

IAU, founded in 1950, is the leading global association of higher education institutions and university associations. It has member institutions and organizations from some 130 countries that come together for reflection and action

on common concerns. IAU partners with UNESCO and other international, regional and national bodies active in higher education. It is committed to building a worldwide higher education community.



IN FOCUS

IAU Members shaping Higher Education for the future

IAU at UNESCO's 2009 WCHE: IAU Session on Access and Equity at the WCHE

ACTIVITIES

Internationalization Survey

Doctoral Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa

2009 IAU International Conference



CONTENTS

1 WORLD CONFERENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH – 10 YEARS LATER

by Georges Haddad, Director of the Division of Higher Education, UNESCO

4 IN FOCUS – IAU MEMBERS SHAPING THE NEW DYNAMICS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

- 4 Sustainable Development
- 7 Poverty Eradication
- 9 Social Responsibility
- 10 Internationalization
- 12 Access and Equity
- 15 Research and Innovation
- 17 Education for All
- 18 Africa

12 Open section

20 IAU ACTIVITIES

- 20 LEADHER
- 20 Internationalization Survey
- 21 UNEP-IAU Project
- 21 Doctoral Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa
- 22 IAU Session on Access and Equity at the WCHE
- 22 2009 IAU International Conference
- 22 GMA Report
- 23 IAU Collaboration and Networking

25 MEMBERSHIP NEWS

- 25 New IAU Members

26 PUBLICATIONS

- 26 IAU Publications
- 27 Other Publications

28 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The views expressed in the articles published in IAU Horizons are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Association of Universities.

Cover Image "Globe Encounters" was created as part of the New York Talk Exchange (NYTE) Project within the Senseable City Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).
<http://senseable.mit.edu/nyte/visuals.html>

EDITORIAL

WORLD CONFERENCES ON HIGHER EDUCATION DO NOT HAPPEN EVERYDAY,

nor should they, since their capacity to make a difference would most likely diminish in direct proportion to their frequency. However, it has been more than 10 years since the milestone 1998 UNESCO WCHE took place in Paris and the time is ripe, perhaps even urgent, for UNESCO to gather the world's higher education community once again.

The International Association of Universities has often been cited as a key partner of UNESCO's Higher Education Division and we are proud of this partnership. It is based on an almost 60 year long history of mutually beneficial collaboration. At the 1998 WCHE the then IAU President Hans van Ginkel, several Board members and IAU staff played a major role in various thematic roundtables, including as one of two NGO representatives drafting the final Declaration.

In 2009, we can do no less. The challenges facing higher education and research are no less important or any less complex today. In fact they may be even more daunting since the global economic recession is hitting everyone hard, including the education sector. Upholding some of the values and principles that are dear to IAU, such as institutional autonomy, equitable access to higher education and solidarity among institutions may become even more difficult. IAU's current leadership –President, Juan Ramon de la Fuente, Immediate Past president, Goolam Mohamedbhai, Executive Committee and Board Members and the entire Secretariat are mobilized to contribute to the 2009 WCHE in Paris this July and be as involved as possible in helping to develop an action-oriented follow-up to this Conference.

But the IAU is mostly a forum or a two-way conduit for information sharing, for changes and actions that take place or are expected to take place in universities and other higher education institutions themselves. IAU acts as a catalyst for cooperation and collective action; it is the HEIs that are the critical actors. It is they who can reshape higher education and research and ensure that they serve the long-term collective needs of humanity as well as the short-term agendas of competitiveness and sustainable development.

Therefore this issue of *IAU Horizons* is completely devoted to showcasing the work and initiatives being actively pursued by a small sample of the more than 600 IAU member institutions around the world in the topical areas identified by UNESCO as central in reshaping the higher education and research sector. These themes also serve to frame UNESCO's 2009 World Conference on Higher Education programme.

Unmistakably, the examples that are showcased in this issue only scratch the surface of the multiple and innovative ways in which universities and other higher education institutions tackle challenges such as: improving accessibility to higher education, contributing to the eradication of poverty, raising awareness for sustainable development and finding more sustainable paths towards economic growth, combating disease and promoting health, improving the quality of learning at other levels of education, preparing students for a far more globalized world among many other areas.

This issue of *IAU Horizons* deliberately shares with the readers as many of IAU members' achievements as possible in the available space, rather than offering information about the work of the Secretariat. However, IAU priorities are well-aligned with the topics that will be debated in Paris between 5 and 8 July during the 2009 WCHE and certainly the IAU leadership and secretariat staff will play an active part during the event. IAU is fully engaged to help UNESCO move towards a concrete, well-resourced action plan which will help governments, institutional leaders, faculty members, students and all stakeholders strengthen higher education and research systems worldwide. IAU is 'Building a worldwide higher education community' and it is the Association's hope that UNESCO will strengthen its efforts in making this community a strong and viable one!

Eva Egron-Polak
IAU Secretary-General