



**5 June 2008**


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## News Items & Articles


### INTERNATIONAL ITEMS

**'Naughty' Esler knocks narrow focus on skills (THE, 5 June)** – "The head of the Arts and Humanities Research Council has hit out at the skills agenda, warning that universities are being diverted into delivering "narrow competencies". [more](#) 


**SPECIAL REPORT: University reform (University World News, 1 June)** – "Universities around the world face the challenge of change. In this week's Special Report our correspondents focus on the reforms and upheavals confronting higher education systems in a range of countries." [more](#) 


**NEW ZEALAND: Report ponders future of universities (University World News: 1 Jun)** – "Almost every aspect of higher education in New Zealand, from student numbers to university cooperation, has been thrown open for debate with the publication of a discussion document on the future of the nation's universities." [more](#) 


**Pay rise in doubt as cash crisis bites (THE, 29 May)** – "Financially stretched institutions may seek to delay 2008-09 increase." [more](#) 


**Interest in the Erasmus programme for students and universities continues to increase (EU, 13 May)** – "Established in 1987, Erasmus, the EU's flagship education and training programme for mobility and cooperation in higher education across Europe, continues to expand. Erasmus receives approximately € 450 million per annum under the EU's Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013." [more](#) 


### AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

**Charity begins at university (Australian, 4 Jun)** – "Leading institutions are actively courting philanthropy." [more](#) 

**Pay claim means staff cuts, VCs say (Australian, 4 Jun)** – "The Group of Eight universities, which boast the most financially sound institutions in the country, would have to lay off staff if they agreed to a 27 per cent pay claim from the academics' union, Go8 chairman Alan Robson has warned." [more](#) 

**Start-ups tipped to leave for cash (Australian, 4 Jun)** – "The best Australian university researchers will have to go offshore to commercialise their inventions following the axing of the Commercial Ready program, the country's largest investors in university innovation warned yesterday." [more](#) 

**Review fatigue setting in (Australian, 4 Jun)** – "Peak Australian science organisation have warned that multiple ministerial and parliamentary policy reviews could lead to Rudd government inaction and inertia on scientific research and education." [more](#) 


**Seven unis take a bite of Apple site (Australian, 4 Jun)** – "Seven universities in Australia and New Zealand will make a great leap into online lecturing today when American computer giant Apple launches a local iTunes U education site." [more](#) 


**Potential enrolment boom from outward-looking States (Campus Review, 3 June: 1, 3)** – "Australian universities can reap a bonanza in overseas enrolments if they provide US students with meaningful short-term courses, a study from the Institute of International Education (IIE) suggests".


**Multiple views on single accreditation body (Campus Review, 3 June: 3)** – "Universities have told the Inquiry into the Desirability of a National Higher Education Accreditation Body that a stand-alone regulator could increase red tape and put a "straightjacket" on their self-accreditation powers."

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## New Publications

**Australian Research Council, June 2008, *Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) Initiative, Consultation Paper*** – "On 4 June 2008 the Minister announced the ARC's release of the ERA Consultation Paper to the higher education and research sectors. ... The ARC is now inviting submissions in response to the ERA Consultation Paper. You are invited to forward your comments and suggestions to the issues raised in the Consultation Paper by 30 June 2008." To access the paper, navigate to <http://www.arc.gov.au/era/consultation.htm> 

**Institute of International Education, May 2008, *Study Abroad White Paper, Issue 1: Current Trends in U.S. Study Abroad & the Impact of Strategic Diversity Initiatives*** – "It assesses current trends in study abroad in the United States, providing a benchmark for future expansion. It includes an analysis of existing strategic funding initiatives such as the Gilman, Boren and Freeman-ASIA Scholarships, showing how resource allocation can influence the diversity of participants, geographic destinations, field of study and length of study. In addition, the paper also highlights institutions that have created specific program models that better facilitate a more diverse group of students participating in study abroad." To access the publication, navigate to [http://www.iie.org//Content/NavigationMenu/Research\\_and\\_Evaluation/Study\\_Abroad\\_Capacity/StudyAbroadCapacity](http://www.iie.org//Content/NavigationMenu/Research_and_Evaluation/Study_Abroad_Capacity/StudyAbroadCapacity) 

**Institute of International Education, May 2008, *Study Abroad White Paper, Issue 2: Exploring Host Country Capacity for Increasing U.S. Study Abroad*** – "This new report highlights research and findings from a fall 2007 snapshot survey of over 500 host institutions abroad, and on the efforts made by these institutions to increase their host capacity for larger numbers of U.S. students. It also analyzes the challenges these institutions face as well as their motivations and strategic plans to undertake efforts toward internationalization. The report aims to provide policy makers and international education administrators with focused data on how host institutions and countries perceive greatly expanding U.S. study abroad participation." To access the publication, navigate to [http://www.iie.org//Content/NavigationMenu/Research\\_and\\_Evaluation/Study\\_Abroad\\_Capacity/StudyAbroadCapacity](http://www.iie.org//Content/NavigationMenu/Research_and_Evaluation/Study_Abroad_Capacity/StudyAbroadCapacity) 

**Papers and presentations from *Bologna 2020, Unlocking Europe's potential - Contributing to a better world*, Ghent, Belgium, 19-20 May 2008** – "At the London Ministerial meeting, European Ministers in charge of

higher education asked the Bologna Follow-up Group as a whole "to consider how the European Higher Education Area might develop after 2010 and to report back to the next ministerial meeting in 2009". ... The Ghent seminar organised by the Flemish Community of Belgium and Luxembourg in the context of the Bologna 2007-2009 work programme will also in its own way contribute to the reflection process by providing some elements which could be integrated in the future BFUG report." To access the papers, navigate to

<http://www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hogeronderwijs/bologna/BolognaSeminars/Ghent2008.htm> 

**Australian Learning and Teaching Council, *Communiqué Mid-year 2008*** – "A publication that celebrates the successes taking place in learning and teaching around the nation. Read the latest news, views, features, interviews, profiles and appointments in our special mid-year edition." To access this publication, navigate to

<http://www.altc.edu.au/carrick/go> 

**Submission: FASTS Submission to the House of Reps inquiry on higher degree research training (30**

**May)** – "Improving scholarships, increasing international students and moving to fully funding research training are our key points. One recommendation is to roll the International postgraduate awards (IPRS) into the Australian Postgrad awards (APAs) and universities allocate on basis of merit irrespective of country of origin." To access the submission, navigate to


[http://www.fast.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=1](http://www.fast.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1) 

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## New Conferences and Events

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

**Max Weber Programme & Academic Careers Observatory Conference, *University Autonomy and The Globalization of Academic Careers*, Florence, Italy, 11-12 November 2008** – "It is often argued that in order to improve research and educational performance universities should be given sufficient institutional autonomy - this includes financial and managerial autonomy, academic and scientific autonomy as well as organisational and staffing autonomy – and that the academic market should be open and competitive. Such claims raise many questions." To find out more, navigate to

<http://www.eui.eu/MaxWeberProgramme/AcademicCareers/ACOnference2008.shtm> 

**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> 

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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)

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