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News Items & Articles

INTERNATIONAL ITEMS


Quality: easy to say, harder to put into practice (Guardian, 1 Jul) – "Despite recent accusations, the QAA believes that standards in UK higher education are robust." [more](#) 


SPECIAL REPORT: The greening of universities (University World News, 29 Jun) – "Higher education institutions and researchers are making major contributions to advancing knowledge on local, national and global environmental and sustainability issues. But how 'green' are universities themselves? The answer depends on where institutions are located." [more](#) 


Blind faith in metrics is 'unfounded' (THE, 26 Jun) – "The faith being placed in the use of statistics to provide accurate judgment of the quality of academic research is "unfounded", says a group of leading international statisticians." [more](#) 

Where has all the passion gone? (THE, 26 Jun) – "In the heyday of campus radicalism, protests took place at the drop of a hat and Marxism ruled. Today's young are quieter and as likely to vote Tory as for the Left. There's still commitment but, as Tariq Tahir finds, now it's to getting a good job." [more](#) 

AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

Bradley warns of 'brave' changes (Australian, 2 Jul) – "Denise Bradley has put the federal Government on notice that her review of higher education is considering sweeping and brave changes to the sector that may require substantial political will if they are to be implemented." [more](#) 

Quality reforms 'may harm research' (Australian, 2 Jul) – "Researchers have expressed serious concerns over the federal Government's proposed research performance exercise, warning key measures will not be accepted and that it risks downgrading cutting-edge research." [more](#) 


Performance indicators leave much to be desired (Australian, 2 Jul) – "There have been gradual improvements in the learning and teaching performance fund since its introduction for 2006, but the big doubts about it have steadfastly been ignored." [more](#) 


Avoiding the missionary position (Campus Review, 01 Jul: 6) – "While innovation minister Kim Car says universities have an obligation to engage with the community, a visiting UK expert in lifelong learning says the reverse is also the case".


Question 21 & the teaching-research nexus (Campus Review, 01 Jul: 7) – "The teaching research nexus has been brought into sharp focuses in recent weeks with the publication of the Bradley review's discussion paper. The discussion paper poses 35 questions and question 21 asks: "Is there a place in Australia's higher education system for teaching only universities?"


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New Publications

Geoff Scott, Hamish Coates & Michelle Anderson, May 2008, *Learning Leaders in times of change: Academic Leadership Capabilities in Australian Higher Education*, ACER – "This study, funded by Australia's ALTC for Learning & Teaching in Higher Education, has identified the capabilities that characterise effective academic leaders in a range of roles and has produced resources to develop and monitor these leadership capabilities. It has identified that the core focus for leadership in the current, highly volatile, operating context faced by our universities has to be on achieving effective change management and implementation." To access the publication, navigate to <http://url.edna.edu.au/4UHA> 

Julie Ellison and Timothy Eatman 2008, *Scholarship in Public: Knowledge Creation and Tenure Policy in the Engaged University, A Resource on Promotion and Tenure in the Arts, Humanities and Design* – "Publicly engaged academic work is taking hold in American colleges and universities, part of a larger trend toward civic professionalism in many spheres. But tenure and promotion policies lag behind public scholarly and creative work and discourage faculty from doing it. Disturbingly, our interviews revealed a strong sense that pursuing academic public engagement is viewed as an unorthodox and risky early career option for faculty of color." To access this publication, navigate to http://www.communityarts.net/links/archivefiles/2008/06/scholarship_in.php 

Hebe Vessuri and Ulrich Teichler (eds.) 2008, *Universities as Centres of Research and Knowledge Creation: An Endangered Species?* – "The central premise of the 2006 Global Colloquium of the UNESCO Forum for Higher Education Research and Knowledge "Universities as Centres of Research and Knowledge Creation – An Endangered Species" was that research is a key ingredient in the institutional identity of universities and an indispensable prerequisite for a successful programme of teaching and public service. Based on contributions to this Colloquium authors from twenty countries from all regions of the world analyse aspects related to the research function of universities. This book primarily addresses the variety and gaps in higher education across the globe, concentrating on the challenges to transitional and developing countries." To find out more, navigate to <http://www.sensepublishers.com> 


GUNI, Publication of the materials and *Proceedings of the 4th International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education* - Following their presentation during the 4th International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education, GUNI has published on its website 48 papers in their full length and 45 posters. They are classified according to the eight thematic lines of the call for papers. GUNI has also made available some materials and recordings of the conference, such as sessions' videos and presentations. To access the papers, navigate to <http://www.quni-rmies.net/news/detail.php?id=1222> 

***International Higher Education*, Number 52, Summer 2008** – This issue has stories on Costs and Benefits of Open Access Scholarship, Exploring Academic Salaries and Social Cohesion and the University. To access the latest issue, navigate to http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/soe/cihe/newsletter/ 

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New Conferences and Events

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

Investing in the Future: Renewing Australian Tertiary Education, Public Seminar Series, 30 June, 21 July, 28 July, 4 Aug, 11 Aug - "The University of Melbourne is holding a series of five public seminars to explore the fascinating and formidable issues before these two national reviews and to bring the public into the policy discussion. The seminars will be chaired by members of the higher education and innovation reviews, and will feature leading policy makers and academic experts whose task is to make the policy agenda transparent and draw the full diversity of perspectives and views from the seminar audiences. Attendance is free and active participation is encouraged." To find out more navigate to <http://www.cshe.unimelb.edu.au/investinginthefuture/index.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:

- 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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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

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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