

## 2024 EUA STATUTORY MEETINGS & ANNUAL CONFERENCE

### Universities in Europe: integrity in a time of change

10-12 April 2024, Swansea University, United Kingdom

What does integrity mean to a university? Our sector is strong, dynamic, and used to evolving in order to do things better. Universities have been doing this for centuries. Indeed, staying true to themselves, while adapting to changing circumstances, is the very foundation of their success. Solidly rooted in our sector's common values and ethical principles, this integrity has long enabled universities to seek original and non-conventional solutions to problems old and new. As societies, and universities, now respond to transformations driven by multiple forces, be they (geo)political, environmental, social, or economic, this integrity is more valuable than ever.

The 2024 EUA Annual Conference will be hosted by Swansea University, UK, from 10-12 April. Entitled 'Universities in Europe: integrity in a time of change, it will investigate and showcase universities' capacity to deal with change and to shape societal transformation while staying true to their core character, values, and missions. This theme will be addressed from a variety of perspectives, by looking at integrity in university leadership, the integrity of learning and teaching, research ethics and integrity, and fair and transparent academic assessment. Conference sessions on these topics will encourage an in-depth reflection on how universities, including their leadership and communities, can effectively balance integrity and change to their own benefit and that of society.

#### Draft programme

All times are BST (British Summer Time)

<b>Wednesday 10 April (pre-conference meetings)</b>	
<b>10.00-12.30</b>	<b>EUA Board Meeting</b>
<b>12.30-13.30</b>	Lunch for EUA Board, Council and Secretaries General
<b>13.30-15.30</b>	<b>EUA Council Meeting</b>
<b>15.30-16.00</b>	Coffee for EUA Board, Council and Secretaries General
<b>16.00-18.00</b>	<p><b>Leadership Roundtable</b>  <b>Risk aware or risk averse? Charting a common direction in knowledge security</b></p> <p>This year's roundtable will provide a platform for leaders to exchange on how the uneasy balance between openness and protectionism in scientific collaboration – and its potential impact on universities' integrity – has made knowledge security a focal point for the sector. As governments pursue a mix of restrictive and enabling measures to protect knowledge-based assets from foreign interference, upholding academic freedom and institutional autonomy is ever more important. With growing concerns over security risks and the fragmented policy measures to tackle them, this session will offer university leaders a setting to share experiences and good practices of proactively managing threats and safeguarding integrity across research, education, and innovation. It will also explore ways to foster a culture of risk awareness among university staff.</p> <p>Moderated by PAUL BOYLE, Vice-Chancellor, Swansea University, UK, and EUA Vice-President, and MARCIN PAŁYS, former Rector, University of Warsaw, Poland, and EUA Board member</p>

	<i>*The Leadership Roundtable is an exclusive event for executive heads (rectors, vice-chancellors, presidents) of EUA member institutions and organisations.</i>
<b>16.00-18.00</b>	<b>Meeting of EUA Secretaries General Forum</b>
<b>18.00-19.00</b>	<b>Leadership Meet &amp; Greet</b>

## Thursday 11 April

<b>08.30-09.15</b>	Registration for General Assembly
<b>08.30-17.15</b>	Registration for Annual Conference
<b>08.30-09.15</b>	Welcome coffee
<b>09.30-10.45</b>	<b>General Assembly</b>  <i>*The General Assembly is reserved for EUA members. EUA affiliates may participate as observers.</i>
<b>10.45-11.15</b>	Coffee break
<b>11.15-11.45</b>	<b>Conference Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JOSEP M. GARRELL, EUA President</li> <li>• PAUL BOYLE, Vice-Chancellor, Swansea University, UK, and EUA Vice-President</li> </ul>
<b>11.45-13.00</b>	<b>Plenary Session 1</b> <b><i>Leading with integrity</i></b> The decisions that university leaders make reflect their vision and principles. Indeed, it is consistency between ideas and behaviours that embodies integrity in leadership. This session will offer novel perspectives on the challenges faced by university leaders as they navigate complex decisions and explore how these challenges relate to – perhaps competing or conflicting – values. Participants will be taken on a journey into cultivating value-based leadership that shapes institutions and leaders alike. The focus will be on connecting institutional vision, personal leadership styles and cultures, and decision-making frameworks, providing insights into the intricate task of leading with integrity in today's complex university landscape. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SANTIAGO IÑIGUEZ DE ONZOÑO, President, IE Business School, Spain</li> <li>• LUCIANA VACCARO, Rector, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland</li> </ul> Moderated by MICHAEL MURPHY, former President, University College Cork, Ireland, and former EUA President
<b>13.00-14.00</b>	Lunch
<b>14.00-15.15</b>	<b>Breakout session 1A   Practice presentations &amp; discussion</b> <b><i>Are new technologies reshaping fundamental principles in research ethics and integrity?</i></b> Ethics and integrity in research and innovation are fundamental pillars of good science. They notably contribute to ensuring that the pursuit of knowledge and innovation is conducted responsibly inside universities. However, methods in research and innovation are constantly evolving due to the emergence of new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, extended reality, and genome editing. In this interactive session, participants will discuss whether new technologies used in research are impacting the fundamental principles of research integrity. The session will feature practice presentations identified through a call for contributions to EUA members.  Following a joint introduction to set the scene, this interactive session will feature two parallel 'fishbowl' discussions during which participants will be invited to actively contribute their questions, experiences, and ideas. Participants will be assigned to one of two discussion groups.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISABELLE WIENAND, General Manager, Ethics Committee, and Lecturer in Research Ethics, University of Basel, Switzerland</li> <li>• NOORA ARAJÄRVI, Legal Officer, European University Institute, Italy</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by MAURIZIO TIRA, former Rector, University of Brescia, Italy, and EUA Board member, and VINCENT BLONDEL, former Rector, University of Louvain, Belgium, and EUA Board member</p> <p><b>Breakout session 1B   Panel discussion</b>  <b><i>Can university integrity exist without digital sovereignty?</i></b>  How can universities achieve digital sovereignty? For universities, digital sovereignty refers to an institution’s capacity – and ambition – to retain control and promote their own values in the digital domain. This session will explore diverging views on the market-driven development of educational technologies and examine the control of university-generated data. Participants will be encouraged to reflect on the role and responsibility of universities, as key actors in the digital space, in cultivating integrity across the wider data economy. Guided interaction during the session will examine the sector’s engagement with government, regulators and commercial actors, and generate discussion on how this can best drive the evolution of our digital ecosystems while keeping jurisdiction over university data and upholding common values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HEIDI FRASER-KRAUSS, Chief Executive Officer, Jisc, UK</li> <li>• MANFRED KRAFCZYK, Vice-President for Digital Transformation and Sustainability, TU Braunschweig, Germany</li> <li>• DUUK BATEN, Advisor for Responsible AI, SURF, Netherlands</li> <li>• PEDRO RUIZ, Vice-Rector for Strategy and Digital University, University of Murcia, Spain</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by WIM VAN DE DONK, Rector Magnificus and President, Tilburg University, Netherlands, and EUA Board member</p>
<b>15.15-16.00</b>	Coffee break
<b>16.00-17.15</b>	<p><b>Plenary session 2</b>  <b><i>When the right answer is wrong – challenges for the integrity of learning and teaching</i></b>  Integrity in education is not a new topic. On the contrary, ethics in education remain essential for students – who are active citizens, as well as aspiring academics and professionals, and universities – which hold an essential place in science, learning and society. That said, the challenges are changing. This second plenary session will ask how universities can ensure true integrity in learning and teaching, going beyond value statements and individual role models. Speakers will address emerging and novel challenges to achieving this and reflect on how a culture of integrity can contribute to fostering academic freedom, autonomy and collegiality, as well as combatting misconduct and fraud.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MICHAEL DRAPER, Director Academic Integrity, Swansea University, and Co-Chair Welsh Integrity and assessment Network, UK (online)</li> <li>• ANDRÉ HESSELBÄCK, Senior Credential Evaluator, ENIC-NARIC Sweden</li> <li>• MARY FITZPATRICK, Head, Centre for Transformative Learning, University of Limerick, Ireland</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by ANNE LEQUY, former Rector, Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences, Germany, and EUA Board member</p>
<b>19.30-22.00</b>	Networking Reception and Dinner

## Friday 12 April

### 09.30-10.45 **Breakout session 2A | Practice presentations & discussion** ***Solutions that ensure the integrity of learning and teaching***

EUA members will showcase their approaches to addressing the integrity of learning and teaching in practice. Participants will have a choice of two sub-themes.

#### ***I. The virtual elephant in the room: what does AI mean for higher education?***

Presentations will reflect on the opportunities and threats posed by the (potential) use of artificial intelligence (AI) in higher education.

- *Navigating the nexus of AI in teaching: promising technology or a potential threat to integrity? The need to revitalise academic norms*, by CHRISTINE ØYE, GUNNAR YTTRI and ANNE-GRETHER NAUSTDAL (Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Norway)
- *Artificial intelligence and academic integrity: 'Existential threat' or 'golden opportunity'?*, by MARK O'HARA (Advance HE, UK) and ANGÉLICA RÍSQUEZ, ELIZABETH NOONAN and PAUL MCSWEENEY (University of Limerick, Ireland)

Moderated by AMANDA CROWFOOT, Secretary General, European University Association, Belgium

#### ***II. How to build a culture of academic integrity***

Presentations will illustrate how institutions can build a community and culture around academic integrity by engaging teachers, students and partners.

- *The role of academic integrity in the educational process*, by LADISLAV JANÍČEK (Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic)
- *Addressing integrity challenges in learning and teaching through student engagement in research competitions and journals*, by CANH THIEN DANG and AN NGUYEN (King's College London, UK)
- *Can engaged teaching and learning be responsible as well as responsive?*, by IRENE SHERIDAN (Munster Technological University, Ireland)

Moderated by ANNE LEQUY, former Rector, Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences, Germany, and EUA Board member

### **Breakout Session 2B | Panel discussion** ***Paving the way for an impactful FP10***

The European Research & Innovation (R&I) Framework Programme is a cornerstone of the European R&I landscape. It encourages and facilitates collaboration between member states, universities, industries, and other stakeholders to advance the frontiers of science, technology and innovation. It is also a crucial instrument in shaping the direction and priorities of R&I across the continent, providing essential support to the European Research Area, and driving significant public and private investments at the EU and national levels. With the design of the next programme (FP10) on the horizon, this session will offer an opportunity to jointly reflect on ways to enhance the programme's role as a catalyst for change to effectively drive R&I across Europe.

- THOMAS COUDREAU, Deputy General Director Research, Education and Innovation, Sorbonne Université, France
- KLAVDIJA KUTNAR, Rector, University of Primorska, Slovenia
- LUCYNA WOŹNIAK, Vice-Rector for Research Development and International Relations, Medical University of Łódź, Poland

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GERRY MCCORMAC, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Stirling, UK</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by ASTRID SÖDERBERGH WIDDING, Rector, Stockholm University, Sweden, and EUA Board member</p>
10.45-11.15	Coffee break
11.15-12.30	<p><b>Plenary Session 3</b>  <b><i>Towards a fair and transparent assessment of academic careers</i></b></p> <p>Practices in assessing the value and impact of an individual academic's work have long been biased towards research output, such as citation scores. In turn, the planning and trajectory of academic careers have progressively tilted towards certain types of research achievements, to the detriment of equally deserving tasks, such as teaching or societal outreach. Recent years have brought progress towards more balanced and transparent assessment, for example through the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) and increased attention towards better reward and recognition of teaching at institutional and national levels. This panel discussion will take stock of such developments and reflect on what further steps are needed to ensure that academic career paths authentically reflect individual academics' full range of talents, achievements, and contributions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ILSE DE BOURDEAUDHUIJ, Director of Education, Ghent University, Belgium</li> <li>PETER HEINRICH HANENBERG, Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation, Catholic University of Portugal</li> <li>RIANNE LETSCHERT, President, Maastricht University, Netherlands, and Chair of the Steering Board, Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA)</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by IVANKA POPOVIĆ, former Rector, University of Belgrade, Serbia, and EUA Board member</p>
12.30-12.45	<p><b>Conference Closing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PAUL BOYLE, Vice-Chancellor, Swansea University, UK, and EUA Vice-President</li> <li>Representative from the 2025 EUA Annual Conference host</li> <li>JOSEP M. GARRELL, EUA President</li> </ul>
12.45-13.45	Lunch

13.45-16.15	<p><b>Satellite event</b>  <b><i>Leadership Workshop 'The road towards Diamond Open Access'</i></b></p> <p>In the ever-evolving landscape of scholarly communication, Diamond Open Access is gaining momentum. However, the potential to leverage change for the entire academic publishing ecosystem remains insufficiently explored. This session will address those interested in approaches and strategies for supporting non-commercial, scholar-led publishing initiatives in their institutions, on the basis of the work of the EU-funded DIAMAS project.</p> <p><i>This session is aimed at leaders of universities (rectors, vice-rectors and deans), university libraries and university presses, other research performing organisations and learned societies. The session is free of charge and registration to the 2024 EUA Annual Conference is not a prerequisite for attendance.</i></p>
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