

06 March 2008

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News Items & Articles

INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

Cautious welcome to university campus expansion (Education Guardian, 4 Mar) – "Yesterday, the universities secretary, John Denham, invited towns and cities to bid for new university campuses and centres of higher education, after launching a debate over the future of the sector on Friday." [more](#)

Europe launches Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EUA, 4 Mar) – "The European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR) will be officially launched in Brussels today in a move designed to improve the quality of European higher education and to promote greater student mobility. The new register is a landmark for European cooperation in quality assurance of higher education in the context of the Bologna Process reforms." [more](#)

Competitiveness Council urges increased research spending and coordination (CordisNews: 28 Feb) – "The EU should invest more in research, facilitate the free movement of knowledge and strengthen its innovation system, ministers meeting at the EU's Competitiveness Council agreed on 25 February. These and other recommendations will be submitted to the European Council for consideration at its meeting in March 2008 within the context of the re-launched Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs." [more](#)

A Penny for your thoughts (THE: 28 Feb) – "Academics are at the very heart of the knowledge economy, but just how far should they and their institutions go in the commercial exploitation of their ideas?" [more](#)

Plans for RAE metrics draw fire from research councils (THE, 28 Feb) – "The seven research councils responsible for a £2.8 billion annual UK research budget have rejected plans for a new system to replace the research assessment exercise as "not acceptable in their current form". [more](#)

Minister puzzled by AHRC bid to cut research grants (THE, 28 Feb) – "Ian Pearson, the Science Minister, and his top official are to demand an explanation for the Arts and Humanities Research Council's proposed cuts to research funding. Dr Pearson and Sir Keith O'Nions, director general of science and innovation, told MPs it was not

clear why the cuts were needed. The pair also denied claims of a crisis in science funding and criticised the Science and Technology Facilities Council for complaining of a budget shortfall." [more](#)

Business divisions (THE: 21 Feb) – "A record number of university managers are being hired from outside higher education. But does their commercial verve sit well with the unique academic ethos?" [more](#)

AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

Call to link funding with efficacy (Australian, 5 Mar) – "Universities could lose future funding if they failed to perform in areas such as innovation and community engagement, under contentious plans drafted by leading figures in the sector." [more](#)

Good chiefs first, then compacts (Australian, 5 Mar: 24) – "We have a long way to go to achieve a truly professional sector, write Leo Goedegebuure and Lynn Meek". [more](#)

Doctorates ailing on the world stage (Australian, 5 Mar) – "The North American system of extensive postgraduate coursework, comprehensive exams and a dissertation appears to be producing comparatively large numbers of high quality doctoral graduates with breadth and depth across the discipline and strong generic skills." [more](#)

Peer review welcomed in the new ERA (Campus Review, 4 Mar: 1, 5) – "The inclusion of expert review in the assessment of research quality under the new Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative – Labor's streamlined and simplified RQF – has been warmly and broadly welcomed across the sector".

Package of possibilities (Campus Review, 4 Mar: 1, 4) – "Universities Australia (UA) has fleshed out its innovative "securitisation" university infrastructure funding proposal in a new paper called 'Supercharging HECS' released today". See *new publications section* for details.

Fee for all (Campus Review, 4 Mar: 6) – "For profit education worldwide is littered with disasters. The Rudd Government should take this into account when considering the future of Fee-Help".

Sectors working together (Campus Review, 4 Mar: 11) – "There is a role for TAFE in improving higher education standards."

New Publications

Universities Australia, March 2008, Position Paper #2/08: Supercharging HECS – Creating new Foundations for the Education Revolution – "Under the proposal, Government bonds would be issued by Treasury, supported by future HECS repayments through consolidated revenue, and the proceedings from sale of the bonds would be used to create a HECS Fund. The investment returns on the HECS Fund would in turn be dedicated to new funding for university facilities and maintenance." To access this paper, navigate to <http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/content.asp?page=/publications/discussion/index.htm>

Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2008, 1301.0 - Year Book Australia: Education and training – Higher Education – A summary of Higher Education in Australia is provided including data on students and staff. [more](#)

Veiga, A. 2008, How does the Bologna process challenge national traditions of higher education institutions? – "The argument developed in this chapter is that the institutional level implementation of the Bologna process and of the Lisbon strategy, supported by international benchmarking, may contribute to promote a competition paradigm." To access the abstract, navigate to http://www.fup.pt/cipes/en_index.php

Luijten-Lub, A. 2007, Choices in internationalisation. How higher education institutions respond to

internationalisation, Europeanisation, and globalisation, CHEPS – " What choices do HEIs make in responding to these challenges of internationalisation? Using an institutional theoretical framework supplemented with an organisational view, this study analyses the responses to internationalisation of 30 HEIs in seven Western European countries, showing what internal and external factors play a role in their responses." To access this publication, navigate to http://www.utwente.nl/cheps/publications/new_publications/

Leišytė, L. 2007, University Governance and Academic Research. Case studies of research units in Dutch and English universities, CHEPS – " Our analysis has shown that shifts in governance influence research practices to a certain extent. All eight basic research units respond to their changing institutional environments by attempting to reduce uncertainty and to maintain stability in their core activities, but not all of them have been equally successful in this respect." To access this publication, navigate to http://www.utwente.nl/cheps/publications/new_publications/

New Conferences and Events

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

5th International Euredocs Conference, Modernising European Higher Education: Priorities, Ideas and Challenges, Portugal, 23-25 May 2008 – " The network regularly organises an international conference where doctoral students and young doctorates present and discuss papers on their on-going research. These conferences are an opportunity for doctoral students and young doctorates to find a place dedicated to their work, where they can present contributions, confront perspectives, meet senior researchers as well as find opportunities for further cooperation etc." To find out more, navigate to <http://www.euredocs.sciences-po.fr/en/conference/index.htm>

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>

LH Martin Institute Executive Seminar Series, Strategic Institutional Positioning, Professor Frans van Vught, Brisbane 17 March 2008, Melbourne 19 March 2008 – "The workshop will be in two parts. The first will consist of a presentation, followed by discussion. The presentation will address the following broad issues: • globalisation and internationalisation in higher education; • the dynamics of diversity in higher education systems; • the reputation race; • impacts on and consequences for higher education institutions on these three sets of variables." To find out more, navigate to <http://www.mihelm.unimelb.edu.au/news/seminars.html>

FREE TRIAL SERVICE

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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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CRICOS Provider Number: 00003G | ABN: 75 792 454 315

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