

NEWSLETTER February 2010

THE ASEM EDUCATION SECRETARIAT INFORMS

In early February the Director of the ASEM Education Secretariat, Dr. Siegbert Wuttig, and his Deputy, Nina Scholle-Pollmann, payed a visit to the European Commission and to the European University Association in Brussels in order to present their activities and duties. As the Bologna Process in its external dimension is very interested in the dialogue with countries outside the European Higher Education Area, Jan Pakulski, Head of the unit responsible for international cooperation and programmes, ERASMUS Mundus and Tempus in the European Commission, suggested that the ASEM Education Secretariat and the European Commission should meet with Asian ASEM members in informal talks at the Bologna Policy Forum in Vienna (12 March 2010) to figure out priorities for future cooperation.

The ASEM Education Secretariat as well as the ASEMUNDUS project (we informed about this project in the November 2009 edition) will be presented by Siegbert Wuttig at the Bologna Policy Forum.

EDUCATION IN THE WORLD

GLOBAL HIGHER EDUCATION FORUM 2009

From December 13th to 16th 2009, the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia (MoHE) together with the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) hosted the Global Higher Education Forum. In order to discuss current trends and future perspectives in higher education, experts from different regional blocs (e.g., EU, NAFTA, ASEAN and APEC), networks (e.g. ASAIHL, ACU, AAU, EUA and IAU) and other stakeholders attended the forum. The four sessions offered a discussion platform on topics such as:

1. Higher Education Regionalisation and Harmonisation: One Model Fits All?
2. Higher Education in a Globally Competitive World – From a Tradable to a Competitive Commodity
3. Higher Education in Times of Global Financial and Economic Turbulence
4. Scenarios for Higher Education Futures

Presentations and further information can be obtained under:

www.Gheforum.usm.my/2009/

EDUCATION IN ASIA

THE 45th SEAMEO COUNCIL CONFERENCE

The SEAMEO Council Conference (SEAMEC) is the annual meeting of the Council of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation consisting of Education Ministers of the 11 SEAMEO Member Countries, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

SEAMEO was established in 1965 as a chartered international organisation whose purpose is to promote cooperation in education, science and culture in the Southeast Asian region.

The conference agenda highlighted 10 collaborative projects of the SEAMEO member countries that aim at providing education to the underserved communities in the region, integration of climate change issues in school curriculum, harmonization of higher education in Southeast Asia, building capacity on maximizing the use of language in teaching, integration of ICT in teaching and learning, and strengthening visibility of SEAMEO.

Towards the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015, the policy forum about higher education has focused on the progress reports about “A Structured Framework for Regional Integration in Higher Education in Southeast Asia: The Road towards a Common Space”, and the SEAMEO Pilot Project on “Promoting Student Mobility in Southeast Asia – Initiative towards the Harmonisation of Higher Education Student Mobility and Internationalization of Vocational Education”.

The 45th SEAMEO Council Conference took place on 26-29 January 2010 in Cebu City, the Philippines back-to-back with the 5th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (posted by Que Anh Dang).

THE 5th ASEAN EDUCATION MINISTERS MEETING

The joint statement of the Ministers and details on the 45th SEAMEC can be obtained under:

<http://www.aseansec.org/24268>.

http://www.seameo.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=0&Itemid=27

The 46th SEAMEO Council Conference will be held in February, 2011 in Brunei Darussalam.

AES SPOTLIGHT

In every second edition of this newsletter the ASEM Education Secretariat spotlight will present one institution/association/network from Asia or Europe acting with educational matters. This time we present:

APAIE

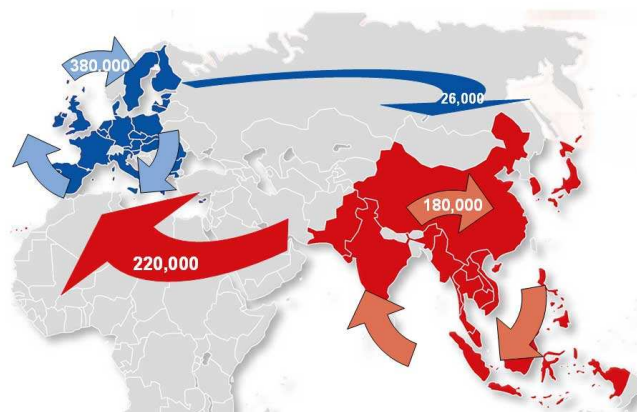
The Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE), one of the most influential and recognised international higher education organisations in the region, promotes greater cooperation among its members' international activities. APAIE endeavours to enhance the quality of the region's international programmes and the range and scope of their activities by facilitating greater exchange among its members. Its last annual Conference & Exhibition in April 2009 in Beijing hosted 150 speakers and more than 850 attendees from 55 countries. APAIE has chosen a very exciting theme for the 2010 APAIE Conference in Gold Coast, Australia in April: "Educating for Extremes? Educating for global challenges in a rapidly changing world".

APAIE takes great pride in its cooperation and collaboration with organisations worldwide. The Founder and the President of APAIE, Doo-Hee LEE, has established APAIE in 2004 with the 13 founding representatives from Asia Pacific regions. The leader of Internationalisation of Higher Education in the World, Professor Lee from Korea University, advocated APL (Asia Pacific Leaders) that promotes multi-lateral student exchanges in Asia Pacific through under umbrella of APAIE. APAIE is now considered as one of the three most influential associations in the world.

Further information can be obtained under <http://www.apaie.org>

EDUCATION IN ASEM:

Student mobility flow inside the EU, inside Asian ASEM members and between the EU and Asian ASEM members:



Source: UNESCO Global Education Digest 2009

SEMINARS TO COME:

ASEM Universities and Business/Industry Forum

As already announced in the latest edition of our Newsletter, the Thai Ministry of Education and the ASEM Education Secretariat have taken the initiative to convene a forum of experts on universities and business/industry cooperation. This forum will take place in Bangkok on March 25th and 26th 2010. Various workshops on topics such as joint curriculum development, research and development enhancement, mobility of staff and students and employability of students and doctoral candidates will be offered to the experts coming from the different ASEM member countries. The main objective of the seminar is to formulate recommendations for future improvement in university-business cooperation and to feed these findings in the next ASEM conference of Ministers for Education in Denmark 2011 (ASEMME3).

Further information can be obtained under <http://www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/12209/>

ASEM Education Hub Workshop on the Impact of the Financial Crisis to Higher Education

The 1st Asia-Europe Education Workshop on "The Impact of the Financial Crisis to Higher Education" will be organised by the ASEM Education Hub (AEH), the higher education initiative of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), in co-

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operation with the Asian Institute of Management Scientific Research Foundation (AIM-SRF) on 25-26 March 2010 in Makati City, Philippines. The 2-day experts' meeting is expected to shed light on what is and will be the actual impact of the financial crisis on higher education across all ASEM countries, both at the institutional/national and international levels (e.g., how does the crisis affect mobility, international co-operation, funding systems, aso). Its prime objective is to create a 'reliable snapshot' of the current situation of higher education institutions in ASEM countries. The conclusions and recommendations of the Workshop will be presented at the ASEM VIII Summit (Brussels, October 2010) and the ASEM Rectors' Conference (Korea, November 2010). Further information can be obtained under http://www.asef.org/index.php?option=com_project&task=view&id=605

ASEM Seminar on Credits and Learning Outcomes

On April 15th and 16th the ASEM Education Secretariat is organising an expert seminar on credits and learning outcomes. This seminar is conceived as a platform for European and Asian higher education experts to present different models of credit systems and learning outcomes used in Asia and Europe. Around 60 participants will be invited to exchange ideas on how to develop a common understanding of these mobility and recognition tools. The results and recommendations of the meeting will be transferred to the ASEMME3.

Further information can be obtained under <http://www.asem-education-secretariat.org/en/12209/>

COMING NEXT:

Information on the Bologna Ministerial Anniversary Conference in Budapest and Vienna, 11th – 12th March 2010 and the Bologna Policy Forum in Vienna, 12th March 2010.

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