OECD Higher Education News

March 2016

Please feel free to forward this e-mail to interested colleagues

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.

Stakeholder forum on 17 June 2016, in Paris

All IMHE members are invited to attend. In addition, and to engage a wide range of relevant actors in our work, we are inviting other major higher education stakeholders, namely: student associations, representative associations of higher education institutions, representative associations of rectors and presidents, higher education research centres and think tanks, and other relevant stakeholders in the realm of higher education.

The 1st Stakeholder Forum has the following objectives:

1. provide feedback on the OECD Enhancing Higher Education System Performance programme of work, i.e. on the development of the benchmarking higher education system performance and the in-depth analysis of the labour market relevance and outcomes of higher education systems projects;

2. offer an opportunity to identify and discuss key challenges and issues within the higher education sector with the OECD and international colleagues.

We would like the forum to be as interactive as possible and it will be organised around group work, rather than in a conference style.

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Who's Who in the OECD Higher Education Programme

Upcoming events

1st International Smart Cities in Smart Regions 2016 Conference, 10–12 May, Lahti, Finland
The conference will be taking place in May 10–12, 2016 in the Sibelius Hall, Lahti, Finland. The Conference is organized by the Lahti University of Applied Sciences in co-operation with number of international, national and regional partners and operators. Smart Cities in Smart Regions 2016 offers an excellent meeting, networking and discussion forum that brings together thinkers, planners, practitioners from academic world, business and public sector. Come to share latest ideas and innovations. Esteemed keynote speakers and panellists will provide their deep insight and knowledge on the latest trends relating to the creation of more 'Smart Cities in Smart Regions'.
Do not miss the most exciting happening in the field! www.lamk.fi/smartlahti

38th EAIR The European Higher Education Society Forum 2016, 31/08-03/09, Birmingham, UK
The 38th annual forum of EAIR The European Higher Education Society will take place from Wednesday 31 August until Saturday 3 September 2016 at Birmingham City University, Birmingham, UK. This year's theme is 'Only Connect: Collaboration, cooperation and capacity building through HE partnerships'. The six tracks of the 2016 EAIR Forum are:

- *Student Experience and Engagement*: Working in partnership with students: the importance of experience and engagement.
- *Innovation*: Innovative higher education practice through partnership work.
- *Partnerships and Quality*: Emerging quality partnerships.
- *Research and Impact*: Creating impact through higher education research partnerships.
- *Learning and Teaching*: Learning and teaching in higher education: the perfect partnership?
- *Governance and Leadership*: Higher education governance in an age of collaborative working

The Call for Proposals is now closed for papers. You can still submit a poster proposal until 1 May 2016 here.
Registration will open soon.

You may want to combine your attendance with other two higher education events taking place in the British Isles:

29th CHER Consortium of Higher Education Researchers Conference, 5-7 September 2016, Cambridge, UK
The 29th conference of the Consortium of Higher Education Researchers (CHER) is a rich and exciting opportunity to learn, exchange, contribute and debate ideas, data and perspectives about the future of higher education, in Europe and the world. The theme of the 2016 CHER Forum is "The University as a Critical Institution?'. It will cover the areas of governance; teaching and learning; growth, equality, movement and instability in HE systems, and other research topics related to the conference theme.
Register here.

28th EAIE European Association for International Education Conference & Exhibition, 13-16 September, Liverpool, UK
In September 2016, the EAIE is bound for Liverpool, UK for the 28th Annual EAIE Conference and Exhibition. Over and above a stimulating conference programme, EAIE Liverpool 2016 will offer you an unforgettable city, famed for its cultural heritage, humour and hospitality. More information can be found here.

www.oecd.org/edu/imhemeetings

OECD publications and resources

A Skills beyond School Review of the Slovak Republic

Higher level vocational education and training (VET) programmes are facing rapid change and intensifying challenges. What type of training is needed to meet the needs of changing economies? How should the programmes be funded? How should they be linked to academic and university programmes? How can employers and unions be engaged? The country reports in this series look at these and other questions. They form part of Skills beyond School, the OECD policy review of postsecondary vocational education and training

A Skills beyond School Review of England

This book examines vocational education and training programmes in England, including coverage of how they are changing, how they are funded, how they are linked to academic and university programmes and how employers and unions are involved

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2016 access to OECD online publications
Programme members benefit from free access to OECD publications in the online database OECD iLibrary. Please contact funda.gorur@oecd.org for the 2016 login and password. **Please note:** this access is for personal use only by your organisations' main contacts.

News from our members

Doctoral supervision at the URV discussed at the Seminar of the EUA's Council for Doctoral Education

The 9th Seminar of the EUA-CDE on Doctoral supervision, practices and responsibilities, held in the Netherlands saw the URV's Postgraduate and Doctoral School playing a leading role in the session entitled Engaging and training supervisors, which discussed the process of professionalising doctoral supervision. For further news on URV see here.

UOC takes part in European project on leadership for the digital transformation of universities

The UOC will be running two leadership schools
The aim of the Transforming Universities for the Digital Age (**D-Transform**) project is to introduce a leadership training programme for the presidents and vice presidents of European universities that takes into account the role of **digital technologies and open educational resources (OER)** to transform their institutions. The Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) is taking part in this project, which is intended to help university governing bodies define their digital strategies and coordinate them with the public policies defined at national and European level. Funded by the strategic partnerships sub-programme of the Erasmus+ European financing programme, it has a budget of around **half a million euros** and will continue until 2017.

The participating institutions are: Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, UOC, Université de Lorraine, Sero Consulting Ltd, METID - Politecnico di Milano, Budapest University of Technology and Economics and EDEN.

Call for Nomination 2016 Election EAIR The European Higher Education Society Executive Committee
The EAIR Executive Committee consists of nine elected members (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and five other elected members). The President has an honorary, ex-officio, position and Forum Chairs are ex-officio members of the Committee for the 18 months prior to the Forum. The term of office for all elected members is three years. Presently the EAIR Executive Committee consists of ten members, nine elected members and one co-opted member.
EAIR relies upon a strong, active and vibrant Executive Committee to further develop the association. **This year there will be two vacancies for the EAIR Executive Committee**.

Who are your fellow members?
Find them at www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/members

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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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