

Engaged and responsible universities shaping Europe

Hosted by University of Zurich, Switzerland, 4-6 April 2018

Programme (as of 15 March 2018)

Wednesday, 4 April 2018 (pre-conference meetings)

The pre-conference meetings are by invitation only to EUA Board and Council Members and the Secretaries General of national rectors' conferences. The Leadership Roundtable is for rectors only.

- 9.00-13.00 **EUA Board Meeting**
- 9.00-13.00 **EUA Secretaries General Meeting**
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch for EUA Board and Secretaries General
- 14.00-16.00 **EUA Council Meeting**
- 16.00-16.30 Coffee break
- 16.30-18.30 **Leadership Roundtable: Bottom-up or top-down approaches to developing universities' social responsibility – the role of leadership**
- 18.30-19.30 **Leadership Meet & Greet Reception**

Thursday, 5 April 2018

- 9.00-10.00 Welcome coffee
- 9.00-10.00 Registration for EUA General Assembly
- 9.00-17.00 Registration for Annual Conference
- 10.00-11.30 **EUA General Assembly**
- 11.30-12.00 Coffee Break
- 12.00-13.30 **Conference opening: Universities in knowledge societies**
This opening session will set the stage for the Conference reflecting on how the relationship between universities and society has changed; how universities are taking an active role in developing knowledge societies, as engines for economic growth while championing for the importance of academic values in doing so.
Opening remarks by Rolf Tarrach, EUA President and Michael Hengartner, Rector, University of Zurich, Switzerland
Keynote presentation by Ulrike Felt, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Vienna, Austria
- 13.30-14.30 Lunch
- 14.30-16.00 **Plenary II: The role of public policies driving universities' social responsibility and engagement**
This session will focus on the role of public policies – whether at the regional, national or European level – in defining and promoting universities' social responsibility and societal engagement agenda. Examples of different policies

across Europe that incentivise universities to be more attentive to the needs of their immediate society will be presented.

David Sweeney, Executive Chair, Research England, UK

Stanislav Kmeť, Rector, Technical University of Košice, Slovakia

Pastora Martínez Samper, Vice President for Globalization and Cooperation, Open University of Catalonia, Spain

Chaired by Lesley Wilson, EUA Secretary General

16.00-16.30 Coffee break

16.30-18.00 **Breakout sessions I**

Session A: Social inclusiveness and diversity in higher education

Student numbers are on the rise in many systems and student bodies are becoming more diverse as societies change. Universities are expected to be more open and inclusive, finding new ways to engage all kinds of people, including the traditionally less represented. Furthermore, labour markets are changing rapidly due to digitalisation and automation, and the need for highly-skilled labour is increasing. These developments are triggering discussions on the social responsibility of universities. This session will explore a number of strategic and practical questions about how institutions can deal with issues of diversity, inclusion, equity and access and showcase concrete examples.

Introduction by Thomas Jørgensen, EUA Senior Policy Coordinator

Colin Scott, Vice-president for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, University College Dublin, Ireland

Chaired by Mari Sundli Tveit, EUA Board member

Session B: The societal impact of Open Science

The developments in Open Science, particularly in Open Access to research publications and research data, are enabling new methods in research collaboration and in producing, disseminating and using research outcomes. At the same time, Open Science is a way to facilitate multidisciplinary research and better communicate with citizens and society at large. This session will explore efforts to highlight the value and role of Open Science and how universities can use it strategically to have a greater and more visible impact on society.

Introduction by Lidia Borrell-Damián, Director, EUA Research and Innovation Unit

Jean-Pierre Finance, EUA Chair of Expert Group on Science 2.0/Open Science

Chaired by Jean Chambaz, EUA Board member

Session C: Universities upholding academic values

Attacks on universities and their communities are all too common in Europe and abroad, and political and financial pressures on academia are growing. Against this backdrop, the continued protection of university values, including academic freedom and institutional autonomy, is paramount. This session will take the form of an interactive EUA member focus group, exploring actions European universities can and do take to defend these values in a turbulent world. The outcomes of the discussion will be used to inform and further develop EUA's activities in this field.

Facilitated by Liviu Matei, Provost and Pro-Rector, Central European University, Hungary

19.30-22.30 Networking Reception & Gala Dinner

Friday, 6 April 2018

9.00-10.30 **Breakout sessions II**

Session D: Higher education beyond the traditional cycles: lifelong learning and employability

This session will showcase examples of how universities assess the demand for new skills and respond through new modes of programme delivery (e.g. work-based learning) in combination with lifelong learning, ultimately focusing on the employability of their graduates.

Introduction by Michael Gaebel, Director, EUA Higher Education Policy Unit

Hanne Smidt, EUA senior adviser

Chaired by Hana Machková, EUA Board member

Session E: Contributing to Research and Innovation Smart Specialisation Strategies

Universities are becoming crucial stakeholders in regional innovation ecosystems. The Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) are considered a good tool for regions in increasing their competitiveness through research and innovation. A number of lessons learned over the years are very useful in understanding how to strengthen the roles that universities play in their regions and how to shape RIS3 beyond 2020. This session will take stock of such lessons at the institutional level and highlight how to influence regional policy in the future.

Introduction by Peter Haring Bolívar, Chair of the EUA Expert Group on RIS3

Jaume Carot, Vice-Rector for Research and Internationalisation, University of Balearic Islands, Spain

Chaired by Wieslaw Banyś, EUA Board member

Session F: Scientific integrity and ethics in European universities

As a result of the rise of Open Science, safeguarding and promoting public trust in science has become more relevant than ever before. This session on scientific integrity and ethics will explore how European universities address both topics with the aim of ensuring that scientific research is conducted with respect for ethical and integrity values. In addition to discussing main components of institutional guidelines or policies, participants will be invited to join an interactive reflection on the active promotion of a culture of ethics and integrity in science.

Facilitated by Ulrike Felt, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Vienna, Austria

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.20 **Plenary III: Sustainable Europe: What role for universities?**

In a panel discussion, this session will explore how universities as organisations can assume their social responsibility, including their contribution to the sustainable development of European society and economy.

Hillegje van't Land, Secretary General, International Association of Universities

Torbjørn Digernes, Chair of the EUA Energy and Environment Platform, former rector, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

Christoph Franz, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Roche Holding AG, Switzerland

Facilitated by Michael Murphy, EUA Board member

12.20-12.45 **Address by Silvia Steiner, Government Councillor of Canton Zurich and President of Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education**

12.45-13.00 **Conference closing and the invitation to the Annual Conference 2019**

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 **EUA Hot Topic Session**

While science and research have been largely the prerogative of universities and research institutions in the past, citizen participation in research, or “citizen science”, is now increasing rapidly due to modern information technology and the drive for Open Science. In addition to traditional activities like collecting data, citizens take part in the design of research projects, the analysis of data and even in drafting national research agendas. In fact, many interest groups define themselves as participants in citizen science. It is important that universities take an active part in these developments. With their high quality and legal and ethical standards, they should shape this discussion. Citizen science projects exist at many universities - some of which have dedicated infrastructures. This can enlarge the research scope and at the same time the societal responsibility of universities. In this session, we will explore the role of universities in citizen science by focussing on the issues and challenges they face.

Introduction by Daniel Wyler, Professor, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Kevin Schawinski, Assistant Professor, Leader of the black hole and galaxy astrophysics group, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Sabine Stoll, Professor, Director of the Psycholinguistics Laboratory, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Julia Altenbuchner, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Extreme Citizen Science (ExCiteS) Research Group, University College London

Facilitated by Lidia Borrell-Damián, Director, EUA Research and Innovation Unit



Follow us on Twitter under #EUA2018Zurich