Upcoming events; OECD higher education and other 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.

“What Works” conference on Fostering quality teaching in higher education: How to maximise the added value of the student experience?
8-9 April 2014, OECD Headquarters, Paris
with Fabrice Hénard, Learning Avenue
Following the 19th IMHE Governing Board meeting on 7 April

Keynote speakers:
- Charles Fadel, Founder and Chairman, Center for Curriculum Redesign
- John L. Davies, Emeritus Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Higher Education Management at Anglia Ruskin University, UK

More information:
- Conference description
- Preliminary agenda

REGISTER: http://www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/highered-member-workshops.htm - deadline for registration is 1 April 2014.

Webinar for IMHE members on Higher Education at a Glance
September 2014 (date tbd)

“What Works” conference for IMHE members on Higher education, entrepreneurship and innovation, (location tbd)
November 2014 (date tbd)

Contact: imhe@oecd.org
19th Governing Board meeting
7 April 2014, OECD Headquarters, Paris
Discussion of the strategic direction of IMHE and 2015-16 Programme of Work will take place, following the Directorate for Education and Skills’ priority rating exercise. The meeting will also be an opportunity to review plans for a conference in Asia in 2015 and launch the 2014 Governing Board elections process.

www.oecd.org/edu/imhemeetings

Other OECD events
Global Forum on the Knowledge Economy
2-3 October 2014, Tokyo, Japan
http://www.oecd.org/sti/globalforumontheknowledgeeconomy.htm

The aim of the GFKE is to strengthen the OECD’s global relations in the areas of work covered by these committees. It aims to enable them to take a broad and coherent view of the contribution of science, technology and innovation to the knowledge economy, essential for designing policy frameworks that will drive economic growth and social welfare in the 21st century. It also provides a vehicle for dialogue among policy makers, business, consumers and other stakeholders in member and non-member economies on policy approaches that will help expand the benefits of the knowledge economy to all countries, including the less developed ones.

OECD higher education and other activities

Webinar highlights: Educational and organisational innovations in higher education
On 4 March a webinar was held on Educational and organisational innovations in higher education. Presenters Stéphan Vincent-Lancrin and Carlos Gonzalez Sancho from the OECD’s Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI) presented the key questions and findings from a seminar held in November 2013. Participants received the broadcast via video and audio live stream and were able to contribute to the discussion via Chat and live polling. The highlights from the Webinar are available on the IMHE website.

What it means for Higher Education – quarterly brief for members
March 2014 – Results from PISA 2012: Features of future student cohorts

This issue of the Quarterly Briefs series will, for the first time, be complemented by a Compendium of practical case studies from the Programme member institutions. This Compendium showcases their initiatives to foster the inclusion of disadvantaged students and female participation in the STEM disciplines. We hope you will find this addition to the Quarterly Brief useful to learn from your peers. Please let us know if there is any way in which we could further improve this resource to our members.

The State of Higher Education 2014
A key chapter of the 2014 publication will focus on innovations and entrepreneurial steering of higher education institutions to match outcomes with modern-day expectations. The relationship between business models and organisational innovation in higher education will be examined and OECD data will be used to identify and analyse key trends and challenges. Information on the rest of the publication will come out with each newsletter. The 2014 edition of The State of Higher Education will be available in December, exclusively for IMHE members.

2014 annual contribution
2014 membership invoices are currently being processed. If you have any queries, please contact emily.groves@oecd.org.
Greener Skills and Jobs

On iLibrary

Green skills, that is, skills needed in a low-carbon economy, will be required in all sectors and at all levels in the workforce as emerging economic activities create new (or renewed) occupations. Structural changes will realign sectors that are likely to decline as a result of the greening of the economy and workers will need to be retrained accordingly. The successful transition to a low-carbon economy will only be possible if workers can flexibly adapt and transfer from areas of decreasing employment to new industries. This report suggests that the role of skills and education and training policies should be an important component of the ecological transformation process.

From OECD LEED and Cedefop.

For further information, please contact cristina.martinez@oecd.org.

Higher Education Management and Policy, Volume 24 Issue 3

On iLibrary

This final issue of the journal features articles on university governance in the MENA region, international student and institutional objectives, culture and post-secondary educational choices, the professionalisation of degree courses in France, the Erasmus programme, higher education in Tanzania, increasing higher education participation in Australia, and oversight of international branch campuses.

L’université française à la croisée des chemins

Blog par Eric Charbonnier, OCDE

http://educationdechiffree.blog.lemonde.fr/2014/02/26/luniversite-francaise-a-la-croisee-des-chemins/

Promoting Research Excellence: New Approaches to Funding

National research systems face an increasingly competitive environment for ideas, talent and funds, and governments have turned to more competitive forms of funding to promote efficiency and innovation. They have shifted funds from institutional core funding to project funding, often on a competitive basis, or reward success in raising third-party funds in performance-based funding schemes. In this evolving situation, the question of the adequacy of current public funding instruments arises. And it is in this context that “research excellence initiatives” (REIs) have emerged. These are instruments designed to encourage outstanding research by providing large-scale, long-term funding to designated research units. They provide funds for research and research-related measures, such as the improvement or extension of physical infrastructure, the recruitment of outstanding researchers from abroad and researcher training.

A study by the OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry presents new evidence on how governments steer and fund public research in higher education and public research institutions.
through REIs. It can help inform discussions on future government policy directions by providing information on how REIs work and on the functioning and characteristics of institutions that host centres of excellence. The findings show some of the benefits to be gained through REIs and note some pitfalls to be avoided.

The full report is available at www.oecd.org/sti/sci-tech/promoting-research-excellence.htm

For further information, please contact ester.basri@oecd.org.

What Are Tertiary Students Choosing to Study?

PDF – disponible également en français

Education Indicators in Focus series

by David Valenciano, Directorate for Education and Skills

- The social sciences are the most popular field for non-vocational tertiary education programmes. One in three new students chooses a programme in social sciences, business and law.
- Gender equality has been virtually achieved in many fields of study, especially in social sciences and services, but significant gender differences persist in computing and engineering (male-dominated) and in health and welfare and education (female-dominated).
- Almost one in four international students in OECD countries follows programmes in the field of business and administration (23%). The proportion of international students from fields oriented to the public function such as education (3%) or health and welfare (9%) is lower on average.

What’s at the root of women’s absence in STEM occupations?

by Marilyn Achiron, Editor, Directorate for Education and Skills

If you sift through all the education data the OECD has produced over the past year, you’ll come up with decidedly mixed results when it comes to women’s (and girls’) progress. Read more at: http://oecdeducationtoday.blogspot.fr/2014/03/whats-at-root-of-womens-absence-in-stem.html

Keep up with blogs on education at:

Other publications

Internationalization of Higher Education: Growing Expectations, Fundamental Values

IAU 4th Global Survey (Embargoed until 1 April 2014)

Internationalisation is an integral part of a continuous change process and a marker of quality in higher education today. The 1336 higher education institutions in 131 countries that responded to survey of the International Association of Universities (IAU) in this 4th edition of the Global Survey confirm this statement. This new report offers an analysis of the largest and most geographically comprehensive collection of primary data on internationalisation of higher education ever undertaken. By assessing internationalisation trends over time and comparing developments across regions, this study provides unique insights on the internationalisation process, its benefits, drivers and also the underlying values and concerns.

More information: www.iau-aiu.net
Contact: r.hudson@iau-aiu.net
News from our members

Launch of the portal on the possibilities of studying in Poland
www.go-poland.pl

The Ministry of Science and Higher Education in Poland has launched the new portal www.go-poland.pl, which is part of a campaign called “Ready, Study, Go! POLAND”, addressed to foreigners interested in studying at Polish higher education institutions. Its great advantage is the searchable database, Studyfinder, with which one can easily find fields of study conducted in Poland in foreign languages. The portal provides a description of the Polish higher education system and information on the practical aspects of studying and living in Poland. It is already available in English and Portuguese. Other language versions, including Russian, Chinese and Ukrainian are in preparation. You are welcome to visit the portal and Poland!

Model Schools – Best practices and ideas invited by Takatuf, Oman

The Takatuf Scholars Programme is currently doing a feasibility study for a model/laboratory school to be developed in Oman. Any colleagues who might be interested in learning more about the initiative or in discussing best practice, or great ideas that worked (or indeed, those that did not) in developing pre-K-12 institutions for 21st century competencies, or in adapting existing practice to new learning cultures, are invited to contact Katy Bindon at kathryn.bindon@takatuf.om.

News from Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)

Call for applications to the UOC Doctoral Programme in Education and ICT (e learning)
The extended deadline for applications is 1 May 2014. UOC offers three grants for following this Doctoral Programme. Those interested in the Doctoral Programme in Education and ICT (e learning) can find more information on the website http://www.uoc.edu/portal/en/elearncenter/doctorat/

Innovative and creative entrepreneurship, focus of a new research project from the UOC’s Internet Interdisciplinary Institute

The New Economy Observatory (ONE, Observatori de la Nova Economia) – part of the UOC’s Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3) – has a new research project on innovation and creative entrepreneurship, entitled Creative Industry Network of Entrepreneurs (CINet), which has been recently approved by the European Commission within its Lifelong Learning Programme. The CINet project aims to improve business skills for creative entrepreneurs and enhance the potential for business creation in the creative industries. It will impact on the entrepreneurship and vocational training cultures of Southern UE countries. For further information: http://in3.uoc.edu/opencms_portal3/opencms/en/recerca/list/one_observatori_de_la_nova_economia#projects

The UOC launches a new edition of the Open Thoughts blog

In this edition of the Open Thoughts blog, the UOC launches a debate on peer production on digital platforms and explores the possible dangers and benefits of this way of working. The blogs are written in English.

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.