

**17 April 2008**

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## News Items & Articles

### INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

**NEW ZEALAND: Polytechnic universities opposed (University World News, 13 April)** – "New Zealand's universities are fighting the creation of a new category of tertiary institution that could provide an easy road for the nation's polytechnics to the title 'university'. But a repeat of Britain's wholesale transformation of polytechnics into universities is unlikely." [more](#)

### AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

**UA Media Release, Advancing equity and participation in Australian higher education (UA, 16 Apr)** – "Universities Australia today released its action plan to address participation and equity levels in higher education of people from low socio-economic backgrounds and Indigenous people. The plan draws on the findings of the Universities Australia-commissioned Equity and Participation scoping study also released today." [more](#)

**Researchers drowning in sea of paper (Australian, 16 April)** – "The world of research has indeed gone berserk and too much paperwork is a sure sign of that madness. In this berserk world what is needed is not a mere shifting in the character of the paperwork but a radical reduction: not more higher education policy but less." [more](#)

**This is innovative: Teach (Australian, 16 April)** – "Australian higher education, along with competitor systems in the global knowledge economy, is fiercely preoccupied with university-based research and development, its commercialisation and its contribution to the innovation agenda. But when business leaders are asked what they want from higher education, according to international innovation researcher Alan Hughes, they invariably stress the need for universities to deliver on their founding goal: education." [more](#)

**Diversity and equity go hand in hand: Craven (Campus Review, 15 Apr: 1, 4)** – "The diversity agenda is on the ascendancy and recent government commitments to enhancing student equity have only strengthened the proposition."

**The end of the scholarly journal (Campus Review, 15 Apr: 5)** – "A decision by Harvard University to give

open access to academic works will have a profound flow-on effect throughout the sector".

**China's higher transformation (Campus Review, 15 Apr: 6-7)** – "A new study for the first time reveals the full extent of China's massive transformation of its higher education sector."

## New Publications

**Universities Australia, March 2008, *Participation and Equity: A review of the participation in higher education of people from low socioeconomic backgrounds and Indigenous people*** – "This report reviews available literature and data relating to the participation and success of people from low socioeconomic status (SES) backgrounds and Indigenous people in Australian higher education, including information on school achievement and retention where this is relevant to access to higher education." To access this publication, navigate to <http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/content.asp?page=/publications/policy/equity/index.htm>

**DEEWR, *Higher Education 2020, Issue 1*** – "The Higher Education 2020 Newsletter aims to keep the sector and stakeholders informed about the Australian Government's higher education policies and programs. It will include information on any legislative and guideline changes and will be used as a means to consult the higher education sector on key issues and developments. The newsletter will be published on a regular bimonthly basis." To access the first issue, navigate to [http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher\\_education/publications\\_resources/2020\\_newsletter/default.htm](http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/publications_resources/2020_newsletter/default.htm)

**OECD, April 2008, *Tertiary Education for the Knowledge Society, OECD Thematic Review of Tertiary Education: Synthesis Report*** – "The report Tertiary Education for the Knowledge Society provides a thorough international investigation of tertiary education policy across its many facets – governance, funding, quality assurance, equity, research and innovation, academic career, links to the labour market and internationalisation. Its specific concern is policies that ensure that capabilities of tertiary education contribute to countries' economic and social objectives. ... The report is intended to:

- \* Provide an international comparative analysis of tertiary education policy issues;
- \* Draw attention to effective policy initiatives in participating countries;
- \* Suggest a comprehensive framework to guide tertiary education policy development;
- \* Identify priorities for follow-up work at national, regional and international levels; and
- \* Propose policy directions. "

To download this publication, navigate to <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/20/4/40345176.pdf>

## New Conferences and Events

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

**2008 Australasian Higher Education Evaluation Forum, Melbourne, 2-3 October 2008** – "The Centre for Higher Education Quality (CHEQ), Monash University is pleased to announce the sixth Evaluation Forum to be held in Melbourne from 2-3 October 2008. The Forum has the overall theme Evidence based Decision Making: Scholarship and Practice,. The theme aims to reflect how evaluation outcomes are utilized in universities to make change. The target audiences for the Forum are primarily, but not exclusively those involved in evaluations in the higher education sector. This is an extraordinary opportunity to network with peers and discover the different ways in which similar evaluations problems are solved in our Asia Pacific region." To find out more, navigate to <http://www.adm.monash.edu.au/cheg/AHEEF2008/index.html>

**Oslo Summer School in Comparative Social Science Studies 2008, 21 – 25 July 20-08 and 28 July to 1 August 2008** – "The Oslo Summer School in Comparative Social Science Studies provides several postgraduate PhD research courses that aims to cover all of the disciplines within the social sciences. The Main Objectives of the Oslo Summer School is:

- to provide advanced training for young European researchers at the post-graduate and post-doctoral level

- to offer Ph.D.-courses at the highest international level, drawing on top-ranking experts, whether they be Europeans or from other parts of the world
- to cover all of the social sciences, and to encourage interdisciplinary approaches
- to inspire young researchers to take up comparative projects at as early a point as possible in their careers
- o contribute to denser networks between European social scientists and research institutions working with various types of comparative social science.

To find out more, navigate to <http://www.sv.uio.no/oss/courses2008.html>

**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:

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>

## 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.

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