



OECD Higher Education News

September 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 workshops and webinars!

Registration is now open for the following workshops and webinars – **only for IMHE members**. Colleagues in your organisation may also attend, as well as more than one person from each member organisation, so feel free to circulate this information.



- **Webinar* – 2 October, 16/4pm, Paris time:**
Open Educational Resources: what is the evidence?
limited to 30 participants

The webinar will be moderated by [Dirk van Damme](#), Head of the Innovation and Measuring Progress Division in the OECD Directorate for Education and Skills, and one of the speakers will be [Alex Katsomitros](#), Senior Research Analyst, [The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education](#).

Register: <http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=5602a48f951d47a39bd6b14a2b37dfc6>

- **Workshop – 13-14 November, Paris (following the IMHE Governing Board meeting):**
New strategies for the commercialisation of public research
limited to 60 participants
Register: <http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=40290e680a224557b0422497e695e65c>
- **Workshop – 9-10 December, Kadir Has University, Turkey:**
Fostering quality teaching within higher education institutions
limited to 40 participants
Register: <http://webnet.oecd.org/Survey/Survey.aspx?s=580d6793442b4569bc0c0cd010888c8d>

More information

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

Contact: emily.groves@oecd.org

Internships debate – a second round

The webinar on “Enhancing the quality of internships”, held on 2 July 2013, brought together practitioners from higher education institutions, youth and student associations, as well as business representatives from over 15 countries, to explore the key factors for successful internship programmes and consider what steps higher education institutions can take to enhance their quality. You

can find the report [here](#).

Given the level of interest in this topic, we would be happy to hold a second webinar on this subject. If you are interested, please contact emily.groves@oecd.org.

New webinar date for 2014

Another webinar has been planned for 28 January, 2014, on *OECD reviews of postsecondary vocational education and training: key findings*. More information on the reviews can be found [here](#).

**if you are interested in having a webinar on this topic at a time more convenient for your time zone, please contact us*

www.oecd.org/edu/imhemeetings

8 October – 11.00!

Release of the OECD's first Skills Outlook

On 8 October, from 11.00 Paris time, go to:

English: <http://skills.oecd.org/skillsoutlook.html>

French: <http://skills.oecd.org/lesperspectivessurlescompetences.html>

For more information:

<http://skills.oecd.org/documents/oecdfirstskillsoutlooktobereleased8october.html>

See below for the advanced sales offer

OECD and higher education activities

Annual report news

The OECD's soon-to-be launched Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC) shows that people's skill levels peak at around age 30. Even people who attain higher education and have high skill levels after graduation often find that their skills deteriorate with age. Some of this is attributable to the normal aging process, but skills can be retained and even improved if people use their skills at work or in life, or if they enrol in adult education opportunities. Adult education systems are therefore especially important in countries where typical jobs do not require the use of high level skills or where the average age in the workforce is rising.

As mentioned previously, the Annual Report will feature articles by renowned specialists and intellectuals such as [Professor Philip G. Altbach](#), [Dr. Ellen Hazelkorn](#), [Professor Rolf von der Velden](#), [Dr. Martin Humburg](#) and [Mrs. Holta Vrioni](#).

Check the next newsletter for more information on the Annual Report coming out in November.

IHERD Reports available

Various reports and case studies from the Innovation, Research and Higher Education for Development project are available on their website, with more to come. By authors such as [Åsa Olsson](#), [Merle Jacob](#) and [Lynn Meek](#), they cover the following areas:

- Innovation, higher education and research policy
- Public funding to research and innovation
- Institutional governance and management
- Development assistance to innovation, higher education and research

Check them out here: www.oecd.org/sti/iherd-final-reports.htm



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

Welcoming new members of the OECD Higher Education Programme team



Karine Tremblay



Patricia Mangeol



Adam Krčál

We welcome back, from maternity leave, Karine Tremblay, who some of you will know from her role as Senior Survey Manager of the [AHELO](#) project. Karine will now be the Senior Analyst and team leader for higher education work in the OECD Directorate for Education and Skills, including the OECD Higher Education Programme and work under the Education Policy Committee.

We also welcome Patricia Mangeol and Adam Krčál to the team, who are both new to the OECD. Patricia is a Policy Analyst who will be working on various higher education issues. Adam, a secondee from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic, will be working on a quality framework for higher education.

Read more about our new team members [here!](#)

OECD publications and resources

Advance sales offer: The OECD Skills Outlook 2013: First Results from the Survey of Adult Skills

Publicly released on 8th October 2013 and available in English or French.

In the wake of the technological revolution that began in the last decades of the 20th century, labour market demand for information-processing and other high-level cognitive and interpersonal skills is growing substantially. The Survey of Adult Skills, a product of the OECD Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies ([PIAAC](#)), was designed to provide insights into the availability of some of these key skills in society and how they are used at work and at home. The first survey of its kind, it directly measures proficiency in several information-processing skills – namely literacy, numeracy and problem solving in technology-rich environments.

This first edition of the OECD Skills Outlook reports results from the countries and regions that participated in the first round of the Survey of Adult Skills. The data from the survey will underpin much of the analysis included in forthcoming editions of the Outlook, which will feature analysis from across the OECD in the fields of education, employment, tax, innovation and economic development at the national, regional and local levels related to key issues in skills policy. A related report, The Survey of Adult Skills: Reader's Companion, describes the design and methodology of the survey and its relationship to other international assessments of young students and adults.

Advance sales price until 24 September: € 14.40 per copy

For orders of more than 200 copies: € 4.37 each (plus shipping)

Regular public price applicable after 24 September: € 60 \$ 84 £ 54 ¥ 7800 MXN 1080

Order now at the special price by completing this form by 24 September:

http://webnet.oecd.org/advancesalesonline/CreateOrder.aspx?id=418_bc0cf5fa8413

2013 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 2013 login and password. **Please note:** this access is for personal use only by your organisations' main contacts.

A Bird's Eye View of Gender Differences in Education in OECD Countries: OECD Social Employment

Working Paper, by Angelica Salvi del Pero, Alexandra Bytchkova

This paper presents an overview of gender differences in education outcomes in OECD countries. A rich set of indicators describes the improvement of educational attainment among women over the past decades, and various dimensions of male under-performance in education. Possible explanatory factors include incentives provided by changing employment opportunities for

women, demographic trends, as well as the higher sensitivity of boys to disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds. Gender differences in field of study and in performance by subject are found to be related to attitudes and self-perceptions towards academic subjects, which are in turn influenced by social norms. A number of policy options to address gender gaps are presented in the final section of the paper.

www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/a-bird-s-eye-view-of-gender-differences-in-education-in-oecd-countries_5k40k706tmb-en

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



Other publications

[Funding Higher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

by Damtew Teferra, with a foreword by Philip G. Altbach

Drawing on in-depth, evidence-based research from nine countries including Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, this volume sets out a comprehensive analysis of financing patterns currently being adopted by institutions across Eastern and Southern Africa to help accommodate the rapidly growing number of enrolments and massification of education. This book makes an impressive contribution to two key areas of Africa's higher education development: a better understanding of patterns of funding and the need to improve deeper research on African higher education.

[The Maturing of the MOOC: Review of Current Thinking](#)

by Stephen Haggard, William Lawton, Alex Katsomitros, Tim Gore and Tom Inkelaar

This report, written for the UK Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, highlights the wide diversity of opinions and arguments about MOOCs and gives visibility to both critical and enthusiastic voices. It consists of a comprehensive review of literature related to MOOCs and open and distance learning (ODL), and includes research suggestions and recommendations. It aims to capture the state of knowledge and opinion about MOOCs and ODL, how they are evolving, and to identify issues that are important, whether consensual or controversial.

[Wider benefits of international higher education in the UK](#)

Prepared by the Careers Research & Advisory Centre (CRAC); authors: Robin Mellors-Bourne, Christine Humphrey, Neil Kemp and Steve Woodfield

This research explains 15 types of benefits, beyond direct financial income, from international students studying in UK higher education.

News from our members

The OECD Higher Education Programme was pleased to welcome visitors from Programme member [National Chengchi University \(NCCU\)](#) on Friday, 13 September.

Team member Valérie Lafon met with Dr. Se-Hwa Wu, President of NCCU, Dr. Yu-Hsin Tsai, (Dean of the Office of General Affairs and Professor at the Department of Land Economics), Dr. Shu-Heng Chen (Dean of the Office of International Cooperation and Professor at the Department of Economics) and Ms. Lanshiu Huang, Secretary of the President's Office for a very fruitful exchange.

NCCU was particularly interested discussing issues of quality assurance. They kindly agreed to share their approach, which you can read [here](#). Please contact Professor Dr. Shu-Heng Chen, chen.shuheng@gmail.com or chchen@nccu.edu.tw if you would like to learn more.

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



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.

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