

## NEWSLETTER July and August 2010

### News

#### Mobility I

##### ASEM-DUO – GATEWAY TO ANOTHER REGION

The ASEM-DUO Fellowship Fund aims to promote student exchanges between European and Asian ASEM member countries on a balanced permanent basis. The programme is based on the idea of a pair of exchanges between two universities located in two different regions. Students, teachers and professors in any academic field who wish to undertake a period of studies, teaching or research in a partner country can apply for a fellowship award.

Currently 4 contributing member countries – Korea, Singapore, Sweden, and Thailand - offer individual ASEM-DUO programmes. The Selection Committees for DUO-Korea and DUO-Sweden just provided their lists of awarded students for 2010/2011.

DUO-Sweden, which was launched earlier this year, decided upon 12 pairs of students in exchange with China, Japan, and Korea.

DUO-Korea selected 46 Korean students for exchanges, with 15 European partner countries, including France, The Netherlands, Spain, and Germany. The ASEM-Duo Fellowship Program is regarded as a specific tool bringing a growing number of academicians and students to know and understand each other better.

**Further information:** ASEM DUO website at [www.asemduo.org/](http://www.asemduo.org/)

#### Mobility II

##### MORE BRITISH STUDENTS TO STUDY ABROAD

In order to give British students more international experience and make increase their employability, Minister of State for Universities and Science, David Willetts, wants to develop joint undergraduate and postgraduate courses between UK and Indian universities. This will allow students to complete qualifications in India after starting them in Britain. "The number of students going to India at the moment is embarrassingly low. It is a scandal that only 500 British students currently go to one of the world's

fastest growing economies. I want to get it up to the thousands quite soon." said Willetts after returning from India. Earlier this year a report from the Confederation of British Industry warned of negative impacts on trade relations if students missed foreign language skills and lacked cultural awareness.

In 2009 DAAD has also launched the initiative „A passage to India“, promoted by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, in order to enhance cooperation between German and Indian higher education institutions and to give German students the possibility to spend a study period in India.

**Source:** The Telegraph

[www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/7921050/More-British-students-to-study-abroad-says-Willetts.html](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/7921050/More-British-students-to-study-abroad-says-Willetts.html)

#### Mobility III

##### MORE INTERNATIONALISATION THROUGH COMPULSORY STUDIES ABROAD

Danish Minister of Science Charlotte Sahl-Madsen recently proposed to make studying abroad compulsory for university students. With her suggestion the Minister wishes to raise global awareness and stimulate internationalisation.

Preparing students with skills and knowledge that are of use in a globalised world is widely consented - making studying abroad mandatory, however, is not. "It is positive that the Minister is highlighting the importance of internationalisation, but it is not only a question of mobility," said Andersen, Director of international affairs at the University of Copenhagen's International Office in an interview with the University Post.

**Source:** University Post

[universitypost.dk/article/science-minister-wants-force-students-abroad](http://universitypost.dk/article/science-minister-wants-force-students-abroad)

#### Visibility

##### ASIAN BUSINESS SCHOOLS JOIN FORCES TO RECRUIT WESTERN STUDENTS

Four renowned Asian business schools are joining forces to raise visibility towards candidates from Europe and North America to have them earn their MBA in Asia. The Hong Kong University, the Shanghai-headquartered China

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and Research

Europe International School, the Hyderabad-based Indian School of Business, and the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, showcase opportunities for Western students at each of the institutions. The recruitment coalition aims to create a brand – Top Asian B-Schools – that will generate the sort of cachet associated with other top European and U.S. business schools. “There’s the Ivy League in America, so we thought why can’t the Asian business schools do the same kind of thing,” said Nick Soriano, director of marketing and admissions at Nanyang Business School, in Singapore. The allies will present themselves at MBA fairs in Europe and North America in autumn this year.

**Further information: Top Asia B-Schools website**

[www.topasiabschools.com](http://www.topasiabschools.com).

who will not be able to go to college shall attend vocational courses. Therefore India will introduce a national vocational qualifications framework. As a result not only more courses that offer employment opportunities will be created, but also the dependence on informal training will decrease.

**Source:** Daily News and Analysis

[http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report\\_kapil-sibal-wants-30pct-students-to-reach-varsity-level-by-2020\\_1416989](http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report_kapil-sibal-wants-30pct-students-to-reach-varsity-level-by-2020_1416989)

## Korea

### NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS

75,859 international students were enrolled in Korean universities in 2009. The large majority of them (70.5%) are Chinese. By 2012 Korea aims to attract more than 100,000 foreign students. At present, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) is pursuing various reform policies to promote education, science and technology, including simplified visa issue procedures and a one-stop-all administrative support service on the Internet.

Furthermore, it is planned to ease regulations for foreign institutions to open up branches in Korea.

**Source:** Korea Herald

[www.koreaherald.com/national/Detail.jsp?newsMLId=20100811000760](http://www.koreaherald.com/national/Detail.jsp?newsMLId=20100811000760)

and Korea Times

[www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2010/08/113\\_70918.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2010/08/113_70918.html)

## United Kingdom

### POSITIVE IMPACT ON LOCAL ECONOMY THROUGH UNIVERSITY-BUSINESS COOPERATION

UK higher education institutions (HEIs) contribute substantially to the economy and the society. Findings of the UK-wide Higher Education Business and Community Interaction (HE BCI) survey report reveal that universities and colleges in Northern Ireland were able to increase their income from collaborative research by 26% compared to the previous year.

“Commercial businesses and public and third sector organisations here see the benefits that the expertise within our universities can bring and are spending over £20million on contract research and a further £4.1million on specialist consultancy

## National activities

### Hungary

#### NEW MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR EDUCATION

Professor Mikos Réthelyi was appointed Minister of National Resources, responsible for health, culture, science, families, pension policy, safeguarding young people and equal opportunities. The formerly autonomous ministry for education was merged into the newly formed ministry. Each key field has a state secretary. The education sector is in the hands of Rozsa Hoffmann.

### India

#### MORE STUDENTS TO REACH VARSITY LEVEL

Indian Minister for Human Resources Development Kapil Sibal has set a clear target. 30% of students should avail higher education by 2020. "The current rate is only 12.4%. Presently, there are 500 universities and about 25,000 colleges in the country. We need another 800 universities and 35,000-40,000 colleges to enable more 46 million children to avail college education," said Sibal at the Indo-US summit on higher education organised by the Indo-American Society (IAS).

If the plan succeeds about 60 million school graduates will move forward to colleges and universities. Those having secondary school and

services.” said Employment and Learning Minister Sir Reg Empey.

The full report can be found on the [Higher Education Funding Council for England website](#).

## Resources

### CREDIT SYSTEM AND LEARNING OUTCOMES IN ASEM MEMBER COUNTRIES

In order to meet the demand of transparency of existing credit systems in ASEM countries the ASEM Education Secretariat carried out a survey that led to an inventory of data on the higher education systems in the ASEM countries, with a focus on credits and quality assurance.

**Further information:** ASEM Education Secretariat website

[www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/13024/index.html](http://www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/13024/index.html).

## Road map for ASEMME3

The next Asia-Europe Meeting of Ministers for Education (ASEMME3) will take place May 9-10, 2011 in Copenhagen, Denmark. In preparation of the Ministerial conference the **Senior Officials** will meet **January 27-28, 2011** in Copenhagen in order to follow-up previous ministerial meetings and to prepare the Copenhagen conference.

## Forthcoming events

**15-18 September 2010**

### EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION (EAIE) IN NANTES, FRANCE

On the EAIE annual conference in Nantes, the ASEM Education Secretariat will chair the session “The Asia–Europe Meeting (ASEM): how to make use of it as a higher education institution”. This session will explain the working of ASEM and its meaning for European universities. It will show how, next to the Bologna process, other political decisions go beyond Europe and put higher education in an even more global perspective. The AES will also present its work and purpose during another session chaired by the ASEM Education Hub.

**Further information:** EAIE website at

[www.eaie.org/nantes/programme/sessions2.asp?ID=1964&OrderID=88&YearNbr=2010&TypeID=1&StatusID=7](http://www.eaie.org/nantes/programme/sessions2.asp?ID=1964&OrderID=88&YearNbr=2010&TypeID=1&StatusID=7)

**2-3 October 2010**

### ASEF SIDE EVENT OF THE ASEM 8 SUMMIT "4th Connecting Civil Societies of Asia and Europe: Changing Challenges, New Ideas" in Brussels, Belgium

Connecting Civil Societies of Asia and Europe is a two day meeting organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) together with the International Institute of Asian Studies (Leiden), the Singapore Institute for International Studies (Singapore) and the European Policy Centre, coming together in the Europe-Asia Policy Forum (EU for Asia).

**Further information:** ASEF website

[www.asef.org/index.php?option=com\\_project&task=view&id=630](http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=630)

**4-5 October 2010**

### ASEM 8 IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

This will be the eighth privileged occasion for ASEM leaders to give expression to the common views of Asia and Europe. They will discuss global challenges by focusing on the relationship between the two regions.

**Further information:** ASEM 8 website:

[www.asem8.be](http://www.asem8.be)

**7 October 2010**

### SOUTH EAST ASIA – EUROPE HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FORUM IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Higher education and research cooperation between EU and ASEAN has been intensifying in recent years through wide-ranging dialogue and in particular through EC funded projects that aim to strengthen collaboration between the two regions in a variety of fields. The collaboration support platforms SEA-EU-NET (Bi-Regional EU-ASEAN Science and Technology Dialogue) and ACCESS (Academic Cooperation Europe-South-East Asia Support) projects organise this event that will gather experts and decision makers involved in EU - South East Asia cooperation in higher education and research. Delegates from the ASEM Education Secretariat will attend the forum

**Further information:** Official ASEM8 website

[www.asem8.be/event/south-east-asia-europe-higher-education-and-research-forum](http://www.asem8.be/event/south-east-asia-europe-higher-education-and-research-forum)

**7-8 October 2010**

**ASEMUNDUS CONTACT SEMINAR IN  
JAKARTA, INDONESIA**

From October 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and in the run-up to the European Higher Education Fair (EHEF) Jakarta 2010 (October 9/10, 2010) a contact seminar on Erasmus Mundus will take place for interested European and Indonesian higher education representatives. Coordinated by DAAD the European consortium ASEMUNDUS offers a seminar aiming to facilitate and strengthen cooperation and increase the number of Erasmus Mundus partnerships between Europe and Asia. The seminar offers a unique opportunity to upgrade your network by getting in touch with future cooperation partners and present your project proposal to an interested Indonesian audience.

Further information: ASEM Education Secretariat website

[www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/12184/](http://www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/12184/)

**26-27 October 2010**

**2<sup>nd</sup> ASEM RECTORS' CONFERENCE IN  
SEOUL, KOREA**

Building on the results of the 1st ASEM Rectors' Conference, this biannual meeting will convene rectors and heads of universities and higher education institutions from ASEM member states to, amongst others, develop recommendations for the upcoming ASEM Conference of Ministers for Education, Copenhagen, May 2011. The Director of the ASEM Education Secretariat is invited to present the ASEM education process and its run up for 2011.

Further information: ASEM website  
[www.asef.org/index.php?option=com\\_project&task=view&id=661](http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=661)

**December 2010**

**ASEM CONFERENCE "QUALITY ASSURANCE  
AND RECOGNITION: CHALLENGES AND  
PROSPECTS" in Cyprus**

As announced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEM Education Ministerial Conference in Hanoi 2009, the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus will hold a conference on quality assurance. The aim of the event is to intensify the dialogue between Europe and Asia on quality assurance and recognition matters and provide an opportunity for the

exchange of experiences, know-how, and good practices amongst the participants.

Further information: ASEM Education Secretariat website

[www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/14542/index.html](http://www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/14542/index.html)

**11-12 January 2011**

**ASEM TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET)  
SYMPOSIUM IN QINGDAO, CHINA**

The Ministry of Education, P.R.China, together with the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and supported by the ASEM Education Secretariat will organise the "ASEM Technical and Vocational Education and Training Symposium" as announced in Hanoi 2009.

The event, with the main theme of "How to improve attractiveness and employability of TVET in the current global economic situation", will establish a platform for ASEM countries to share the effective policies and best practices in developing TVET and to tackle with challenges caused by the financial turmoil.

Further information: ASEM Education Secretariat website

[www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/14600/index.html](http://www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/14600/index.html)

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