

2019 European Learning & Teaching Forum

Towards successful learning: Controversies and common ground

14-15 February 2019, hosted by the University of Warsaw

The 2019 European Learning & Teaching Forum builds on the recognition that there is no one-size-fits-all solution for successful learning and teaching. Through a mix of plenary and parallel sessions, the Forum seeks to explore controversies and find common ground on how to engage and empower students and teachers in developing their learning and teaching.

More specifically, drawing on the work of the EUA thematic peer groups in 2018, participants will be invited to reflect on how to facilitate better learning in European universities. They will discuss the institutional promotion of active learning; how to support teachers by developing their skills and offering them opportunities for exchange; the importance of career progression in teaching; and the need to rethink how learning and teaching is evaluated.

The Forum is an ideal event for vice-rectors for academic affairs, deans, programme directors, academic staff and researchers interested in learning and teaching. It also welcomes students, policy-makers and other stakeholders in higher education.

Draft programme (as of 14 December 2018)

Thursday, 14 February

08.30-17.30 Registration

09.30-10.45 **Official Opening and Plenary Session I: The goal(s) of learning in higher education**

Universities are expected to fulfil the needs of society for informed citizens and skilled labour that is capable of critical and reflexive thinking. However, to what extent is higher education today teaching students to think independently based on analysis and complex reasoning? What are the goals of learning in higher education? Are the goals changing with the advancement of science and developments in society? The session will examine these topics and discuss how the goals of learning, including critical thinking, are reflected in curriculum design and teaching.

- Welcome by Michael Murphy, Chair of the EUA Learning & Teaching Steering Committee, and Marcin Palys, Rector, University of Warsaw, Poland
- Ulrich Bartosch, Professor, Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Germany
- Simone Buitendijk, Vice-Provost of Education, Imperial College London, UK

10.45-11.15 Coffee break

11.15-12.45 **Breakout Sessions A**

Parallel sessions based on the work of the thematic peer groups and the call for papers

12.45-14.15 Networking lunch

13.30 onwards, during the lunch break, the participants also have the option of attending the **launch of the EFFECT Feasibility Study** on the promotion of teaching enhancement at European level

- 14.15-15.45 **Breakout Sessions B**
Parallel sessions based on the work of the thematic peer groups and the call for papers
- 15.45-16.15 Coffee break
- 16.15-17.30 **Plenary Session II: Birds-eye view on L&T in Europe**
A panel discussion reviewing European L&T policies and their envisaged impact on universities.
A debate facilitated by the EUA Secretariat, inviting the audience to participate through a voting tool. The purpose is to find controversies on the differences between policy decisions and grass-root level realities, but also to see where common ground can be found.
- Adam Gajek, President, European Students' Union
 - Vanessa Debiais-Sainton, Head of Unit, Higher Education, DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission
 - Peter Greisler, Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany
- 19.30 Dinner

Friday, 15 February

- 09.30-11.00 **Breakout Sessions C**
Parallel sessions based on the work of the thematic peer groups and the call for papers
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30-12.45 **Plenary Session III: Many paths to a common goal**
Debate on the pros and cons of different approaches to L&T in universities with speakers from two universities that have followed different paths towards developing their teaching portfolios and profiles.
- Marian McCarthy, Interim Vice-President for Teaching and Learning, University College Cork, Ireland
 - Bjørn Stensaker, Professor, University of Oslo, Norway
- 12.45-13.00 **Closing Remarks**
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch and departure of participants

The breakout session abstracts are available [here](#).