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News Items & Articles

AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

Loans fuel niche threat to strugglers (Australian, 01 Aug: 21) – "Strong growth among private higher education providers in niche areas is posing an unprecedented threat to universities, especially those struggling to meet their government-allocated student quotas." [more](#)

Resourced for a world of difference (Australian, 01 Aug: 25) – "Debate about education in Australia is often conducted in the context of a manufactured quality crisis. Yet the international evidence does not support the claim of a crisis." [more](#)

Instruments of the state (Australian, 01 Aug: 30) – "Although neither the Government nor the Opposition has released a higher education policy for the forthcoming election, it is nonetheless possible to discern their broad approaches from the role they apparently envisage for universities." [more](#)

Impact under fire (Campus Review, 31 July: 1) – "Proposed methods for measuring research impact could leave intellectuals out in the cold".

Role of academic board needs clarity (Campus Review, 31 July: 5) – "Universities are grappling with complex issues of governance as an escalating split divides the roles and responsibilities of academic boards and university councils".

USQ joins the open course revolution (Campus Review, 31 July: 8) – "The University of Southern Queensland is the first Australian institution to join the OpenCourseWare Consortium pioneered by MIT in 2003. Last month, USQ made 10 of its courses available for free through the OCW website".

Graduating to new-look uni degrees (Australian Financial Review, 30 July: 1) – "A Federal Government

committee has recommended that universities provide a graduating statement for students when they obtain their degrees. This would outline the nature of the institution and courses studied, making the degree more competitive overseas."

Regions apart and no less important (Australian, 25 July: 26) – "Enough about "the regionals". It is a nonsense category. Regionally based universities are as different from each other as they are from the University of Melbourne, UTS or ANU." [more](#)

New Publications

DEST, Draft RQF Submission Specifications – "The Draft RQF Submission Specifications are designed to assist Research Groups and institutions develop and prepare their submissions. They specify the content and data requirements for submissions that are part of the 2008 RQF. They also provide guidance to eligible institutions on policy and practical matters in preparing submissions." Comments to DEST by COB 7 August 2007.

To access the draft, navigate to

http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/research_sector/policies_issues_reviews/key_issues/research_quality_framework/doc

Duryea, M., Hochman, M. and Parfitt, A. 2007, *Measuring the impact of research* – "But what exactly is 'research impact'? How can we measure it and what kind of evidence would be adequate to validate that impact as directly attributable to a specific body of research and/or group of researchers?"

To access this paper, navigate to <http://www.education.gov.au/goved/go/pid/18>

Enders, J. and van Vught, F. (eds) 2007, *Towards a Cartography of Higher Education Policy Change, A Festschrift in Honour of Guy Neave*, CHEPS, The Netherlands – "Guy Neave was one of the first scholars to emphasise the growing importance of higher education for, and within the dynamics of modern societies, and to reflect on the theoretical, methodological and practical implications for higher education research. The essays collected in this Festschrift constitute an attempt to reflect the breadth and the scope of his international activities, of his comparative scholarship and of their unifying themes".

To find out more about this publication, navigate to <http://www.education.gov.au/goved/go/pid/18>

New Conference Listings

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

UNU-UNESCO International Conference, *Pathways Towards a Shared Future: Changing roles of higher education in a globalized world*, Tokyo, 29-30 August 2007 – "How can/should higher education help to explore and chart the pathways towards this shared future? Conference participants will discuss the challenges that globalization poses, and the opportunities that it offers, for higher education. Attention will focus on institutions of higher education: their changing scope and responsibilities, the evolving environment in which they must function, and their institutional responses."

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.unu.edu/globalization/>

3rd International Living Knowledge Conference, Paris, 30 Aug to 01 Sept 2007 – "The 3rd international Living knowledge conference will provide a forum where information on community based research, carried out in both community and academic settings, on new forms of partnerships between research and civil society and on new modes of innovation can be shared and developed. It aims at disseminating and exchanging information on community based and participatory research, on citizens' science and cooperative innovation."

To find out more, navigate to http://sciencescitoyennes.org/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=115

EUA Conference on *Governance and Management in Asia and Europe*, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 5-6 September 2007 – "The present Asia-Europe Colloquy is aimed at university leadership and senior representatives of university associations and networks from Asia and Europe. It aims at facilitating dialogue and discussion among participants and to establish a better understanding of institutional management and governance in different parts of

Europe and Asia, in order to enhance exchange and cooperation prospects.”

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.eua.be/index.php?id=372>

EUA Autumn Conference 2007, *The Governance of European Universities post 2010: Mission Diversity, Autonomy and Accountability*, Wroclaw, Poland, 25-27 October – “On the basis of key-note presentations and case studies from across Europe, the goals of the Wroclaw Conference will be to:

- * Discuss the rapidly changing relationship between universities and the state and the impact of these changes on institutional governance;
- * Investigate strategies for optimising institutional autonomy and ensuring accountability taking account of the overall European policy context and the ‘modernisation agenda’ for universities;
- * Identify ways in which university leaders can enhance their steering capacity using examples of good practice from across Europe.”

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.eua.be/index.php?id=wroclaw>

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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