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OECD appoints Humboldt University staffer as its new Director of Education

The OECD has appointed Dr. Barbara Ischinger, outgoing executive vice-president for international affairs and public relations at Berlin’s Humboldt University, as its new Director for Education in succession to Dr. Barry McGaw. Dr. Ischinger, who is German, will take up the post on 1 January 2006.

Dr. Ischinger has held a range of senior international positions over the last 13 years in the fields of international co-operation and education, with a focus on Europe, the United States and Africa. Her experience includes the reshaping of academic curricula and professional training to adjust them to the labour market conditions and social development. She has published numerous papers in English, German and French in the field of international relations and on the international higher education system.

Dr. Ischinger holds a PhD from Heidelberg University and a post-doctoral degree from Cologne University in French-African literature. Alongside her full-time appointments since 1993, she has been Adjunct Professor in the Institute for African Studies at Cologne University, Germany, where she has undertaken research and supervised MA and PhD theses.

In her most recent post, Dr. Ischinger was responsible for cooperation between Humboldt University and 160 other institutions in 120 countries. Between 1992 and 1994, she was a Director at UNESCO heading the Division of International Cultural Cooperation, Preservation and Enrichment of Cultural Identities. From 1994 to 2000, she was Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States and Germany. She has published widely in the fields of international relations and international higher education.

For further information, journalists are invited to contact the OECD’s Media Division (tel. 33 1 4524 9700).

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