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Promoting creativity in doctoral (PhD) education: 200 specialists from 35 countries gather in Madrid for European meeting

Around 200 university leaders, researchers, politicians and other important stakeholders will gather next week at Carlos III University of Madrid (Spain) to discuss how universities can support the development of talented young researchers embarking on a PhD by implementing structures and creating conditions aimed at promoting creativity and innovation in doctoral education.

These experts will gather in Spain for the Annual Meeting of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education; a major gathering of all European stakeholders in the field of doctoral education. The meeting will look to present thought-provoking ideas, illustrative case studies and debates on relevant topics in the field.

EUA Secretary General Lesley Wilson said: "One of the goals of doctoral education is to nurture the innovative research mindset. Achieving this mindset requires the development of a high level of autonomy and critical thinking as well as the ability to think independently and creatively about highly complex issues. This innovative mindset is a precondition for the development of the knowledge society, and universities have a great responsibility to provide the training through research that cultivates the innovative mind."

In addition to keynote presentations, there will be a number of case studies presented on a variety of issues that affect creativity such as:

- The impact of legal frameworks
- How university structures can support creativity
- Assuring individual freedom in supervision arrangements
- Focusing on the individual in career development
- And creating a diverse portfolio of doctoral programmes in the institution

More information about the event is available here: <http://www.eua.be/fourth-eua-cde-madrid.aspx>

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The mission of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE), an integral part of the European University Association, is to contribute to the development, advancement and improvement of doctoral education and research training in Europe. With around 200 members, EUA-CDE fulfils its mission through the organisation of conferences, and other events on topics of interest to its members, the commissioning of research and analyses, advocacy, the provision of information and the dissemination of good practice. It also provides policy advice to the EUA on new trends and developments in relation to doctoral programmes and research training in Europe.