



OECD Higher Education News

April 2014

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

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[Upcoming events; OECD higher education and other activities;](#)
[OECD publications and resources; News from our members](#)

Upcoming events

*Look out for upcoming **FREE** events!*

Keep an eye on our website for further information on the following events 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).



- **May-June 2014 (date tbd)**
Webinar for IMHE members: Review of the What Works Conference on Fostering Quality Teaching in Higher Education
- **June 2014 (date tbd)**
Webinar for IMHE members on English as a medium of instruction
- **September 2014 (date tbd)**
Webinar for IMHE members on Higher Education at a Glance
- **20-21 November 2014**
Conference on Entrepreneurship and Higher Education, [Aalto University](#), Helsinki Finland

Contact: imhe@oecd.org

www.oecd.org/edu/imhemeetings

OECD Forum

5-6 May 2014, OECD Headquarters, Paris

The Forum will bring together policy makers, business, civil society, academics and students to share views and ideas in 25 sessions covering a wide range of topics. Explore the Forum programme [here](#). Input will feed into the [Ministerial Meeting](#), where government leaders and ministers discuss issues on the global agenda. We look forward to seeing you!

OECD higher education and other activities

19th Governing Board meeting

7 April 2014, OECD Headquarters, Paris

The meeting was an opportunity to discuss the Programme of Work for 2015-16 following the Directorate for Education and Skills' priority rating exercise and to initiate discussions on the longer term strategic direction of IMHE. With regard to repositioning the Programme, the Chair updated the Governing Board on discussions with Singapore on a major international higher education conference to be held in October 2015 (date still tentative). Finally, the Governing Board approved the process for its renewal through elections in 2014.



OECD Education and Skills Newsletter

April 2014

This issue of the OECD Directorate for Education and Skills' newsletter brings together the key education findings and policy directions emerging from recent OECD analysis in a single accessible free source.

Find it at: www.oecdmybrochure.org/edu/newsletter



Quality Teaching Conference Highlights

8-9 April 2014, OECD Headquarters, Paris

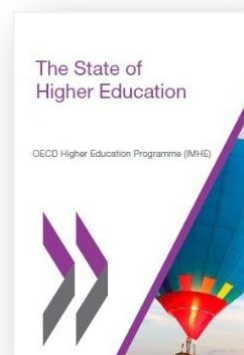
Nearly 70 participants from more than 30 countries attended and contributed to the OECD *What Works Conference on Fostering Quality Teaching in Higher Education: How to maximise the added value of student experience?* on 8-9 April in Paris. An opening keynote by Charles Fadel invited participants to consider the types of knowledge our societies will need in the next 50 years, how to teach toward undefined types of knowledge, and the purposes of quality higher education. During breakout sessions, invited speakers shared examples, cases and research on supporting and engaging human capital; new learning paradigms, programme structure, content and pedagogy; assessment and effective training; and matching higher education with social and employment requirements. In the closing keynote, John L. Davies put external conditional factors and internal instruments of change into perspective. During the closing discussion, a participant was pleased to note: *"We are not alone in the challenges we face; they are almost the same everywhere and approaches to solve them are similar"*.

A report on the workshop will be sent out to members and other conference participants in May.

The State of Higher Education 2014

A key chapter of the 2014 publication will focus on quality in higher education. The OECD had developed a framework for quality, including a literature review, a taxonomy of various approaches and tools used in quality assurance and a three-dimensional framework. The framework could potentially be used to help countries and institutions map out the interplay of tools for quality in a given system or structure. Mapping leads to identifying possible gaps or duplications in the quality assurance process, so more targeted and strategic steps can be taken to improve and demonstrate quality.

More information on 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.



Find the OECD Higher Education Programme on...



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Education-



OECD Higher Education
Programme – IMHE
Image: <http://icons.yootheme.com>

Who's Who in the OECD Higher Education Programme

Other activities

Call for papers - The UK Change Agents Network

The [UK Change Agents Network](#) is pleased to announce a call for papers for the inaugural edition of the open access [Journal of Educational Innovation, Partnership & Change](#). The journal will support research into partnerships between staff and students that identify, lead and deliver change in education across all disciplines. This edition will share and celebrate the outcomes of staff and students working in partnership on innovation and change projects. The project is co-funded by [Jisc](#) and The University of Greenwich.

We welcome contributions from all members of UK Higher and Further Education institutions including: (1) academic staff, (2) students, (3) professional and support staff (4) NUS Sabbatical Officers and members (5) professional bodies/employers and (6) recent alumni. We accept a range of submissions from traditional research articles, case studies and project reports to shorter opinion pieces, book reviews and technology reviews. We especially welcome co-authored submissions from staff and students. All published student authored submissions will be entered into a competition whereby one will be awarded a prize of £500 for excellence.

Submissions must be made online, **by 29 August 2014**, at:

<https://journals.gre.ac.uk/index.php/studentchangeagents/pages/view/submissions>.

Contact: Guest editor Sarah Knight, Jisc, S.Knight@Jisc.ac.uk or Managing editor Dr Mark J.P. Kerrigan, Mark.Kerrigan@Anglia.ac.uk.

OECD publications and resources

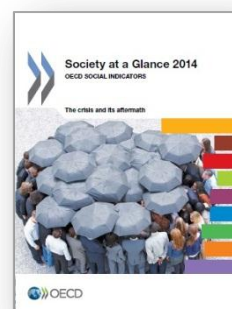
Innovative practices in private higher education: summary report

In November 2013 the OECD held a workshop on innovative approaches to education in the private higher education sector in Madrid, co-organised with Laureate International Universities. Over 30 higher education experts from 11 countries discussed the role of private providers in the higher education innovation ecosystem, and identified innovative organisational and pedagogical practices in private higher education institutions. Participants also examined drivers and barriers to innovation in a sector that continues to experience a sustained growth worldwide while being subject to changing regulatory environments.

The [workshop summary report](#) and participants' presentations are available on the [workshop website](#).

Society at a Glance 2014: OECD Social Indicators

The seventh edition of Society at a Glance, the biennial OECD overview of social indicators, this report addresses the growing demand for quantitative evidence on social well-being and its trends. It updates some indicators included in the previous editions published since 2001 and introduces several new ones; in total: 25 indicators. It includes data for the 34 OECD Member countries and where available data for key partners (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia and South Africa) and for other G20 countries (Argentina and Saudi Arabia). This report features a special chapter on the social impact of the recent crisis (Chapter 1) and provides a guide to help readers understand the structure of OECD social indicators (Chapter 2). All indicators are available as a web book and e-book on OECD iLibrary, as is the related database.



The full report is available at: <http://www.oecd.org/els/societataglance.htm>

2014 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 2014 login and password. **Please note:** this access is for personal use only by your organisations' main contacts.

Keep up with blogs on education at:



Other publications

Why Don't Poor Countries Do Research & Development?

[Download the paper](#)

Using a global panel on research and development (R&D) expenditures, this paper documents that on average poor countries do far less R&D than rich as a share of GDP. This is arguably counter intuitive since the gains from doing the R&D required for technological catch up are thought to be very high and Griffith et al. (2004) have documented that in the OECD countries, returns increase dramatically with distance from the frontier. Exploiting recent advances in instrumental variables in a varying coefficient context we find that the rates of return follow an inverted U: they rise with distance to the frontier and then fall thereafter, potentially turning negative for the poorest countries. The findings are consistent with the importance of factors complementary to R&D, such as education, the quality of scientific infrastructure and the overall functioning of the national innovation system, and the quality of the private sector, which become increasingly weak with distance from the frontier and the absence of which can offset the catch up effect. China's and India's explosive growth in R&D investment trajectories in spite of expected low returns may be justified by their importing the complementary factors in the form of multinational corporations who do most of the patentable research.

News from our members

Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

In its first few months, Open Evidence, the [UOC](#)'s first spin-off company, has been commissioned to undertake major projects by prestigious organisations and institutions such as the European Commission, the government of Italy and the Jaume Bofill Foundation.

Formed by a team of lecturers, researchers and consultants with over 20 years of experience, the company offers consulting services and conducts socioeconomic and technoscientific research in the areas of health, welfare, consumption, public policy and innovation.

More information here: <http://www.open-evidence.com/>



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Who are your fellow members?

Find them at www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/members

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 News.



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.

(Image: jscreationzs / [FreeDigitalPhotos.net](#))