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News Items & Articles

INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

The World Gets a Little Flatter (InsideHigherEd, 18 Sept) - "The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is releasing an annual report today that — in presenting the broadest and most up-to-date array of data about global education — reinforces the sense that American higher education is in a competitive downward spiral." [more](#) See *Publications* section of this issue of HEInfo for details on the report.

AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

University Revenue Hits Record High (DEST, 19 Sept) - "The Australian higher education sector is benefiting from strong growth, with revenue for universities reaching a record \$15.5 billion in 2006, according to a report released today by the Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP." [more](#) See *publications* section of this issue of HEInfo.

Research Quality Framework specifications released – (DEST, 18 Sept) - "The final specifications for the 2008 Research Quality Framework (RQF) were released today by the Minister for Education Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP." [more](#) See *publications* section of this issue of HEInfo.

Global survey to throw light on academic profession (Campus Review, 18 Sept, 1) - "Universities will soon have a clearer picture of where they stand as employers, as perceived by their own academics and compared to other systems". [more](#)

Deans forge guiding principles on graduate studies (Campus Review, 18 Sept, 3) - "At the first-ever global meeting on graduate education, held in Canada, higher education leaders from North America, Europe, and the Pacific Rim agreed to nine guiding principles for graduate education".

Sizing up the promises (Campus Review, 18 Sept: 5, 12) – “With the election looming, will the winning party make much of a difference for higher and vocational education”.

Trade agreements could trigger greater cross-border capacity building (Campus Review, 18 Sept, 6) – “Student mobility has expanded at an unprecedented rate over the last decade but there is little evidence that new forms of cross-border tertiary education have directly contributed to developing greater capacity within the sector globally”.

Diversity: a view from organisational theory (Campus Review, 18 Sept: 10-11) – “Why are higher education institutions more alike than different despite government policies designed to create diversity?”

New Publications

DEST, Research Quality Framework: Assessing the quality and impact of research in Australia , RQF Submission Specifications and Technical Specifications – “The RQF Submission Specifications and the RQF Technical Specifications provide Australian higher education institutions with the rules and guidance for submitting their research for assessment in the RQF. The RQF Submission Specifications are designed to assist Research Groups and institutions develop and prepare their submissions. The RQF Technical Specifications are designed to give specific detail on how RQF submissions will be submitted to the RQF Information Management System (IMS).”

To access the documents, navigate to

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

OECD, Education at a Glance 2007 – “OECD's annual Education at a Glance looks at who participates in education, what is spent on it, how education systems operate and the results achieved. The latter includes indicators on a wide range of outcomes, from comparisons of students' performance in key subject areas to the impact of education on earnings and on adults' chances of employment. New material in this 2007 edition includes data on how socio-economic background affects access to tertiary education, more data on participation in vocational programmes, trend data on graduation rates, trend data on enrolment rates, data on contractual arrangements of teachers, and data on evaluation policies for public schools. This book includes StatLinks, urls linking to Excel® spreadsheets containing the background data.”

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?sf1=identifiers&st1=962007051P1>

DEST, Finance 2006 - Financial Reports of Higher Education Providers – “Contains financial information including financial performance, financial position and cash flows for higher education providers derived from institutions financial statements for the period ending 31 December 2006.”

To access the report and tables, navigate to

http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/publications_resources/profiles/finance_2006_stats.htm

New Conference Listings

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

Reshaping Higher Education - SRHE Annual Conference 2007, Brighton, Sussex, UK, 11th-13th December 2007 - "The Society for Research into Higher Education Annual Conference 2007 will explore how global high education is not just undergoing change and reform but is being reshaped.

Conference Call for Papers - Proposals are invited for any of the following types of sessions:

Individual Papers; Symposia; Roundtables; Poster Sessions.

For further Call for Papers information, please click here (pdf.)

For further information about the Conference, including the Registration and Payment Form, please navigate to

<http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journal.asp?ref=0951-5224>

Asia-Pacific Quality Network 2008, Conference and Annual General Meeting, Future of Quality

Assurance in Asia Pacific, Cooperation Amidst Diversity, Tokyo, 19-22 February 2008 – Deadline of Call for Contributions is 28 September, 2007. The sub-themes of this conference are:

- * Mutual recognition and standards;
- * Quality assurance of QA agencies; and
- * Respect of diversity and network activity.

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.the-convention.co.jp/apqn2008/aboutconference/index.html>

Universities Australia International Education Conference – Looking forward: the future of international education and our place in the landscape, Brisbane, 25-26 October 2007 – “The conference will consider the future of international education and the changing role of and expectations for staff in universities.”

To find out more, navigate to

http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/content.asp?page=/policies_programs/staff_dev/index.htm

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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