This Conference is an initiative of the OECD in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Singapore.
While higher education and research are widely recognized as crucial for social and economic development, those responsible for planning and delivering these vital services will face formidable challenges in coming years. In many countries, higher education systems will struggle to sustain coherence in the face of:

- resource challenges driven by scarcity of public funding;
- demographic change, with a number of countries facing significant population ageing and changes in ethnic mix, and others stretched by growing numbers of young people;
- heightened national and international competition for students and research funds;
- growing expectations from those who provide support for higher education of cost containment and demonstrated value for investment; and
- challenges to traditional modes of education structure and delivery, driven from a variety of directions including technological change, competency-based approaches, changes in national and global workplaces and new private or public forms of education provision.

These pressures and trends pose huge implications for the future of higher education and research. The burgeoning demand for education across the world shows no signs of fading, and the need for research across an ever wider range of fields can only grow as nations develop and humanity confronts the many challenges of the future. Institutions thus will need to adapt to take advantage of the opportunities available and to survive in rapidly changing environments. They will need both supportive policy frameworks and institutional ability and willingness to bring about effective change.

Following Opening Addresses, the Conference will address these various matters by focusing on four themes:

- Mapping and meeting future demand for higher education
- The rise of higher education in Asia and the impact on the global landscape
- Technology, disruption and the ‘unbundling’ of higher education: challenges to traditional modes of education
- Two sides of the same coin: resource challenges, the drive for quality and imperatives for relevance

Each of these four themes will be the focus of a plenary session and accompanying parallel sessions. In addition, it is proposed that there be pre- and post-Conference workshops.

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Conference Program Convenor

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Higher Education Futures Conference

DAY ONE: Wednesday, 14 October 2015

8.30am-9.00am OPENING ADDRESS

- Mr Heng Swee Keat
  Minister for Education, Singapore

- Mr Stefan Kapferer
  Deputy Secretary-General, OECD

9.00am-10.30am PLENARY SESSION 1: MAPPING AND MEETING FUTURE DEMAND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

- Ms Indranee Rajah
  Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Education, Singapore

- Mr Xavier Prats Monné
  Director-General for Education and Culture, European Commission, Belgium

- Professor Tyler Cowen
  Professor of Economics, George Mason University, USA

10.30am-11.00am MORNING TEA

11.00am-12.30pm PARALLEL SESSIONS

1a) Parallel session:
   Changing demographics as a driver of change: anticipating future needs in higher education

   - YBhg Dato’ Seri Ir Dr Zaini bin Ujang
     Secretary General, Ministry of Education, Malaysia

   - TBC

   - TBC

1b) Parallel session:
   Graduate capabilities in the workforce of tomorrow - what employers need, and what higher education institutions can provide

   - Professor Tan Thiam Soon
     President, Singapore Institute of Technology, Singapore
1c) Parallel session:
Multiple education pathways in a volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous world

- **Ms Christine Tausig-Ford**
  Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, Universities Canada, Canada

- **Professor Murat Orunkhanov**
  Graduate School of Education, Nazarbayev University, Republic of Kazakhstan

- **Professor Tan Tai Yong**
  Executive Vice President (Academic Affairs), Yale-NUS College, Singapore

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12.30pm-1.30pm  LUNCH BREAK

1.30pm-3.00pm  PLENARY SESSION 2:
THE RISE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN ASIA AND ITS IMPACT ON THE GLOBAL LANDSCAPE

- **Professor Bertil Andersson**
  President, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

- **Mr Mohandas Pai**
  Chairman of the Board, Manipal Global Education Services, India

- **Professor Song Yonghua**
  Executive Vice-President, Zhejiang University, People’s Republic of China

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3.00pm-3.30pm  AFTERNOON TEA

3.30pm-5.00pm  PARALLEL SESSIONS

2a) Parallel session:
The development of private higher education

- **Dr Michael K Thomas**
  President and CEO, New England Board of Higher Education, USA

- **Dr Eric Zimmerman**
  Director of Research & Global Engagement, Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya (IDC), Israel
• **Professor Klaus Hekking**  
  Chairman of the Board, German Private Universities Association, Germany

2b) **Parallel session:**  
   Beyond competition: collaboration and sustainability in higher education and research, in Asia and beyond

   - **Dr Lily Chan**  
     CEO, NUS Enterprise, Singapore
   - **Mr Mike Proctor**  
     Vice President for Global Initiatives, The University of Arizona, USA
   - TBC

2c) **Parallel session:**  
   What the developments in Asian higher education might mean for the rest of the world

   - **Professor Dato’ Dr Morshidi Sirat**  
     Director, Commonwealth Tertiary Education Facility (CTEF) and School of Humanities, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia
   - **Mr Steve Egan CBE**  
     Vice-President (Implementation), University of Bath, United Kingdom
   - TBC

**7.00pm  WELCOME DINNER**

*Hosted by:*

**Mr Heng Swee Keat**  
Minister for Education, Singapore
Higher Education Futures Conference

DAY TWO: Thursday, 15 October 2015

8.30am-10.00am PLENARY SESSION 3:
TECHNOLOGY, DISRUPTION AND THE ‘UNBUNDLING’ OF HIGHER EDUCATION: CHALLENGES TO TRADITIONAL MODES OF EDUCATION

- **Dr Diana Oblinger**  
  President Emerita, EDUCAUSE, USA

- **Professor Masako Egawa**  
  Former Executive Vice President, The University of Tokyo, Japan

- **Dr David T. Barnard**  
  President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Manitoba, Canada

10.00am-10.30am MORNING TEA

10.30am-12.00pm PARALLEL SESSIONS

3a) Parallel session:
Reinventing the 21st Century university: new models for the student consumer

- **Mr Xavier Prats Monné**  
  Director General for Education and Culture, European Commission, Belgium

- **Dr Dewayne Matthews**  
  Vice-President of Strategy Development, Lumina Foundation for Education, USA

- **Dr Rahul Choudaha**  
  Chief Knowledge Officer and Senior Director of Strategic Development, World Education Services, NY, USA

3b) Parallel session:
New curricula and pedagogies for a changing world

- **Dr Iain Mac Labhrainn**  
  Director, Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland

- **Professor Annie Koh**  
  Vice-President, Office of Business Development, Singapore Management University, Singapore

- **Professor Alfons Sauquet**  
  Global Dean of ESADE, Ramon Llull University, Spain  
  President of ABIS, Belgium
3c) Parallel session:  
Research and teaching: unbundling or coupling?

- **Professor Josep A Planell**  
  Rector, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain

- **Professor Hagit Messer-Yaron**  
  Vice-Chair, Council for Higher Education of Israel, Israel

- TBC

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12.00pm-1.00pm  LUNCH BREAK

1.00pm-2.30pm  PLENARY SESSION 4:  
TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN: RESOURCE CHALLENGES, THE DRIVE FOR QUALITY AND IMPERATIVES FOR RELEVANCE

- **Professor Madeleine Atkins CBE**  
  Chief Executive, Higher Education Funding Council for England, United Kingdom

- **Professor Glyn Davis AC**  
  Vice-Chancellor, The University of Melbourne, Australia

- **Professor Wei Ha**  
  Professor in Education Policy and Leadership, Graduate School of Education and Institute of Economics of Education, Peking University, People’s Republic of China

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2.30pm-3.00pm  AFTERNOON TEA

3.00pm-4.30pm  PARALLEL SESSIONS

4a) Parallel session:  
The ‘new’ normal and the cost crisis in higher education

- **Ms Susan Fitzgerald**  
  Senior Vice President, Global Higher Education and Not for Profit Ratings, Moody’s Investors Service, USA

- TBC

- TBC

4b) Parallel session:  
The need for innovation: new ways of financing higher education

- **Mr Mohammed A. Khan**  
  Senior Education Specialist, International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group
• Mr Alex Usher  
  President, Higher Education Strategy Associates, Canada

• TBC

4c) Parallel session:

  Safeguarding quality and academic integrity in the face of change

  • Professor Angela Yung Chi Hou  
  Graduate Institute of Educational Leadership and Development; Dean, Office of International Education, Fu Jen Catholic University, Taiwan

  • Ms Holiday Hart McKiernan  
  Chief of Staff and General Counsel, Lumina Foundation for Education, USA

  • Ms Carolyn Campbell  
  Senior Consultant and Advisory Board member, The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education, United Kingdom

4.30pm-5.15pm PLENARY SESSION 5:  
CONFERENCE SUMMATION AND CLOSE  
This will be a plenary session featuring two leaders providing their summations of the Conference.

  • Professor Simon Marginson  
  Professor of International Higher Education, UCL Institute of Education, University College London, United Kingdom

  • Professor Ka Ho Mok  
  Vice President (Designate) and Chair Professor of Comparative Policy, Lingnan University, Hong Kong

7.00pm SOCIAL PROGRAMME AND DINNER

  Hosted by:  
  Ms Indranee Rajah  
  Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Education, Singapore

Professor Peter Coaldrake
Conference Program Convenor
QUT Vice-Chancellor and President
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22/06/2015