

Higher Education in the News



Africa News

Continental university initiatives take shape

After several years in the planning, new continental university initiatives are set to take shape in Africa during 2011. One is the creation of an African higher education 'space' using regional university associations as the building blocks. Another is the Pan-African University and a third is a continental quality rating system.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web 17 January 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110107103435182>

Call for problem-solving research proposals

The African Union Commission is seeking proposals for research focusing on a number of areas, with the aim of solving the continent's problems using African scientists. The commission is seeking proposals for research focusing on thematic priorities articulated in Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action and its Lighthouse Projects: post-harvest and agriculture; renewable and sustainable energy; and water and sanitation.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web 16 January 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110114223258665>

Business schools promote responsible leaders

Social responsibility' has assumed new meaning in the international business vocabulary: it is now about corporations moving from being the best in the world, to being best for the world. There is also growing implementation of the notion, thanks to a UN-sponsored global initiative to encourage business schools to promote responsible commercial practices.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 16 January 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110114221612963>

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Climate lessons from Africa

Africa has a unique opportunity to provide solutions for the global problem of climate change, says Professor Sir David King, former science adviser to the British government. King, currently the director of Cambridge University's Smith School of Enterprise and Development, was speaking on the opening day of the 40th South African Chemical Institute Conference at Wits University.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web 20 January 2011
<http://www.mg.co.za/article/2011-01-19-climate-lessons-from-africa>

Science and Technology

Africa IT spending for 2011 to rise by 10 per cent-report

Projections by global research firm, International Data Corporation (IDC) predict that the IT market in Africa, the Middle East and Turkey will surpass \$60 billion this year, an increase of 12.8 per cent from last year's estimates. The OECD Information Technology Outlook 2010 says that spending by governments and business is set to remain weak in the months ahead in OECD countries.

SOURCE: The Citizen Tanzania
Posted to the web 17 January 2011
<http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/business>

Science evaluation needs a rethink

Traditionally, science is evaluated according to researchers' outputs — the number of articles published in science journals or patents registered, for example. But the real value is how those products benefit society or the environment. The speed with which new knowledge reaches citizens matters too. Evaluating the impact of science may sound simple, but it is not.

SOURCE: SCIDEV.NET
Posted to the web 14 January 2011
<http://www.scidev.net/en/editorials/science-evaluation-needs-a-rethink-1.html>

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Africa Analysis: Taking stock of science policy in 2010

Linda Nordling charts the science policy trends of the past year — and looks ahead to a new 'decade for science'. When 2010 dawned there were some hopeful signs for African science, despite setbacks in the previous year there were milestones in 2010 for African science policy. This was the target year for a pledge by African presidents to allocate 1 per cent of their countries' gross domestic product (GDP) to S&T. It also marked the five-year anniversary of the Gleneagles G8 summit of 2005, when world leaders vowed to double their contributions to development aid.

SOURCE: Scidev.net
Posted to the web 7 January 2011
<http://www.scidev.net/en/sub-suهران-africa>

Angola

Bwila University New Chancellor Sworn in

The Angolan minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Maria Cândida Pereira Teixeira, on Thursday swore in the new chancellor of the Angolan public Katyavala Bwila University (UKB), Albano Vicente Lopes Ferreira. In the same ceremony, Tomás Afonso and Alberto Kitembo, were invested as the vice chancellor for Academic issues and science areas of UKB, respectively.

Original SOURCE: AngolPress
Posted to the web 13 January 2011
<http://www.portalangop.co.ao>

Science Faculty Gets Equipment

The Ministry of Telecommunications and Technology of Information Tuesday offered laboratory equipments, aimed at conducting optical fibre tests, to the Science Faculty of the Angolan public Agostinho Neto University.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 11 January 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201101120185.html>

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Malawi

Development of new universities underway

Malawian president Bingu wa Mutharika has set up a 17-member university committee composed of experts to spearhead the country's plans to construct five new institutions of higher learning within a decade. Construction of one of the institutions, the University of Science and Technology, is expected to start later this month, thanks to a loan provided by the Chinese government

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web 16 January 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110114223739121>

DRC

Higher education and employers sign accord

The government in the Democratic Republic of Congo has brokered a partnership agreement between higher education and employer organisations, in a bid to strengthen cooperation and improve articulation between university outputs and the country's skills needs. The key stakeholders will be required to collaborate on training programmes and improving quality and practice.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web on 16 January 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=201101142228556>

South Africa

High Volumes at UJ a Surprise, Says Minister

Higher Education and Training Minister Blade Nzimande has admitted that the high volumes of students wishing to apply to register at the University of Johannesburg this week had caught the department by surprise. However, the minister assured potential students that the country's tertiary institutions have enough space to absorb all those matriculants who passed their 2010 matric exams.

SOURCE: BUANEWS
Posted to web on 14 January 2011
<http://www.buanews.gov.za/news/11/11011411151001>

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More tertiary education opportunities in 2011

Higher Education and Training Minister Blade Nzimande announced in Pretoria this week that fifty-six percent more places were available at tertiary education institutions. A total of 288 487 spaces would be available to the 2010 matriculants, an increase of 103 940. Of these approximately 165 000 were places for first-year students, an increase of 15 000 over the previous year.

SOURCE: The Good News
Posted to web on 12 January 2011
http://www.sagoodnews.co.za/education/more_tertiary_education_opportunities_in_2011.html

Tanzania

UDSM to Open Unique College to Boost Information Technology

An Information and Communication Technology (ICT) college of its kind will soon be opened at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) to help enable the sector provide more employment opportunities to Tanzanian youth. The college would merge some departments from different areas of the university that are ICT-related to form a single unit

SOURCE: The Citizen Tanzania
Posted to the web 18 January 2011
<http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/news>

Mandela Varsity About to Open

The Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology, a pan-African University undergoing construction is expected to start registering its pioneer students from early 2011.

The Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology based in Arusha is part of the network of Pan-African institutions located across the continent.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 15 January 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201101170474.html>

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Zimbabwe

Gloom Looms in Education Sector

Legislators have predicted a catastrophic year epitomised by poor pass rates and falling standards in the education sector. although the Ministry of Education, Sports, Arts and Culture's received the largest allocation in the 2011 National Budget - US\$469 367 000 - it would be forced to cut back on certain expenditures as most of the funds were earmarked for salaries.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web on 11 January 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201101100518.html>

Govt Left Out of Regional Integration

As regionalism is rapidly taking centre stage in various countries' trade relations, it should not come as a surprise that many Southern African countries are in line for substantial economic benefits accruing from such arrangements. But there are doubts that Zimbabwe is ready to derive any benefits from the new dispensation. Although the country has witnessed a modicum of economic stability and growth due to the use of the multi-currencies since February 2009, economists insist that this development is insufficient for Zimbabwe to leverage on.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web on 13 January 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201101101222.html>

Science and maths teacher training threat

Zimbabwean lawmakers have warned of a science and mathematics crisis in the country due to a dire shortage of funds for teacher training institutions specialising in the two disciplines. A report by the parliamentary committee on higher and tertiary education said the funding problem has sparked a brain drain from training institutions for the two subjects.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web on 16 January 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110114223522313>