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Mark your diary


Charting New Terrain: Creating and maintaining a diversified tertiary education sector in Australia, Melbourne, 27-28 November, 2008 - "The conference will focus on the formation of a diverse tertiary education system in Australia. A select group of national and international speakers will explore the challenges that such a system poses in terms of flexibility, quality and transparency, and meeting the needs of a diverse range of stakeholders. The conference provides ample opportunity for discussion and exchange of ideas, and it is hoped that these can provide input into the review of higher education currently underway. Confirmed speakers include the Hon John Dawkins AO, Mr Robin Shreeve, Professor Frans van Vught and Dr Tom Karmel. [Conference Brochure](#) 
<http://www.mihelm.unimelb.edu.au/chartingnewterrain> 




News Items & Articles

INTERNATIONAL ITEMS


Proponents of Online Education Plan to Start Peer-to-Peer University (Chronicle of Higher Education, 24 Oct) - "Five academics from around the world plan to open a new kind of online university early next year, built upon professor star power and students learning from one another through online social tools." <http://chronicle.com/free/v55/i09/09a01201.htm> 


'Excessive' RAE secrecy criticised (THE, 23 Oct) - "Academic barred from seeing his own school's submission urges transparency." <http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=26&storycode=404018&c=1> 

Institutions pilot new student achievement report (Universities UK, 21 Oct) - "Eighteen higher education institutions are to pilot a new approach to representing the achievements of students at the end of their degrees." <http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/Newsroom/Media-Releases/Pages/HEARtrial.aspx> 

SPECIAL REPORT: Trends in higher education (UWN, 19 Oct) - "Enormous changes in higher education in the past decade have raised new issues that require regular research, with the outcomes primarily presented in scholarly journals but also increasingly through less formal means." <http://www.universityworldnews.com>

AUSTRALIAN ITEMS

University projects to be fast-tracked (Australian, 22 Oct) - "hundreds of millions of dollars worth of infrastructure funding to the university sector is to be fast-tracked as part of efforts to pump-prime the economy in the face of the global credit crisis and recession fears." <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,24535797-12332,00.html> 

Birrell urges more places (Australian, 22 Oct) - "A big increase in public university places is urgently needed to cope with the deepening professionalisation of the workforce, high numbers of young people not in post-school training and the new carbon economy, the Bradley review has been advised." <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,24531029-12149,00.html> 

National R&D expenditure cuts through the 2% GDP barrier (FASTS, 21 Oct) - "Strong growth in business and higher education R&D has lifted Australia's gross expenditure on R&D to just over 2% of GDP for the first time." http://www.fast.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1 

Complement the compacts: Go8 - (Campus Review, 21 Oct: 1, 7) - "Mission-based compacts should have a complementary rather than a central funding role, the Group of Eight believes, with their main functions to encourage community engagement and knowledge transfer and to broaden access to higher education".


Top 20 make Australia number 3 - (Campus Review, 21 Oct: 3) - "Australia has the third-best university system in the world, after the US and UK."

Doctoral education put through the policy wringer (Campus Review, 21 Oct: 9) - "Pressures from doctoral programs from economic and public policy directions have seen substantial changes in recent years, for better and worse."


Overseas postgraduate student numbers rise in Australia (Feast, 19 Oct) - "International postgraduate research student numbers in Australia have increased more rapidly than those in other programmes, suggesting the country is finding traction in the global talent wars, new research has shown." <http://www.feast.org/articles/?ID=1048> 

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New Publications

Australian ePortfolio Project: ePortfolio use by university students in Australia: Informing excellence in policy and practice, ALTC - "ALTC Executive Director, Professor Richard Johnstone said the report highlights the potential for ePortfolio use to support the exchange of information and data across institutional, sectoral and jurisdictional boundaries." <http://www.altc.edu.au/carrick/go> 

World Economic Forum, The Global Competitiveness Report 2008-2009 - "Australia's education system ranks ninth in the world" (Campus Review, 21 Oct: 3) <http://www.weforum.org/documents/gcr0809/index.html>

OECD, Entrepreneurship and Higher Education - "This book examines the role that higher education institutions are currently playing through teaching entrepreneurship and transferring knowledge and innovation to enterprises and discusses how they should develop this role in the future. The key issues, approaches and trends are analysed and compared across a range of countries, from the experiences of the most entrepreneurial universities in North America to advanced European models and emerging practices in Central and Eastern Europe." <http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?sf1=identifiers&st1=842008031P1&LANG=EN> 

Jaana Puukka, Mobilising higher education for regional engagement – lessons learnt from the OECD study, GUNI - "In this article, Jaana Puukka, analyst of the OECD programme on Institutional Management in Higher Education (IMHE), explains how issues relating to higher education institutions and their regional

engagement were addressed and to what extent the regional role of these institutions encompasses the three elements of sustainability, i.e. the economic, social and environmental performance." <http://www.guni-rmies.net/news/detail.php?id=1264>

HEFCE, *Graduates and their early careers* - "This report describes the characteristics of graduates from UK higher education and their progression into work or further study six months, and three and a half years, after graduation and identifies what effect the choice of subject has on their early careers. It focuses on graduates of subjects classified as strategically important and vulnerable." http://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/hefce/2008/08_39/

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New Conferences and Events

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

The Higher Education Information Technology Summit, Melbourne, 6-7 November 2008 - "The IT challenges facing the higher education sector are growing in their complexity, IT Directors face the ever present balancing act of consolidation and cost reduction whilst maintaining the speed and quality of delivery." <http://www.informa.com.au/higheredIT/campus>

Cyber University Era Now, 2008, Bordeaux, France, 10-12 December 2008 - "Three major topics for three days of debates: 1. The governance of higher education institutions at the cyber era: building, succeeding better, evaluating; 2. Succeeding with Educational ICT: training, producing and diffusing, using and attracting; 3. University cooperation at the cyber era: sharing, mutualizing, opening up." <http://ciuen2008.org/index.php/cyuen2008>

UNESCO Symposium on Comparative Analysis of National Research Systems, Paris, France, 16-18 January 2009 - "Since research systems play a key role in the development of low-income countries, the mapping of research systems, with special emphasis on national policies, infrastructure, human capacities and investment, was critical to get a global overview on what we know." http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=54627&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

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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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