

**21 February 2008**

- [News Items & Articles](#)
- [New Publications](#)
- [New Conference Listings](#)

## News Items & Articles

### INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

**SPECIAL REPORT: Costing Europe's universities (University World News, 21 Feb)** – “How can the full costs of a university be determined and why should this matter? A conference to examine the question was held by the European University Association in Brussels last week. ... Ullenius said the conference was aimed at exploring the links between costing and funding with autonomy, governance and accountability. It was also intended to formulate advice and recommendations for universities on the further development of their financial management towards full-cost accounting. Our correspondents report.” [more](#)

**Arts cuts 'will be devastating' (Education Guardian, 19 Feb)** – “The research council is accused of funding trendy projects at the expense of traditional scholarship.” [more](#)

**REF will topple RAE stars, report warns (THE, 14 Feb)** – “The established hierarchy of university research excellence is set for a massive shake-up under the system set up to replace the research assessment exercise, according to a new study.” [more](#)

**EUROPE: Doctoral education gets long-awaited council (University World News, 10 Feb)** – “The European University Association has announced the launch of the first organisation to develop and promote doctoral education and research training across Europe. The EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) has been a long-sought goal of European universities wanting “a more structured approach to promote cooperation and exchange of good practice between doctoral schools and programmes.” [more](#)

**EUA Experts Conference: Universities urged to identify the full costs of their activities (EUA, 7 Feb)** – “More than 120 university leaders, administrators and financial experts gathered in Brussels (7/8 Feb) this week to take part in the EUA Experts Conference on the financial sustainability of Europe's higher education institutions.” [more](#)

**Informal OECD Ministerial Meeting on evaluating the outcomes of Higher Education, Tokyo, 11-12**

## **January 2008, Chaired by Kisaburo TOKAI, Minister for Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan**

Ministers from OECD countries met for an informal discussion on evaluating the outcomes of higher education. In an opening presentation, Morio Ikeda, of the Shiseido Corporation, emphasised the varied and demanding expectations that society has of higher education institutions and systems in the twenty-first century, and the need for OECD countries to respond. OECD Deputy Secretary-General Aart de Geus referred to the increasingly significant role of higher education as a driver of economic growth and the pressing need for better ways to value and develop higher education and to respond to the needs of the knowledge society." To find out more about the outcomes of this meeting, navigate to

[http://www.oecd.org/document/45/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_37455\\_39903213\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_37455,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/45/0,3343,en_2649_37455_39903213_1_1_1_37455,00.html)

## **AUSTRALIAN ITEMS**

**Degree standards 'must be ranked' (Australian, 20 Feb)** – "Employers would be able to distinguish between university degrees from high- and low-quality institutions under a proposal by a leading Australian vice-chancellor for minimum degree standards." [more](#)

**Compact plans skip the detail - But the sector's dynamic is certain to change (Australian, 20 Feb)** – "Both Education Minister Julia Gillard and Innovation Minister Kim Carr seem to be investing considerable significance in university compacts, but neither has described their content nor the process for their development. Nor does there seem to be a ready model overseas, including in Britain, which seems to inform many of Gillard and Carr's policies." [more](#)

**Solutions to build human capital through Australia's universities (Universities Australia, 19 Feb)** – "Universities Australia today released a position paper calling for the Federal Government to commence further action on its election promises to the higher education sector from the 2008 Budget." [more](#)

**Conditional funding comes to an end (Campus Review, 19 Feb: 1, 2)** – "Education Minister Julia Gillard last week took the first decisive step towards ending conditional university funding arrangements based on compliance with workplace arrangements (HEWRRS) and the 11 National Protocols".

**Philanthropy figures lack consistency: new report (Campus Review, 19 Feb: 4)** – "New data on private support for Australian higher education has reinforced what the sector already knew: that Australia is well behind the US when it comes to philanthropic support of universities".

## **New Publications**

**Universities Australia, *Solutions for Building Australia's Human Capital Through Universities*, Position Paper No. 1/08** – "The paper proposes a package of support for the higher education sector which is fully consistent with the broad budget parameters facing the Federal Government, but also allows the contribution of universities to government goals for the nation to be enhanced into the future." To access this paper, navigate to <http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/content.asp?page=/publications/discussion/index.htm>

**DEEWR, Feb 2008, *The Impact of Voluntary Student Unionism on Services, Amenities and Representation for Australian University Students*, Discussion Paper** – "The purpose of this discussion paper is to seek views from higher education stakeholders such as universities, students, small business, sports and community groups on: 1. The impact of VSU on student services and amenities and student representation; and 2. What needs to be done to ensure satisfactory services and amenities and student representative bodies." Responses are to be submitted before 11 March 2008. To access the discussion paper navigate to <http://www.dest.gov.au/>

## **New Conference Listings**

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

**CHEMP International Study Tour, US and Canada (visiting San Francisco Bay Area, Seattle, Vancouver and Victoria), 6-15 August 2008** - Designed for university executives/managers, governing body members, and university commercialisation company executives, this program will focus particularly on:

- Research commercialisation and industry partnerships
- Leadership, governance and strategic direction setting
- Funding issues and private higher education
- Graduate studies and research management
- Building new 'on-campus' integrated urban communities

Scheduled immediately before the International Meeting of University Administrators (IMUA) to be held in Vancouver from 17-21 August 2008.

To find out more about our study tour, navigate to <http://www.une.edu.au/chemp/activity/tours/2008tour.php>

**Knowledge in Motion '08, Canada, 16-18 October 2008** - "Knowledge in Motion '08 is an international conference exploring how higher education institutions (HEIs) mobilize knowledge to affect regional development. This conference will not only be about knowledge mobilization, it will itself involve knowledge mobilization. To that end, we need your help in building the program. We hope to present a range of content illustrating different processes and practices used to mobilize knowledge for an identified regional development-related goal. We want lessons from faculty, staff, and students in colleges and universities, as well as from individuals, communities and organizations that work with HEIs (or want to!)." To find out more, navigate to [http://www.mun.ca/harriscentre/Conferences\\_Workshops/KM2008/KIM.php](http://www.mun.ca/harriscentre/Conferences_Workshops/KM2008/KIM.php)

**The International Meeting of University Administrators, Vancouver, Canada, 17-21 August 2008** - "The main theme will be Globalisation, with keynote speaker Professor Bryan Gould, polymath and former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Waikato, New Zealand. Sixteen workshops will focus on four sub-themes for which proposals are invited by 15 February: Evolution of learning; Research commercialisation; Sustainability; Leading and organising academic institutions of the future." To find out more, navigate to <http://www.imua2008.ca>

**21st annual CHER Conference, Excellence and Diversity in Higher Education. Meanings, Goals, and Instruments, 11 - 13 September 2008, Pavia, Italy** - The CHER Conference aims at taking a deeper and critical look on the topic dismantling and complementing this picture. In order to do so, three main questions are raised: What is excellence? What is excellence for? How can excellence be developed in mass higher education? Participants are encouraged to address these questions presenting and discussing research-based analyses, and assuming a multi-level approach and a comparative perspective. For further information, navigate to <http://www.unipv.it/cirsis/21cher/>

## 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](mailto: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.

produced by the Centre for Higher Education Management & Policy - UNE