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CHEMP e-news



FREE TRIAL SERVICE

HE Info is a weekly electronic information service produced by the [Centre for Higher Education Management & Policy](#) at the [University of New England](#), Armidale, Australia. The purpose is to provide regular updates on the News, Publications, Events and other items of interest relating to Higher Education Policy particularly in, but not restricted to Australia. We do not claim to present all items of relevance but we do hope to achieve a good coverage of the main issues.

The service is currently in its developmental phase, so if you have any comments relating to content or if you would like to be added to, or list for the new issue alert please email chemp@une.edu.au

All information presented in each issue has been accessed from a variety of sources. Every effort has been made to acknowledge these where appropriate.

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*Seasons Greetings
from CHEMP*

The next issue of HEinfo
will be available on
12 January 2007



News Items & Articles

INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

Universities get £31m research awards (THES 20 Dec) – "More than £31 million has been awarded today to promote UK cutting-edge research in fields ranging from renewable energy to mathematical analysis. The money is going to leading research-intensive universities."

Oxford rejects reform (THES 19 Dec) – "Oxford dons today rejected plans to give outsiders a say in the running of the historic university. A postal ballot of the nearly 4,000 members of Oxford's Congregation resulted in defeat for the proposals from controversial vice-chancellor John Hood."

Academy splinters (THES 15 Dec) – "A generation gap is opening between a new breed of ambitious young career-minded academics who embrace a performance-management culture and their older peers who cling to traditional notions of autonomy, collegiality and scholarship".

Metrics fury (THES 15 Dec) – "Subject leaders have reacted angrily to sweeping reforms to the way university research is to be judged and funded".

V-Cs outline three-year funding demands (THES 15 Dec) - "Vice-chancellors are calling for university funding levels to be maintained in order to plug the funding gap in teaching and infrastructure".

For these and other stories navigate directly to [THES](#)

AUSTRALIAN NEWS ITEMS

Funding shakeout now inevitable (Australian 20 Dec: 19) – "A shakeout of the system for allocating more than \$3 billion a year to universities is inevitable after Education Minister Julie Bishop

announced a review of the Howard Government's 2003 higher education reforms."

Call to resolve funding conflicts (Australian 20 Dec: 21) – "The new method for investing more than \$1 billion in research infrastructure should deal with conflicts of interest by making more use of retired scientists as advisers, according to a close observer of the process."

Labor's chance to fix flaws (Australian 20 Dec: 26) – "New federal Labor leader Kevin Rudd and Stephen Smith, the Opposition spokesman on education and training, are keen to make their mark in higher education. They are fortunate in being able to build on Labor's substantial white paper on higher education, research and innovation" ... "Rudd's interest in new federalism opens up an opportunity to address some longstanding problems in education and training, a portfolio that is probably second only to health in terms of the quantity, size and complexity of tangled federal-state relations."

Funding reforms hinder diversity: VCs (Financial Review 20 Dec: 8) – The review of the higher education reforms announced by the Education Minister "is not expected to provide extra resources for the sector or to consider the impact of fee increases. Instead, it will initially focus on funding technicalities, which vice-chancellors have complained constrain diversity and mean some courses face a funding shortfall."

Uni fees must fall: Rudd (Australian 18 Dec: 2) – "Kevin Rudd will pledge to slash university fees for students, warning that the nation's \$13 billion HECS debt is "out of control".

For these and other stories access newspapers directly at [Australian](#) | [Financial Review](#)

MEDIA RELEASES: MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE & TRAINING, HON JULIE BISHOP

Review of University Reforms (19 Dec) – "The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, today announced the commencement of a review into the impact of reforms on the higher education sector."

Minister announces financial support for RQF (18 Dec) – "The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, today announced more than \$87 million in financial support for the implementation of the first cycle of the new Research Quality Framework (RQF)."

\$8 million to improve quality of higher education (18 Dec) – "The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, has approved funding of more than \$8 million for 13 new projects in universities, including the development of an Engineering in Schools initiative, improving university forestry studies and developing new computer engineering curriculum to help overcome local skills shortages."

To access the Media Releases navigate to <http://www.dest.gov.au/ministers/bishop/media.asp>

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New Publications

OECD, Science, Technology and Industry Outlook 2006 – This report offers "a comprehensive review of key trends in science, technology and innovation policy, and reviewing recent policy developments in OECD countries. ... A statistical annex provides up-to-date statistics on R&D funding, patents, researchers and other indicators of innovative performance."

To find out more navigate to <http://www.oecd.org/sti/outlook>

OECD, IMHE Info December 2006, Newsletter – This issue "raises important issues on the governance of higher education institutions, such as: How do higher education institutions balance the expectations and pressures from the wider community different expectations? And Whose values are higher education institutions representing?"

To download the newsletter, navigate to http://www.oecd.org/department/0,2688,en_2649_35961291_1_1_1_1_1,00.html

AUQA, The AUQA Audit – one year later: A Reflection by a Dean of the Melbourne College of Divinity on the AUQA audit – The insights contained in this report might be useful to institutions preparing for an audit.

To access this publication, navigate to <http://www.auqa.edu.au/qualityenhancement/publications/other/index.shtml>

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New Conferences Listings

FOR A FULL LISTING OF UP AND COMING EVENTS FOLLOW THIS [LINK](#)

CHEMP International Study Program on Research Commercialisation, Regional Engagement & Future University Directions, Visiting San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco, 25 Feb to 6 March 2007 - Designed for senior university executives/managers, governing body members, and university commercialisation company executives, this program will focus particularly on:

- * Research commercialisation, technology licensing, start-ups and regional engagement
- * Research management, including relations with the NSF and industry, monitoring performance, and the use of metrics
- * Innovation and future directions for teaching, research and graduate research training
- * Private and 'for-profit' higher education providers

For further information please visit <http://www.une.edu.au/pdal/research/chemp/projects/tours/calif0207.php>

1st Global Conference: The Value of Knowledge, Sydney, 12 to 14 February 2007 - The conference aims to bring together people from different areas, disciplines, professions and interests to share ideas and explore various discussions which are innovative and exciting. Proposed themes include: The Nature and Purpose of Higher Education; Virtual Learning and Higher Education; and Society, Culture and the of Places of Higher Education.

To find out more navigate to <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ati/education/tvk/tvk1/cfp.htm>

Rankings, RAEs and RQFs: Their Impact on Asian and Australian Universities, Perth, 15-16 February 2007 - "A symposium on the national assessment of research in universities. Addressing the issues:

- * How do nations in our region assess research in universities?
 - * What are the short- and long-term consequences of different approaches to research quality assessments for academics and universities?
 - * Are research assessments like the RAE and the RQF effective in improving the quality of research?
- Full Registration \$45, Concession \$10. To register, navigate to <http://www.ias.uwa.edu.au>. For further information and venue maps, please contact the Institute of Advanced Studies on (08) 6488 1340 or ias@admin.uwa.edu.au

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Websites of Interest

The Australian Researchers' Mobility Portal provides information for researchers planning to move to or out of Australia. It provides links to other country mobility portals, Australian and International funding opportunities and important information about working overseas.

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.mobility.org.au/>

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