

NEWSLETTER September 2010

Foreword

Dear Readers,

We would like to inform you that the format of our newsletter has changed. In order to keep you updated about current developments and activities in the field of education in ASEM member countries we now also include information from various international newspapers.

Please keep in mind that this "press review" will not be exhaustive: Should you have any comments or suggestions on this new approach, please feel free to contact us.

Enjoy reading,

THE ASEM EDUCATION SECRETARIAT TEAM

ASEM Conference in Brussels

PUBLIC CONFERENCE ON EUROPE-ASIA INTER-REGIONAL RELATIONS

On 12 and 13 July a representative of the ASEM Education Secretariat (AES) attended a Public Conference on Europe-Asia inter-regional relations in Brussels. The conference took place in the run-up of the 8th Asia-Europe Meeting and was organised by the European Commission.

This conference was the first in its kind, permitting the ASEM Senior Officials to prepare for the ASEM 8 Summit.

About 180 public policy thinkers, advisers and experts from think tanks, academia, civil society, press and private consultancies gathered in Brussels on this occasion. Almost every ASEM member was represented. The group addressed a range of issues including the evolving regional political architectures, security, global financial regulation, winners and losers in globalization and the quality of life.

In his remarkable speech Mr Professor Simon Tay, Chairman, of the Singapore Institute of

International Affairs (SIIA), stressed how the way the two continents see each other keeps on changing. In the beginning ASEM was created with the ASEAN countries just after the crisis of the upcoming South-East Asian economies. Now all European eyes seem to focus on the new economic superpowers China and India. The relation Europe-Asia should not be narrowed down to purely economic or strategic interests. Learning from each other in all possible topics is the core of ASEM. That's why he believed firmly in the people to people pillar instrument.

During the session on education and culture the speakers also put a lot of emphasis on the use of the people to people tools as instruments for learning to know each other as a continuing process. In an ever changing world, mobility of people is an evident tool to achieve this goal

The timing of the conference proved excellent, giving the Senior Officials and experts an opportunity to convey their views and ideas outside the official sphere.

The AES appreciates very much that in his closing address Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, Mr. Steven Vanackere, mentioned the role that the AES, the Erasmus Mundus programme, and ASEF have to play in the building of greater understanding between the peoples through closer people-to-people contacts.

Complete version of speech:

<http://www.asem8.be/minister-foreign-affairs-vanackere-public-conference-europe-asia-relations>

ERASMUS Mundus Results

SELECTION 2010, ACTION 1

Recently, the European Commission published the results of the second selection round in Action 1 of the ERASMUS Mundus II programme. According to the information 9 ERASMUS

Mundus Joint Doctoral Programmes and 29 new Joint Master Programmes have been selected. The participation of Asian higher education institutions which can act as a full partner in these programmes could be much improved. Only one out of 9 PHD programmes has an Asian University Partner, namely, the EDIM Programme on Industrial management, coordinated by KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden, which cooperates with the Rajamangala University of Technology Tanyaburi, Thailand.

As far as the Joint Master Programmes are concerned 5 programmes include Asian higher education institutions as consortium members:

- IMETE on Environmental Technology and Engineering includes the Chinese Academy of Science the University of Hyderabad, India and the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand;
- Industrial Ecology includes the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand;
- Energy Storage and Conversion includes the Xiamen University, China;
- City Regeneration includes the National Institute of Technology, India;
- Special and Inclusive Education includes the Universiti Sains Malaysia.

Online:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/results_compendia/selected_projects_action_1_master_courses_en.php

Among other things, it will encourage actions to tackle the high level of early school leaving, promote apprenticeship-type vocational training, get more people into higher education and back a more user-friendly system for benchmarking universities. A dedicated Youth on the Move website will provide a one-stop-shop for access to information on EU mobility and learning opportunities and the Commission will propose a Youth on the Move card to promote study or training abroad.

Online:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/index_en.htm

News

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION LAUNCHED THE "YOUTH ON THE MOVE" INITIATIVE, PART OF THE EU'S NEW EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY

On 15 September 2010 the European Commission published its "Youth on the Move" communication. "Youth on the move" is a strategy and not a funding programme. It will promote the mobility and employment prospects of young people. The strategy defines what needs to be done at EU level to unleash the potential of young people to achieve smart, inclusive and sustainable growth in the EU.

Press review

Mobility

Korea Times, August 5, 2010

KOREA: UNIVERSITIES TO SET UP OVERSEAS CAMPUS

Students may be able to enrol at a domestic university and study both at home and abroad using its overseas campuses, in the very near future. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology on Thursday gave prior notice of a law revision that would enable domestic universities to establish branches abroad. The revision, if approved by the National Assembly, would come into effect January 1st 2011.

Doors would open wider to universities seeking to globalize by attracting world class professors who are reluctant relocate to Korea as well as high level Korean and foreign students. Under the current law, it is difficult for domestic universities to establish branches, institutes, academies and other facilities overseas as the law makes it mandatory for the school foundation to secure a certain size of real estate for the campus and relevant facilities; more than 10 billion won for permanent property, and a certain number of professors.

Online:

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2010/08/113_70918.html

University Post, August 9, 2010

REPORT: GIANT CAMPUS A GOOD IDEA

A huge campus in Copenhagen that can house over 1,000 students and 400 researchers would help keep internationals in Denmark, and improve integration. The project requires DKK 1.8 billion in private funds

The idea of an enormous campus area in Copenhagen, with student housing, sports facilities, shops and restaurants is worth pursuing, according to a private think tank. The campus would attract new talented young people from abroad and encourage them to stay in Denmark by giving them a social network, according to Think Tank Talents.

The study concludes that in order to be successful, the campus must have »a strong culture and a story to tell«.

Online:

<http://universitypost.dk/article/report-giant-campus-good-idea>

Business Standard, September 8, 2010

CHINA, INDIA TOP LIST OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN OECD COUNTRIES

The largest numbers of international students to countries in the 33-nation Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) grouping are from China and India, with the highest number of Indian students choosing the US as their proffered destination for tertiary education.

India accounts for 6.8% of all international students enrolled in OECD countries, while China's share is 17%. In the US, almost half the students who come from India pursue tertiary education.

Online:

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/china-india-top-list-international-students-in-oecd-countries/407373/>

University World News, August 22, 2010

SWEDEN: LUND REVIEWS FOREIGN STUDENT ADMISSIONS

Lund University has unilaterally decided to change its admission procedures for this academic year and has resorted to manual selection among foreign students who were deprived of a place by unwanted side effects of the new procedures. Its decision follows widespread criticism of the new Swedish student selection system reported by University World News last week. In theory, foreign students with higher grades than all national students could be turned down because both groups were selected from different pools. A certain percentage of each pool could enrol. If many Swedish students applied to one programme and less than 50% of them could be admitted, a single student in the pool of foreign applicants could not be admitted

because less than 50% of one student is no student.

Online:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=2010082015300035>

University World News, September 12, 2010
ASIA: INTERNATIONAL BAC – “A GLOBAL ACADEMIC PASSPORT”

The International Baccalaureate diploma is increasingly regarded as a “global academic passport” by aspirant families in Asian countries, rather than simply a niche qualification to provide education continuity for internationally mobile families such as diplomats, research by the International Baccalaureate Organisation’s (IBO) Asia Pacific has found office. The internationally recognised IB diploma, set up in the 1960s, has become a way to jump-start applications to overseas universities. “IB students are on the move and the IB is being utilised to create and realise transnational options,” said Judith Guy, director of advancement and access at the IBO in Singapore. “In that sense the IB is being regarded by families in Asia as an instrument for social mobility, not just geographical mobility.” (Yojana Sharma)

Source: Judith Guy and John Switzer: The Migratory Trends of International Baccalaureate Diploma Students in Asia Pacific: Going Global? In the Journal of the World Universities Forum, Volume 3 Issue 5 pp 59-74.

University World News, September 14, 2010
OECD: HIGHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE ATTACKS RANKINGS

With the international university rankings season underway, higher education policy-makers and leaders have criticised league tables for distorting university priorities during a major global recession. Delegates speaking at a three-day OECD conference in Paris said rankings did not help. Vice-chancellor of California State University, Charles Reed, caused a stir when he described global rankings as “a disease”.

Online:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20100913221821918>

University World News, September 16, 2010
UNESCO: UN TO INCREASE ITS FOCUS ON HIGHER EDUCATION

The United Nations is to focus more strongly on higher education in developing countries, Qian Tang, UNESCO's newly-appointed Assistant Director-General for Education, said in Paris this week. While UNESCO has been one of the lead organisations in pushing for primary and secondary enrolments in developing countries under the Education for All millennium development goal, demand for higher education is rising, particularly in countries with strong secondary school enrolment. “Higher education is an essential part of holistic education systems and, following significant demand from our member states, an area of work that I intend to bring increased focus to during my tenure,” he said during the closing session of a conference held at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development from 13-15 September.

Online:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20100916114605196>

University Business Cooperation

The Chronicle, September 16, 2010
EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES MOVE TO BRIDGE GAP BETWEEN BUSINESS AND ACADEME

Universities in Europe and elsewhere are deepening their links with industry, both at home and abroad, in a profound shift for institutions that once prided themselves on standing aloof from business.

Several sessions at the annual conference of the European Association for International Education taking place here this week are focused on this development. The keynote session on Thursday, for example, was devoted to “the concept of an “entrepreneurial” or “business-oriented” university.”

Online:

http://chronicle.com/article/European-Universities-Move-to/124508/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

The Chronicle, September 12, 2010

PORTUGAL AIMS TO MODERNIZE WITH HELP FROM THE U.S.

Effort to align academe and industry relies on campus partnerships

On a hilltop high above the city center on the campus of the University of Coimbra stands an imposing statue of King Dinis, the university's founder. He is tufted with tatters of black fabric, remnants of a tradition in which friends rip a graduate's academic robe to celebrate completion of his studies. Like much at Coimbra, which was founded in 1290 and is one of Europe's oldest universities, the practice dates back centuries.

Online:

http://chronicle.com/article/Portuguese-Universities-Turn/124364/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

ASEM round-up

Multilateral

Xinhua.net, September 28, 2010

MOBILITY PROGRAM HELPS STRENGTHEN ASEAN RELATIONS: MINISTER

University students mobility program can help strengthen relations among ASEAN people, preventing the close ties from being affected by certain aggressive nationalist groups.

Malaysian Higher Education Minister Mohamed Khaled Nordin made remarks at Malaysia's federal administration center here on Tuesday after the soft launch of the Malaysia-Indonesia-Thailand Mobility Program.

The program is one of the main priorities that SEAMEO RIHED, the regional center for higher education and development hosted by the Thai government, aspires to promote.

Under such program, Khaled said students from one of the countries would be sent to another country to study for a term of five months.

This would not only broaden their vision, but also help strengthen the ties between people of different nations, said Khaled, adding that the

growth and unity of ASEAN were dependent on the students.

Online:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/indepth/2010-09/28/c_13534029.htm

Viet Nam News, August 28, 2010

SOUTH ASIA: REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES AGREE ON NETWORK DEAL

Eleven universities in Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam signed an agreement yesterday during a University Presidents' Conference in HCM City to develop a collaborative network in the region.

Dr Huynh Thanh Dat, deputy rector of Viet Nam National University of HCM City, said the network was composed of three universities in Cambodia, four in Laos and four in Viet Nam. The universities in Cambodia include the Royal University of Phnom Penh, Royal University of Economics and Law and University of Health Sciences, and in Laos, the National University of Laos, Champasak University, Souphanouvong University and Savannakhet University.

Online:

<http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/Pages/PrintView.aspx?ArticleID=203082>

University World News, September 12, 2010

JAPAN-CHINA: MOVING CLOSER, SAY STUDENTS AND ACADEMICS

Suvendrini Kakuchi

Sino-Japanese ties, dogged by historical colonial wounds, have grown closer thanks to increasing economic interdependency, according to responses from students and academics polled in both countries. And relations could improve further with more university contacts and exchanges.

Results released in August show as many as three out of four Chinese view the country's relationship with Japan as 'good', and while the Japanese are less positive, at around 54%, overall support for better ties has grown among the two groups compared with 2009.

"Optimism is expressed by both sides and is rising slowly each year even though distrust is also apparent," said Taijo Yamashita of Genron

NPO, a think-tank in Tokyo that conducted the sixth annual survey together with the Beijing-based China Daily, the leading English-language newspaper.

Online:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20100911065818454>

China

The Independent, September 29, 2010

CHINA WANTS MORE FOREIGN STUDENTS TO CONSIDER USING ITS UNIVERSITY

Sixty years ago there were just 20 foreign students studying in China. By 2020, there should be 500,000.

That's what will happen if a plan released Tuesday by the Chinese Ministry of Education does what it sets out to do.

Easier visa access, an increase in the number of scholarships available and more English language courses are among the policies to be implemented by the MOE as it looks to open up China's institutes of higher education to the outside world.

Money, of course, will help make the wheels of this project spin and China is hoping that most of those predicted 500,000 will be self-funding - a group that has grown to quite staggering numbers in recent years.

Online:

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/china-wants-more-foreign-students-to-consider-using-its-universities-2092614.html>

India

International Focus, September 15, 2010 (p. 3)
INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMITS

American universities continue to make strides in responding to India's call for more international input into their higher education aspirations. A bilateral HE summit under the auspices of the Indo-American Society was held in Mumbai on 31 July – 1 August. A report prepared by PwC's Indian offices, 'Emerging Opportunities for Private and Foreign Participation in Higher Education', was released at the meeting. It noted the

inadequacies of India's education infrastructure and how this has led to the acceptance of the private sector as a partner in meeting the government's ambitions in domestic capacity (indeed, half of India's students are already taught in private institutions).

Online:

<http://www.international.ac.uk/resources/International%20Focus%2061.15.09.10.pdf>

Report available at

http://www.pwc.com/en_IN/in/assets/pdfs/Publications-2010/Report_with_IAS_logo.pdf

Hindustan Times, September 2, 2010

CHANGE FOREIGN FACULTY RULE: IITs

The Indian Institutes of Technology have asked the government to allow them to hire foreign nationals as permanent faculty, in a radical proposal that if accepted could expose students to globally-renowned professors like never before. The IIT proposal comes amid a growing number of applications from foreign nationals - including Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) - to teach at India's premier engineering schools, top Institute sources have told Hindustan Times.

Online:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Change-foreign-faculty-rule-IITs/Article1-594967.aspx>

The Times of India, August 25, 2010

STATE PLANNING TO SET UP COUNTRY'S FIRST VOCATIONAL UNIVERSITY, SAYS MINISTER

The Maharashtra government is considering a move to set up the first of its kind vocational university in the country, said minister for higher and technical education Rajesh Tope here on Tuesday. Through such university, the government will promote establishment of colleges, which will offer degrees in a range of vocational trades, he said.

"The move will ensure an apt social status for students passing out with degrees in vocational studies besides facilitating vertical mobility for those passing standards XI and XII with vocational subjects," said Tope. "As of now, such students have no option but to join conventional

arts, science or commerce streams after Standard XII," he said.

Online:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/State-planning-to-set-up-countrys-first-vocational-university-says-minister/articleshow/6428668.cms#ixzz10Leirshg>

Japan

University World News, August 29, 2010 TOP UNIVERSITIES SHARPEN INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

Japanese society is undergoing transformative changes amidst a wave of IT growth and globalisation. Even the "once-in-a-century" recession of two years ago seems merely a ripple in this massive swell. The world is fused together with a unifying economic system and the speed of change has accelerated dramatically.

Online:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20100828205552222>

Sweden

University World News, September 12, 2010 BOOM IN INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS

Jan Petter Myklebust

Applications for international master studies in Sweden have increased by 124% over 2009, while the number of applicants for international courses increased by 43%. Of 49,008 applications received by Swedish universities, 22,808 were for masters programmes, compared with 10,180 in 2009. For international courses the number was up from 18,239 to 26,280. The University of Halstad received 6,530 applications for a masters in computer networking techniques while the University of Borås received 5,815 for a programme in informatics. Among the applicants from 140 nations who want to study in Sweden this year, 7,696 were from Pakistan, 3,803 from Bangladesh, 2,350 from India and 1,598 from Ethiopia.

Online:

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20100911064911157>

Thailand

The Chronicle, September 12, 2010 GRAND PLANS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

On the fifth floor of an unremarkable concrete building in the Thai capital, several dozen students are scribbling furiously as they take their end-of-term examinations. The clusters of test-takers do not come close to filling the rows of wooden desks that stretch the length and breadth of the cavernous room where, administrators say, 1,000 people can attend a class.

Online:

http://chronicle.com/article/In-Thailand-Grand-Plans-for/124378/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=em

UK

eGov monitor - A Policy Dialogue Platform, September 6, 2010

STUDENT IMMIGRATION REFORM A PRIORITY AS ONE FIFTH OF STUDENTS STAY IN THE UK FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS

In his first major speech on immigration, Damian Green, the Immigration Minister is expected to pledge reform of the current student immigration system, especially since only half of the student visas are issued for University courses.

According to a Home Office study which tracked NON EU immigrants to the UK from 2004 revealed that the largest group entered the UK on a student visa. And, around 21% or 37,000 of them are still in the UK. Using these statistics, the minister would say that student migration is unsustainable and the coalition government would provide "smart" controls to reduce net migration.

Online:

<http://www.egovmonitor.com/node/38318>

Vietnam

Viet Nam News, September 15, 2010 **UNIVERSITIES STRUGGLE TO RECRUIT LECTURERS**

Low teacher salaries have made it difficult for universities in HCM City to attract lecturers and meet the target for new hires in 2010 set by the Ministry of Education and Training. The HCM City University of Law, for example, is still looking for 35 new lecturers to meet the target of a total of 235 for the university.

Online:

<http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/Social-Issues/203706/Universities-struggle-to-recruit-lecturers.html>

Publisher: ASEM Education Secretariat
c/o German Academic Exchange Service
Phone: +49 228 882 467
Fax : +49 228 882 555
Mail : asem-secretariat@daad.de
<http://www.asem-education-secretariat.org>

Represented Board of Directors:
President: Prof. Dr. Dr. Sabine Kunst
Registergericht Bonn
Registernummer VR 2107
Editor
Dr. Siegbert Wuttig, DAAD
Nina Scholle-Pollmann, DAAD
Bettina Onyango, DAAD

Despite careful control we assume no liability for the content of external links. For the content of linked pages their operators are responsible

Publications

TRENDS 2010: A DECADE OF CHANGE IN EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION

Publisher: European University Association,
Brussels 2010 - ISBN 978-9-0789-9717-7

This book explains about the results of the reformation concerning the implementation of Bologna-Statement since 2002 (Bologna-Process). The content is systematically divided into the context of transformation, which bases on the higher education situation, globalization process and how the national decisions give the contribution. This book can be downloaded for free of charge on <http://www.eua.be/publications>.