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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 removed from, the mailing 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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News Items & Articles

INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

Dismay in research community over cuts (THES, 22 Feb) - "Not a science researcher in the country would have been prepared for the unexpected revelation yesterday that vital funding to research councils was to be cut."

The Europe of Knowledge post 2010 (European Commission, 21 Feb) – "President Barroso gave a speech this afternoon at the official opening of the Netherlands House of Education and Research. The Neth-ER was set up

Public concern over university privatisation (THES, 20 Feb) – “Increased privatisation in UK universities would lead to falling standards and harm Britain's international reputation, according to a new poll released today.”

Academe risks losing talent (THES, 15 Feb) – “Universities risk losing the cream of young British research talent to industry and overseas unless they do more to support postdoctoral researchers, institutions have been warned.”

Blair seeks US-style donations to universities (Education Guardian, 15 Feb) – “Tony Blair's plans to stimulate private donations to universities could widen the gap between the richest and poorest institutions, lecturers and students warn.”

For these and other stories navigate directly to [European Commission](#) | [THES](#) | [Education Guardian](#)

AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

Generation HECS should not be cursed by poor politics (The Age, 20 Feb: 12) – “There is a crisis in our tertiary institutions, and it requires a holistic approach to be remedied.”

Labor to scrap 'flawed' RQF (Australian, 21 Feb: 34) – “A Labor Government would scrap the controversial Research Quality Framework and replace it with a new scheme to measure the quality of Australia's publicly-funded research.”

Media Release: Research Quality Framework Committee Announced (DEST, 20 Feb) – “The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, today announced the membership of the Research Quality Framework (RQF) Reference Committee.”

Bishop boldly pushes for single university regulatory body (Campus Review 20, Feb: 1, 6) – “Commonwealth/state reform is squarely on Julie Bishop's agenda with the Federal Education Minister calling for a single regulatory authority for universities. Bishop will raise the issue at MCEETYA's April meeting, telling Campus Review that such a change would significantly cut red tape.”

Beyond rankings: moving toward a classifications system (Campus Review 20, Feb: 3, 10) – “Europe is looking to develop a comprehensive system of university classification to encourage diversity and aid transparency for consumers, an international expert in rankings and classifications said last week.”

For these and other stories access newspapers directly at [The Age](#) | [Australian](#) | [Campus Review](#) | [DEST](#)

New Publications

OECD, Nov 2006, Education Policy Analysis: Focus on Higher Education: 2005-2006 Edition – “Education Policy Analysis draws on international perspectives to provide analysis of key education policy challenges and initiatives. It will be of interest to education policy makers, education practitioners, and researchers.”

To find out more, navigate to

http://www.oecd.org/document/25/0,2340,en_2649_37455_37693017_1_1_1_37455,00.html

Proceedings from the International Trends in University Rankings and Classifications Symposium held

To access the papers, navigate to <http://www.griffith.edu.au/conference/university-rankings/>

Australian Education International, Annual 2006 International Student Enrolment - The International Student Enrolment data for 2006 show there were 383,818 enrolments by full-fee paying international students in Australia on a student visa. This represents a 10.9% increase on the previous year. Commencements grew by 13.6% in the same period.

To access the data, navigate to <http://aei.dest.gov.au/AEI/MIP/ItemsOfInterest/07Interest08.htm>

New Conferences Listings

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

Role of University Associations in Enhancing Quality of Higher Education, IAU 2nd Global Meeting of University Associations, Paris (France), May 31 to June 1, 2007 – “This is the second global meeting of this kind organized by the IAU, and the theme – quality of HE at home and abroad – is in line with on-going work at IAU. The more general aim is to use IAU’s convening capacity to encourage sharing of views, practices and ideas on crucial higher education issues among leaders of national, regional and international associations from all over the world.”

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.unesco.org/iau/>

Websites of Interest

New Journal Ranking Website – “A web service has recently been launched for journal ranking. The service provides a brand new paradigm to ranking more than 7,000 journals from all disciplines and introduces two new indicators relevant to journal quality by considering both the journal influence index and the paper influence index.”

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.journal-ranking.com>

Hedda Blog, Exploring higher education from an international perspective – “You will find discussions in regards to funding, governance, reform, European strategies and teaching and research. We are hoping to recruit international graduate students from around the globe to interact on this blog as a means to facilitate dialogue on higher education issues. We would encourage you to take a look at the blog and leave a comment, the more interactive, the better!”

To access the blog, navigate to <http://stan.uio.no/blog/flexlearn/>