

INVITED Peer Learning Seminar (PLS): How to transform universities to embrace diversity and foster inclusion

Hosted by University College Dublin (UCD)

Dublin, Ireland

14 June 2019

Context

The European University Association (EUA) and the European University Continuing Education Network (EUCEN) supported by the European Students' Union (ESU) are organising a peer learning seminar for university leaders from across Europe to discuss university strategies and approaches towards equity, diversity and inclusion. The event is part of the [INVITED project](#) and will be hosted by University College Dublin, in Dublin, Ireland.

Universities are seeking ways to enable the participation of people from various backgrounds, including those that are traditionally less represented in higher education. The topic is gaining importance with education ministers who reiterated their commitment to strengthen the social dimension of higher education at the 2018 Bologna Ministerial Conference in Paris. The INVITED project aims to support universities in developing and strategies towards equity, diversity and inclusion. It also seeks to promote dialogue between stakeholders at the system level in order to ensure that regulatory and funding frameworks empower universities to fulfil their social responsibility.

1. Event description

The INVITED consortium invites university leaders from across Europe with experience in developing and implementing institution-level strategies to foster equity, diversity and inclusion to exchange and share their views on this important topic. Participants will be asked to reflect and comment on preliminary results of the INVITED survey based on their own experience, and they will have opportunities for sharing of good practices through peer learning among institutional leaders in an exclusive forum. The outcomes of the discussion will feed into the final analysis to be published in the second half of 2019.

The peer learning seminar, conducted in English, will be a one-day event built on presentations by EUA, EUCEN, ESU and UCD as well as open discussions between all participants. Key questions will be sent in advance and participants should be prepared to contribute actively to the discussions.

Participants will get an exclusive preview of the results of a survey and follow-up interviews with data from more than 200 higher education institutions from across Europe. They will also get insights into UCD's strategy and policies aiming at a profound transformation of the institutions towards equity, diversity and inclusion. Presentations from project partners will also touch on specific aspects such as

embedding cultural diversity in curricula or empowering students to become active for diversity and inclusion. The event will be an opportunity to meet and engage with university leadership from all over Europe and hear about good practices from different contexts.

The number of participants is limited to a maximum of 20, and applicants will be selected according to the criteria specified under point 2 below (selection criteria). The event is restricted to staff of [EUA](#) and [EUCEN](#) member institutions.

There is no registration fee, and participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs. Meals and refreshments on the day of the event will be provided free of charge to participants. Applicants should not make any travel arrangements before they have officially been selected for participation. Participants selected to take part in the event will receive additional practical information in due course.

2. Selection criteria

Applicants will be selected based on their experience with the topic and their motivation to attend. Special consideration will be given to ensuring a geographical balance as well as a diversity of experiences and institutional profiles. Applicants should have a leading function at their institution (rector, vice-rector or similar).

3. Submitting your expression of interest

To submit your expression of interest, please click on the link below, fill in the application form and do not forget to click on the red button at the end:

https://eua.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cGBdxx5rT8x3woZ

The **deadline for applications is Thursday 4 April 2019 at noon (Brussels time)**.

We strongly encourage you to submit your application to participate as soon as possible. Applicants will be informed about the selection results in the course of April.

For more information please contact events@eua.eu.