



OECD Higher Education News

June 2014

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

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



OECD Higher Education News will be taking a break in July. See you in August!



Upcoming events

Register now for your **FREE** events!

Registration is now open for the following events for [OECD Higher Education Programme \(IMHE\) members](#). Please circulate this information to colleagues in your organisation, who may also attend. More than one person from each member organisation may attend. **Remember, places are limited!**

★ **25 September 2014, 4pm/16:00 Paris time, 1.5 hours**

Webinar for IMHE members on *Higher Education at a Glance*
With [Andreas Schleicher](#), OECD Director for Education and Skills

REGISTER:

<http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=2a70799d6818472ca9b786d8636db1dc>

Deadline for registration: 23 September, 17:00 Paris time

★ **7 October 2014, 4pm/16:00 Paris time, 1.5 hours**

Webinar for IMHE members on *Career Guidance and Employability*
With [Tristram Hooley](#), University of Derby and [Raimo Vuorinen](#), University of Jyväskylä

REGISTER:

<http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=43278bd27f844568ac33489ca1e340b2>

Deadline for registration: 3 October, 17:00 Paris time

★ **20-21 November 2014**

What Works Conference on *Entrepreneurship and Higher Education*
[Aalto University](#), Helsinki Finland

Advance registration [for IMHE members only](#) is now open. **Registration is free for IMHE members.**

REGISTER: <http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=75f1a1f129884f72825ce3b7aeebb050>

Registration for IMHE non-members will open soon.

Early bird rate for non-members until 31 August: 595 EUR; Full rate, from 1 September: 695 EUR

Deadline for registration: 20 October 2014

Contact: emily.groves@oecd.org



2015 Singapore conference confirmed!

We have received confirmation that the [Ministry of Education, Singapore](#), will host a Higher Education Futures conference in 2015. The conference, which will be held over two days, will likely take place in the first two weeks of October 2015. Look out for further information!

www.oecd.org/edu/imhemeetings

OECD and higher education activities

State of Higher Education 2014: what's new

[Sir Peter Scott](#) will contribute an article on university business models to the *State of Higher Education* publication (SOHE) for 2014. Professor Scott, Former Vice-Chancellor of Kingston University, has published a number of books on the subject of governance and management of higher education institutions, including *University Leadership: The Role of the Chief Executive* (2000) and *Re-Thinking Science: Knowledge Production in an Age of Uncertainties* (2001). His contribution to the SOHE will provide an additional, independent perspective on a chapter on university business models.

The authors of other commissioned articles will be announced in coming issues of the newsletter. The 2014 volume of the *State of Higher Education* will be available exclusively to members of the OECD Higher Education Programme in December 2014.

Webinar report – English as a Medium of Instruction

On 16 June, Divya Madhavan and Julie McDonald from [Ecole Centrale de Paris](#), presented their research and findings on English as Medium of Instruction in Higher Education. Twenty-two participants from the OECD Higher Education Programme took part; this webinar was the most interactive and engaged online session yet conducted by the Programme. Our thanks go out to both the presenters and the participants. Highlights of the webinar and the archived recording of the online session will be available to all OECD Higher Education Programme members shortly – look out for an announcement by email.



The highlights from the “What Works” Conference on *Fostering Quality Teaching in Higher Education*, held on 8-9 April this year, are nearly complete and will be sent to the members in the next two weeks.

Coming shortly!

What it means for Higher Education – quarterly brief for members

June 2014 – Promoting Research Excellence: Latest OECD Insights

This Quarterly Brief will provide key highlights from 2014 OECD publication *Promoting Research Excellence: New Approaches to Funding*. As with the March issue, we decided to complement the Brief with a compendium of practical case studies from the Programme members. This compendium showcases their initiatives to foster research excellence, at a glance and in detail, focusing on institutional strategies and government-led initiatives. We hope you will find this addition to the Quarterly Brief useful to learn from your peers, and we intend to prepare such a resource whenever the theme is appropriate. We would like to thank the members that submitted contributions. **Look out for the Brief next week!**

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IMHE OECD -Higher Education-



OECD Higher Education Programme – IMHE

Image: <http://icons.yootheme.com>

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

Other activities

Universities Week

Universities have three missions: teaching, research and service to society. In keeping with the 3rd mission, [Universities UK](#) organised [Universities Week 2014](#) – with OECD Higher Education Programme member [HEFCE](#) as one of the supporters – to share exciting university projects with members of the public and demonstrate that research has a direct and positive impact on their daily lives. The journey began about a year ago, when UUK commissioned a survey to find out what people thought about academic research. Respondents had a clear vision to learn more about research affecting their everyday lives in a positive way.

The journey continued this year when more than 100 universities got involved, 45 of which were present at the Natural History Museum in London throughout Universities Week and many more organised 250 events in different parts of the UK. At the Natural History Museum, more than 28 000 people turned out and learned how to read people's faces by playing poker, tried a vibrating suit on that improves their posture, saw themselves as 3D skeletons moving around in a virtual environment, made fruit smoothies by riding a bike, and met Linda the robot. People also interacted with academics by asking #PeoplesQs on Twitter, generating a lot of positive engagement virtually.

Scientific research is vital even when it does not lead to direct and immediate commercial success. Research increases the global stock of useful knowledge. [A major OECD study in 2000](#) found that publicly-funded research is more concerned with basic research and hence is associated with a higher degree of indirect spill-overs to the rest of society. And the journey continues... [See Universities Week highlights](#).



Cataract test that can be administered anywhere in the world through a mobile application (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine)

OECD publications and resources

At What Age Do University Students Earn Their First Degree?

Education Indicators in Focus, No. 23

[Online](#)

For some years now, many OECD countries have been concerned about the time tertiary students take to complete their studies. To get more workers to enter the labour market at an earlier age, policies have been developed to encourage students to graduate sooner. For example, the reforms following the Bologna Declaration in 1999 introducing a new degree structure in European countries were explicitly motivated by a policy objective to reduce the time students spend studying. Have these policies been successful? You will find some responses in this latest edition of *Education Indicators In Focus* from the OECD *Education At a Glance* team.

Related

[Are university students taking less time to graduate?](#), blog post by Dirk van Damme, Head of the Innovation and Measuring Progress division, Directorate for Education and Skills.

OECD Factbook 2014

[On iLibrary](#)

OECD Factbook 2014 is a comprehensive annual statistical publication. More than 100 indicators cover a wide range of topics, including new indicators on trade in value added and climate change. Data are provided for all OECD member countries (including area totals), and for Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, the Russian Federation and South Africa. **The OECD Factbook is also available as a free app for your mobile device! Visit your app store.**

2014 access to OECD online publications

Programme members benefit from free access to OECD publications in the online database [OECD iLibrary](#). Please contact emily.groves@oecd.org for the 2014 login and password. **Please note:** this access is for personal use only by your organisations' main contacts.

OECD Yearbook 2014

...where OECD experts are joined by leaders from government, business, labour, academia and civil society to examine key questions facing our societies today. [Available online](#) or as an app.

Understanding Employer Engagement in Education

by Anthony Mann, Director of Policy and Research, Education and Employers Taskforce, London, UK

Across the world, governments are asking themselves how they can close the gap between the worlds of education and employment. How can they better engage employers in the work of schools? [Read more...](#)



News from our members

Congratulations Steve!

We would like to congratulate Steve Egan, HEFCE's Deputy Chief Executive and a Vice-Chair of the IMHE Governing Board, for having been [awarded a CBE \(Commander of the Order of the British Empire\) in the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours list](#). Well done, Steve!

Programme Accreditation Panellists Needed

The [National Council for Higher Education](#) (NCHE), Namibia, is looking for Programme Accreditation Panellists for the following programmes: Law; Chemistry and Metallurgical Engineering at the University of Namibia, as well as Office Management & Technology; and Geo-Information Technology and Environmental Health Sciences at the Polytechnic of Namibia. Candidates should have knowledge and expertise in higher education quality assurance and be practicing academics with knowledge and expertise in the above areas.

Nominations should be submitted with CVs **no later than 30 June 2014**. For further information, contact Ms Nangula lipumbu, Quality Assurance Practitioner, on +264 61 307012 or at niipumbu@nche.org.na.

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 News.



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)

