

# OECD Higher Education News

May 2016

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## OECD and higher education activities

### **Informal Working Group on Higher Education on 15 & 16 June 2016, in Paris**

The Informal Working Group on Higher Education (IWG) is continuing to develop two new strands of work on higher education: benchmarking higher education system performance and the in-depth analysis of higher education systems labour market relevance and outcomes.

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

## Upcoming events

### **Association of International Educators (NAFSA), 31 May - 3 June 2016, Denver, United States.**

We would like to let you know that representatives from HSE's Office for International Cooperation will be at NAFSA in Denver this year.

If you or your colleagues would like to meet and discuss cooperation and/or mobility opportunities between our institutions, please contact us:

Olga Khachatryan, Deputy Head of Office for International Cooperation ([okhachatryan@hse.ru](mailto:okhachatryan@hse.ru))

Alyona Sutormina, Manager ([asutormina@hse.ru](mailto:asutormina@hse.ru))

### **5th International MENA Tertiary Education Conference, May 30 – June 1st, 2016, Algiers, Algeria.**

The World Bank (WB)/Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI) Program on Tertiary Education in the Middle East and Northern African (MENA) Region, and international partner organizations with the support of the Algerian Ministry of Higher Education are organizing the 5th MENA Tertiary Education Conference.



This event will bring together leaders and practitioners from tertiary education institutions, government officials, representatives of quality assurance bodies, experts and other key players with the goal of joint (and peer) learning on the issue of the role of tertiary education, better contributing to competitiveness and employability through improved governance and quality. Although the main scope of the conference is in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, active participation from institutional leaders, practitioners and experts from other parts of the world is encouraged.

International partner organizations include UNESCO, the British Council, ISESCO, the International Association of Universities, the Association of Arab Universities and UNIMED.

***7th International Conference of the Russian Association of Higher Education Researchers, 20-22 October 2016, Moscow, Russian Federation.***

The special topic of the Conference 2016 is “University between Global Challenges and Local Commitments”.

Track 1. A System of Higher Education on the Global Market

Track 2. A System of Higher Education and Local Context

Track 3. University Organizational Structure in the Age of Global and Local Challenges

Track 4. Research and Publication Strategies of Contemporary Universities

Track 5. Learning and Development in a Contemporary University

Track 6. Inclusive Higher Education: Quality and Accessibility

The deadline for submitting proposals for the presentations at the Conference is June 1, 2016. You can submit your proposal for the Conference here. The Programme Committee will announce its decision no later than August 1, 2016.

For further information about the Conference please follow the link: <http://educonf.hse.ru> If you have any questions or concerns about the matter above, please do not hesitate to contact us by email: [raher.conf@gmail.com](mailto:raher.conf@gmail.com)

***Global forum of the Observatory on Borderless Higher Education (OBHE), 10-11 November 2016, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.*** In partnership with: Malaysia’s Ministry of Higher Education, University of Nottingham Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia & Taylor’s University

Themes are

- Impact of TNE: Which countries have the best track record on TNE in terms of development and impact? Which metrics best capture the TNE contribution?
- TNE Operations: Which TNE delivery models work best in particular circumstances and contexts?
- TNE Quality Assurance: How to regulate and support TNE to both safeguard quality and spur innovation?
- Future of TNE: What will TNE look like tomorrow? How to get the most value from technology?

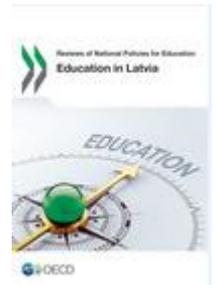
Click here to read more and [register](#).

[www.oecd.org/edu/imhemeetings](http://www.oecd.org/edu/imhemeetings)

**OECD publications and resources**

## Tertiary education in Latvia

This chapter covers tertiary education and the key policy issues Latvia faces. Latvia's tertiary education system expanded rapidly after independence, but the country is now faced with a system whose capacity is not aligned with demographic decline, fiscal reality and labour-market needs. The government funds a certain number of tuition-free study places, but the funding system does not serve wider national priorities. Staff salaries are low and are based on teaching loads and do not account for research. Quality assurance has so far not met international standards. Latvia should develop the new funding model recommended by the World Bank and continue to focus on improving the quality of tertiary education.



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## News from our members



### The usefulness of learning analytics in supporting applied research and innovation in higher education



The University Oberta de Catalunya escribed its own case and experience in learning analytics at the European University Association (EUA) Annual Conference, which takes place from 6 to 8 April in Galway, Ireland. This year's conference is the first to focus on analysing the processes of digitalization of universities and the impact of this on teaching, research and society.

In the session devoted to the challenges of digitalization in the field of teaching, [Julià Minguillón](#), professor at the UOC's Faculty of Computer Science, Multimedia and Telecommunications and member of the [LAIKA](#) e-learning research group, explained the usefulness of learning analytics in supporting applied research and innovation in higher education.

Minguillón carried out this study together with [Francesc Santanach](#) and [Christine Appel](#), members of the UOC's eLearn Center, which has developed a system to provide all of the UOC's e-learning teaching and research staff with the activity data generated within the Virtual Campus.

The presentation by the UOC professors is one of the seven selected from among all the presentation proposals submitted by European universities.



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