



OECD Higher Education News

December 2013

Please feel free to forward this e-mail to interested colleagues

[Upcoming events; OECD and higher education activities;](#)
[OECD publications and resources; News from our Members](#)

Upcoming events

Register now for your FREE events!

Registration is now open for the following workshops and webinars for [IMHE members](#). Please circulate this information to colleagues in your organisation, who may also attend. More than one person from each member organisation may attend.



- **Webinar – 28 January 2014**

OECD reviews of postsecondary vocational education and training: key findings
4pm/16h00, Paris time, 1.5 hours

REGISTER: <http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=dd266ba940c14cf5bd7299de4f8134f8>

Read more about the reviews [here](#).

- **“What Works” conference – quality in teaching – 8-9 April 2014, OECD Headquarters, Paris**

With Fabrice Hénard, [Learning Avenue](#)

Registration will be open in the new year. To express your interest, please contact emily.groves@oecd.org.

Look out for more information on the following events in the new year:

- **Seminar – June 2014**

Presentation of the results of the OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC)

Date and location to be confirmed

To read more about the design and purpose of the survey, please visit: www.oecd.org/site/piaac/

- **Webinar – September 2014**

PISA

The PISA 2012 results were recently released. Find out more [here](#).

Date and time to be confirmed

More information

<http://www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/highered-member-workshops.htm>

Contact: emily.groves@oecd.org

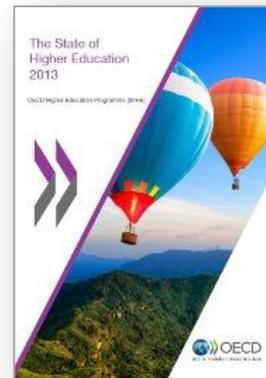
www.oecd.org/edu/imhemeetings

OECD and higher education activities

Out now – The State of Higher Education 2013

The OECD Higher Education Programme's first annual report on *The State of Higher Education* is out now and was e-mailed to members of the Programme on 1 December.

The report stresses that higher education is important in terms of public and private financial and non-financial returns. Given the level of investment, it is in everyone's interest to get it right. Some of the key aspects of getting it right involve priorities from within and from outside higher education, including quality in teaching and learning for good student outcomes and labour market relevance for the employability of students. This report provides key data and analysis to support higher education institutions and policy makers in making informed decisions and policy choices.



Please note that the report should only be circulated amongst [OECD Higher Education Programme \(IMHE\) members](#) and should not be posted on websites. An executive summary for public circulation can be found [here](#).

AHELO – final volume released

The [third and final volume](#) of the **Report** from the OECD's Feasibility Study on the Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes (**AHELO**) is now available. This volume on Further Insights includes the conclusions from the expert group on the Value-added Measurement and the Conference proceedings. A [literature review on the Value-Added Measurement](#) also contributed to this third volume.

This follows a **first volume** on Design and Implementation which was published in December 2012 ([full report](#), [executive summary](#)) and a **second volume** on Data Analysis and National Experiences published in March 2013 ([full report](#), [executive summary](#)).

All three volumes can be found on www.oecd.org/edu/ahelo.

November events: 18th IMHE Governing Board, New strategies for the commercialisation of public research

The **Governing Board** of the OECD Higher Education Programme met on 12 November in Paris. The bulk of the meeting was devoted to thinking ahead and the future direction of the Programme, through a reflection on our membership recruitment strategy, a review of the membership package products and services, an initial brainstorming discussion on the programme of work for 2015-16, and a discussion of the programme of workshops and conferences for the coming months/years.

The discussions were constructive and stimulating, and brought about several suggestions for enhancing the value of the membership package, discussions that the Higher Education Programme team will take on board in designing our future events, reports and quarterly briefs.

The Governing Board also decided to explore the scope for organising a large **conference in Asia in April 2015**. We will keep you updated!

Following the Governing Board meeting, a **workshop for members of the OECD Higher Education Programme was held on *New strategies for the commercialisation of public research***. In the beautiful surroundings of the La Muette Château at OECD Headquarters, participants heard from OECD and external experts, university leaders and also shared experiences among themselves. In addition, participants received an advance copy of the OECD publication [Commercialising Public Research: New Trends and Strategies](#). A



workshop highlights paper is currently being prepared and will be shared with members soon. In the meantime, you can find the agenda and “Food for thought” document [here](#).

OER and MOOCs – webinar highlights

On 2 October, the Programme held a webinar on *Open Educational Resources and MOOCs – What is the evidence?* If you did not already receive the report from this webinar, you can find it [here](#), along with the report from the previous webinar on internships.

Thomas J. Alexander Fellowship – an opportunity to work with the OECD Higher Education Programme

In the last issue of the OECD Higher Education news, we informed you of the latest round of the **Thomas J. Alexander Fellowship**. You can find all the necessary information at <http://www.oecd.org/edu/thomasjalexanderfellowship.htm>.

In light of the new evidence generated by [the Survey of Adult Skills \(PIAAC\)](#), outlined in our recent [Quarterly Brief](#), the OECD Higher Education Programme would be particularly interested in applicants who could conduct an in-depth analysis of the survey results as they relate to higher education. Indeed, the survey provides a unique opportunity to explore the relationships between tertiary education and information-processing skills such as literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving in technology-rich environments. A preliminary analysis of the findings suggest that, while tertiary education graduates perform better overall than individuals without tertiary education, and countries with more tertiary graduates tend to have higher overall proficiency levels, there are wide variations in tertiary graduates’ competencies across countries. In this context, the Thomas J. Alexander Fellow would be expected to leverage the richness of the PIAAC dataset to extract more evidence on the population of tertiary graduates and help shed light on the complex linkages between higher education, information-processing skills and labour market performance.

We encourage you to circulate this opportunity to potential candidates. Please note that the closing date for this vacancy is **Friday 20 December 2013**, midnight, Paris time. Contact: edu.fellowships@oecd.org

Find the OECD Higher Education Programme on...

	@DebRoseveare @valafon @OECD_EDU		IMHE OECD -Higher Education-		OECD Higher Education Programme – IMHE
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Image: <http://icons.yootheme.com>

[Who’s Who in the OECD Higher Education Programme](#)

OECD Higher Education Team News

OECD Higher Education Programme team member Valérie Lafon has left on an 8 month assignment with the OECD’s Public Affairs and Communications Division. She will be missed and we wish her all the best in her new role. However, we are fortunate in having Anna Glass, who we have to thank for our first The State of Higher Education publication, as Valérie’s replacement, and look forward to working with her.

OECD publications and resources



Commercialising Public Research: New Trends and Strategies

On iLibrary

Public research is the source of many of today’s technologies from the GPS and MRI to MP3 technology. Public research institutions (PRIs) and universities are also engines of entrepreneurial ventures from biotech start-ups to Internet giants like Google. Today, globalisation, open innovation and new forms of venture financing, such as crowd funding, are changing the way institutions promote the transfer and commercialisation of public research results.

This report describes recent trends in government and university level policies to enhance the transfer and exploitation of public research and benchmarks the patenting and licensing activities of PRIs and universities in a number of OECD countries and regions.

Finally, it also showcases, based on case studies of leading institutions, a number of good practices for increasing the number of university invention disclosures, accelerating licensing contracts and promoting more open innovation practices between universities and firms.

Green Growth Newsletter

Issue 22, November 2013

www.oecd.org/greengrowth/OECD%20Green%20Growth%20Newsletter%20November%202013_Issue%2022.pdf

This issue of the newsletter includes a focus on green growth in Asia, details on the OECD's contribution to the UNFCCC COP19 meetings, and a retrospective on the Secretary-General's lecture delivered at the LSE and the publications related to his key messages there. Latest publications and key events are also highlighted.

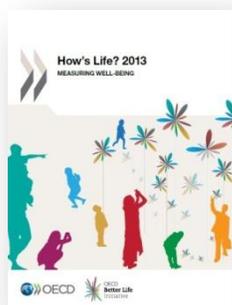
2013 access to OECD online publications

Programme members benefit from free access to OECD publications in the online database [OECD iLibrary](http://OECD.iLibrary). Please contact emily.groves@oecd.org for the 2013 login and password. **Please note:** this access is for personal use only by your organisations' main contacts.

Higher Education Management and Policy, issue 24.2

[On iLibrary](#)

The second-to-last volume of this journal is out now, with eight articles on a wide range of higher education issues. The final issue will be out in 2014.



How's Life?

[On iLibrary](#)

How's Life? is part of the OECD Better Life Initiative, launched by the Organisation on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary in 2011. The OECD Better Life Initiative aims to promote "Better Policies for Better Lives", in line with the OECD's overarching mission. One of the other pillars of the OECD Better Life Initiative is the Better Life Index (www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org), an interactive composite index of well-being that aims at involving citizens in the debate on societal progress.

OECD Economic Outlook, Volume 2013 Issue 2

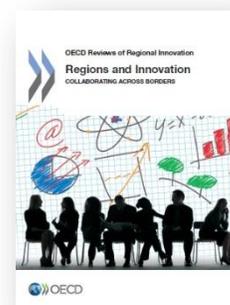
[On iLibrary](#)

The OECD Economic Outlook is the OECD's twice-yearly analysis of the major economic trends and prospects for the next two years.

Regions and Innovation: Collaborating across Borders

[On iLibrary](#)

This report examines cross-border collaboration on innovation, building on case studies of cross-border areas that include the following countries: Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom and Ireland.



Smart Policies Matter in Education

[Blog by Dirk van Damme, Directorate for Education and Skills](#)

Education policies are meant for the future, they target society-wide outcomes in the next generation. But constructing these policies demands foresight and planning, while simultaneously dealing with difficult trade-offs in the present.

Time for the U.S. to Reskill? What the Survey of Adult Skills Says

On iLibrary

This report on skills in the U.S. draws out the policy implications of the Survey of Adult Skills for the U.S., while also making use of some additional data collected for the Survey on the U.S. alone. The study does not directly evaluate relevant U.S. policies and programmes – such as schooling and adult education. Instead it identifies some key lessons about the strategic objectives and directions that should form a framework for policy development in the U.S., including policy on adult learning and schooling.

Keep up with blogs on education at <http://oecdeducationtoday.blogspot.com/>



Other publications

The Australian Innovation System Report 2013

www.industry.gov.au/Innovation/Policy/Pages/AustralianInnovationSystemReport.aspx

The Australian Innovation System Report is an annual series of reference reports that:

- Compile and analyse quantitative and qualitative data on business innovation and innovation – related activities such as skills development, education, research and development and capital investment,
- Outlines achievements and actions of Australian innovators, and
- Outlines challenges and opportunities for Australian innovation.

News from our members

American Council on Education, 96th Annual Meeting, “Seizing Opportunity”

www.aceannualmeeting.org/

8-11 March 2014, San Diego, CA, United States

ACE’s Annual Meeting is the country’s premier higher education event, bringing together nearly 2 000 higher education leaders to network with one another and hear from thought leaders and newsmakers discussing the most pressing issues of the day.

ACE recognizes that global perspectives are critical to solving contemporary problems, ensuring academic excellence, and preparing a world-class work force and is committed to increasing participation from all regions of the world. For an international participant, the ACE Annual Meeting is a useful venue for networking with leaders from U.S. higher education institutions and will allow you to gain a better understanding of issues and developments affecting higher education in the United States.

Register now at: https://www.aceannualmeeting.org/att_registration.cfm

Ensuring the quality of e-learning: Challenges at a time of growing supply

Report from the EFQUEL Innovation Forum 2013, 26-27 September

The forum, hosted by the [Universitat Oberta de Catalunya](http://www.uoc.edu) (UOC), brought together international experts on quality in e-learning. Read more [here](#).

HANDS-ON ICT project

The [Universitat Oberta de Catalunya](http://www.uoc.edu) (UOC) is co-ordinating the European project [HANDS-ON ICT](#), funded by the Lifelong Learning Programme. It is a teacher training project dealing with ICT tools and creativity techniques.

Share your news!

Is there information about your higher education activities (e.g. conferences, publications) that you wish to **share with other members**? Let us know and we can add it to OECD Higher Education

As part of the Workpackage 2 of HANDSON, a **questionnaire** has been designed to collect data about the needs, requirements and difficulties of teachers when they are trained in these areas. This Survey is focused on **Higher Education, Vocational Education, and the Secondary School**.

Complete the survey here:

English: <http://survey.emuni.si/index.php/453272/lang-en>

Spanish: <http://survey.emuni.si/index.php/453272/lang-es>

The deadline is 20 January.

Learn Europe, educational open e-tools about the EU

[Learn Europe](#) is a new educational platform that focuses on teaching students about the history, geography and economics of the European Union. The website, created by the [Universitat Oberta de Catalunya](#) (UOC) and the University of Lleida (UdL), offers a wealth of purpose-made educational resources and links to other sites available online.

The aim is to use this site to promote the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in the educational community. The ultimate goal of the project is to provide teachers with appropriate tools with which to teach students of different ages about the EU. Students can thus gain sufficient knowledge to be able to make informed decisions on issues relating to the process of European integration.

Learn Europe: <http://learneurope.eu/index.php/en/>

Welcome to the OECD Higher Education Programme!

We welcome the **SAIT Polytechnic**, Canada, as our newest member. To find out more about them, [check out their website](#).



Image: jscreationzs / [FreeDigitalPhotos.net](#)

Who are your fellow members?

Find them at www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/members

Keep in touch with your Programme. This e-newsletter aims to keep you informed about the activities, publications, conferences and other events linked to our member institutions and the higher education world. And if you want even more information, you'll find it on our [website](#) or by contacting IMHE@oecd.org.

(Image: jscreationzs / [FreeDigitalPhotos.net](#))

