



Press release: 18 October 2010

European University Association (EUA) 2010 Annual Conference:

University leaders debate changing landscape of European higher education

How are Europe's universities and national higher education systems responding to a number of common challenges which include multiple reforms in higher education, research, governance and funding systems not to mention the current economic crisis? This will be a central theme of this week's EUA Annual Conference, "Diversities and Commonalities – the changing face of Europe's universities", taking place at the University of Palermo in Italy (21-23 October).

The event will bring together more than 300 university leaders and higher education stakeholders to explore the evolving nature of Europe's universities and whether diversity in Europe can be strength in a global context.

In addition to presenting the findings of a recent EUA study on the diversity in European higher education there will be also be keynote speeches by a range of European and non European experts. These will include: Bernd Huber, President of Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich, Germany, and Chairman of LERU (League of European Research Universities); Tom Collins, President, National University of Ireland, Maynooth (NUIM); Brian O'Connell, Rector & Vice-Chancellor, University of the Western Cape, South Africa; and Clifford Adelman, Senior Associate with the Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP), United States.

The closing speech will be given by Androulla Vassiliou, EC Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth on the 'growing diversity of European higher education – implications for the further development of the Modernisation Agenda for Higher Education'.

In two sessions of workshops, experts will also highlight examples of strategies and practices adopted by university leaders designed to attract and retain high quality staff, cater to diverse student profiles, and consider incentives for developing diverse research strategies and research portfolios.

Please click here to find out more about the EUA Conference: www.eua.be/palermo.

Ends:

For more details (during or before the conference) please contact:

Andrew Miller
European University Association
Mobile: + 32 473 748 785
Tel: + 32 2 743 1 159
Email: andrew.miller@eua.be