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European University Association Council for Doctoral Education Annual Meeting – “From student to researcher are we on the right track?”

200 specialists from over 30 countries gather in Warsaw for European meeting

Around 200 university leaders and senior managers, researchers, policymakers and other important stakeholders will gather from 18 to 19 June at the University of Warsaw (Poland) for the Annual Meeting of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education. The annual meeting is a platform for all stakeholders working with doctoral education to discuss the latest trends and future developments in European doctoral education.

EUA Secretary General Lesley Wilson said: “The last decade has seen major changes in European doctoral education as universities have introduced doctoral schools and structured programmes, and are increasingly monitoring the progress of doctoral candidates and quality of supervision and research in doctoral programmes. At the same time, new legislation is being drafted or implemented in many countries. Therefore, there are new requirements and challenges for those responsible for doctoral education, while quality assurance agencies and research assessments are taking a more specific interest in the area. This is why we believe it is timely for this conference to focus on the question: are we keeping focus on the goal of doctoral education, to make students into researchers? And are we on the right track?”

In addition to keynote presentations on the central conference theme and issues such as supervision and development, there will be a number of case studies from across Europe presented on a variety of key topics:

- quality assurance in doctoral education
- cultivating the ‘research mindsets’ of doctoral candidates
- training PhD supervisors
- skills provision for doctoral candidates

The conference will also raise the question whether we are ‘on the right track’ in a panel debate with representatives from the European Commission, Science Europe, Eurodoc and members of the Bologna Follow Up Group.

More information about the event is available here: <http://www.eua.be/eua-cde-warsaw.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 220 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 EUA on new trends and developments in relation to doctoral programmes.