

27 September 2007

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News Items & Articles

INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

European University Association (21 Sept) – “The European University Association has today published its response to the European Commission's Green Paper on the future of the European Research Area (ERA). ... The EUA statement, which brings together the viewpoints offered by national rectors conferences and universities across Europe, welcomes the fact that the Green Paper clearly places universities as key stakeholders in the future of the ERA, and the fact that it acknowledges the need for university autonomy in the management of its research mission.” [more](#)

Universities could play a greater role in regional development, says OECD (19 Sept) – “Universities could play a stronger role in the economic, cultural and social development of their regions, according to a new OECD report. Higher Education and Regions: Globally Competitive, Locally Engaged argues that regional engagement by universities is beneficial both to local development and the institutions themselves.” [more](#) *See publications section of this issue of HEinfo for further details*

AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

Axe threat to arts fields in uni review (The Age 27 Sept: 5) – “Eight Melbourne University arts faculty programs should be cancelled and another 12 are at risk, according to a review recommending sweeping changes under its US-style teaching model.”

Howard backs links to TAFE (Australian, 26 Sept: 25) – “Prime Minister John Howard has opened a new front in the education debate by coming out strongly in favour of closer links between universities and TAFE.” [more](#)

Room to research improvements (Australian, 26 Sept: 27) – “Australian universities "still have a way to go"

in improving the intellectual climate for postgraduate researchers, an annual Graduate Careers Australia survey has found." [more](#)

NZ dumps voucher system to increase achievement (Australian, 26 Sept: 29) – "New Zealand's 17-year experiment with free market policies for its tertiary education sector will end with the effective abolition of the voucher system later this year".

Aspiration boost (Australian, 26 Sept: 32) – "Despite expansion in higher education participation across the world, social imbalances in the people who go on to university continue to be striking in most nations". [more](#)

National system, but local input (Australian, 26 Sept: 35) - "Rather than take over universities completely, Canberra should seek a co-operative approach".

Masters students to receive income support (Campus Review, 25 Sept: 1,2) – "The influence of the Melbourne Model is being credited with the introduction of a new bill which gives masters by coursework students access to income support".

RQF: the dinosaur lumbers on (Campus Review, 25 Sept: 4) – "The Government's finalised RQF Technical Specifications have now been released and, unfortunately, little real progress has been made. The widespread criticisms of the draft specification, released in June, have been ignored."

OECD report paints poor picture (Campus Review, 25 Sept, 7) – "While other OECD countries ramped up spending on universities by an average 49 per cent between 1995 and 2004, Australia put 4 per cent less public money into higher education as a proportion of GDP".

New Go8 Chair (Group of Eight, 3 Sept) – "Professor Alan Robson AM, Vice-Chancellor of The University of Western Australia, succeeded Professor Glyn Davis AC as Chair of the Go8 on 1 September 2007." [more](#)

New Publications

OECD 20 Sept, *Higher Education and Regions: Globally Competitive, Locally Engaged* – "It offers answers to the following questions: What is higher education's regional engagement all about? What are its drivers and barriers? What does regional engagement mean for the governance and management of higher education institutions, for regions and for nations? And how does regional engagement fit in with the pursuit of world class academic excellence?"

To find out more, navigate to

http://www.oecd.org/document/33/0,3343,en_2649_35961291_39378401_1_1_1_1,00.html

Graduate Careers Australia, *Postgraduate Destinations 2006* – "This report is an extension of the Graduate Destination Survey which provides details of those graduating with Diplomas, Masters degrees, PhDs and other postgraduate qualifications".

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.graduatecareers.com.au/content/view/full/1786>

Graduate Careers Australia, *Postgraduate Research Experience 2006* – "Australia's most highly-qualified postgraduates are asked a similar range of questions to the CEQ but with the focus on the research environment. The material is collected as part of the Graduate Destination Survey."

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.graduatecareers.com.au/content/view/full/1788>

New Conference Listings

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

IV International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education, *New challenges and emerging roles for human and social development*, Barcelona, Spain, 31 March – 1 April 2008 – “The aim of the Conference is to explore the role of higher education as a key element for human and social development and to find new ways for the exchange of values between university and society. Participants will approach the key issue: what knowledge do we need for what kind of society?” This conference is organized by the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) and hosted by the Technical University of Catalonia (UPC)

To find out more navigate to <http://www.guni-rmies.net/k2008/>

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>

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

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