCH PROJECT – A case study at the Department of Education at the UA

OBJECTIVE: Monitor & evaluate the integration of undergraduate students in research activities

SAMPLE: Undergraduate students & supervisors – academic years: 2008-2009 & 2009-2010

METHOD: Case study – descriptive and exploratory

INSTRUMENTS: questionnaires & interviews

To understand how the national initiative is being experienced at a particular HE context & to illuminate the design of possible strategies to enhance the overall experience

EMERGING QUESTIONS

What is FCT and also HE institutions’ strategy to evaluate both the importance and the impact of these grants?

We now better understand a specific reality, but: what to do with those data? What is the importance in terms of local or national impact? (particularly when facing financing constraints)

What are the implications of funding in terms of the sustainability of this initiative in general, and this research in particular? (when the importance of this initiative is broadly presented in the literature and research experiences)