

2019 EUA Annual Conference
Driving innovation in Europe's Universities
Hosted by Sorbonne University, France
11-12 April 2019

Call for contributions
Deadline for submission: 8 January 2019

Context and objectives

The [2019 EUA Annual Conference 2019](#) provides an opportunity for members, policy makers and stakeholders to meet and share experiences on university strategies in shaping innovation.

The Conference will take place on 11-12 April 2019,¹ hosted by Sorbonne University in Paris, France. Through plenaries and interactive parallel breakout sessions, the conference will provide insight into policies and practices that enable innovation and entrepreneurship to thrive at universities.

Leaders and senior managers with institution-wide responsibilities from [EUA members](#) are invited to submit contributions showcasing how universities can promote innovation, tackle related challenges and find solutions that might also inspire others. More information about the event theme and the programme are available on the event [webpage](#).

Types of contributions

Two types of contributions will be considered: proposals for 1) presentations and 2) interactive working sessions. Both are expected to stimulate a discussion with the participants, thus enhancing peer-learning. Applicants should bear in mind the diversity of the audience members and therefore aim to focus on the transferability of results or practices to different contexts in order to increase the relevance.

The presentations and interactive working sessions will take place during parallel breakout sessions, which are usually attended by 50-70 participants. Participants are free to select the session they would like to attend based on the session descriptions, which will be published on the conference webpage and in the programme booklet.

Proposals for presentations should focus on institutional case studies or policy approaches at the local, regional, national or European level and analyse the success factors, challenges encountered, possible failures, and transferability to other contexts. All presentations are expected to discuss experiences in a self-reflective and critical way or to test new ideas with a

¹ Note: The meetings scheduled for 10 April are pre-conference meetings and by invitation only. All presentations and interactive working sessions will be scheduled for 11-12 April.

view to receiving feedback from participants. Selected presentations will receive a time slot of 45 minutes including time for discussion.

Proposals to lead interactive working sessions should focus on providing participants with a structured exercise (such as in the form of workshops, master classes, expert rooms etc.) to enhance understanding of a specific topic or provide hands-on practical advice on institutional strategies and practices geared towards innovation. Such sessions will be led by the proposal author(s) and should focus on participant activity rather than presentations. When preparing proposals to lead interactive working sessions, applicants should bear in mind that timing, number of activities or sub-groups might need slight adaptation depending on the number of participants registered for the session. Selected interactive working sessions will last 45 minutes.

Eligibility criteria:

Proposals for any type of contribution must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be submitted via the online tool;
- Identify the presenter(s)/facilitator(s) for the session;
- In case of joint proposals, please indicate how you intend to share the presentation/divide the organisation of the interactive working session and also specify which one of the applicants should benefit from the reduced fee in case the proposal is selected for the conference;²
- Include the presenter's(s')/facilitator's(s') short biography (up to 150 words each);
- Include a short explanation (up to 100 words) about the presenter's(s') experience in delivering presentations/moderating interactive working sessions and chairing group discussions in English;
- Be a maximum of 800 words (excluding references);
- Be written in English.

Please note that incomplete proposals or proposals submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Selection criteria:

To be selected, contributions must meet the following criteria, to be assessed by the EUA Programme Committee:

- **Relevance:** The topic of the proposal matches the conference theme and is relevant to the conference target audience; priority will be given to proposals including one or more of the following aspects:
 - issues of societal challenges and sustainability (balancing economic, social, and environmental development);
 - elements of co-creation, involving citizens or non-university stakeholders;
 - student involvement in innovation;
 - university governance, regulatory frameworks and management practices aimed at enhancing the institution's innovation mission;
 - external conditions necessary to promote innovation;

² Each selected contribution will receive only one reduced fee regardless of the number of authors/facilitators.

- infrastructure and service(-sharing) development;
- innovation funding frameworks.
- **Coherence:** The proposal is clear and understandable. It includes the expected target audience and learning outcomes for participants. For interactive working sessions, the activities proposed are feasible in the given timeframe and facilities;
- **Innovation:** The contribution clearly describes an innovative practice, policy or approach in enhancing universities' innovation mission;
- **Whole-institution approach:** The proposal focuses on an institution-wide perspective; the strategies, practices, policies or approaches presented cover the entire university, not just a specific organisational unit/subject area;
- **Transferability:** The ideas, principles or approaches presented have the potential to be transferred to other contexts and inspire a lively discussion (especially in the case of interactive working sessions) among participants from different countries and institutional contexts.

Furthermore, the EUA Programme Committee will take into account geographical diversity and a balance between research and teaching-focus when selecting proposals. The Committee will aim to develop a coherent conference programme that is of interest to EUA's diverse members.

Submission

All proposals should be submitted via the [online tool](#). Please do not send a hard copy or a PDF file. All proposals will be reviewed separately by two members of the EUA Programme Committee.

All applicants will be informed by early February 2019 if their proposal has been selected for presentation at the Conference. Selected proposals may receive comments on how the proposal should be amended before presentation.

All correspondence with applicants will be by email.

IMPORTANT: If you have submitted a proposal, please do not register for the conference until the results of the selection process have been announced. Selected contributions will benefit from one reduced fee, which will be applied through a special registration process.

Deadline

The deadline to submit contributions is **8 January 2019**. Submissions received after this date will not be considered.

Calendar

16 October 2018	Launch of the call for contributions.
8 January 2019	Proposals must be submitted via the online tool.
Early February 2019	Notification of acceptance or rejection will be sent by email to all authors.

March 2019	Information regarding the date and time of sessions at the conference will be provided.
11-12 April 2019	2019 EUA Annual Conference takes place in Paris, France.