

# Higher Education in the News



## Africa

### Slow progress towards harmonisation

Adapting some of the lessons from Europe's Bologna process to the African context could help to speed up the sluggish pace of higher education harmonisation on the continent, according to the African Union Commission's Dr Yohannes Woldetensae. He described the slow progress in attaining the objectives of the AU's higher education harmonisation strategy - set to achieve its goals in 2015 - as worrisome. .

SOURCE: UniversityWorld News

Posted to the web 5 June 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110603183942793>

### Southern, Eastern Africans move to Free Trade Zone

Southern and eastern African countries that account for more than half the continent's population and GDP are moving toward a free trade agreement that is as much about development as opening borders and dropping tariffs. At a summit Sunday, 26 governments will set timetables for allowing people and goods to move freely from Egypt down to South Africa and from Angola across to Madagascar. Leaders will also try to push forward infrastructure development and projects to support industry and manufacturing in the zone.

SOURCE: The Business Day

Posted to the web 11 June 2011

<http://www.businessday.co.za/Articles/Content.aspx?id=145562>

### Clinton pushes US development agenda in Africa

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrived in Africa on Friday to sell the benefits of US economic partnership to a continent where China has built strong aid and investment ties. Clinton arrived in Zambia to begin her five-day trip, which will also take her to Tanzania and Ethiopia to highlight the Obama administration's drive to deepen economic ties with Africa "Increased trade is one of the fastest ways to expand economic growth, spur development, and reduce poverty across Africa," Assistant Secretary of State Johnnie Carson says.

SOURCE: Engineering News

Posted to the web 5 June 2011

<http://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/clinton-pushes-us-development-agenda-in-africa-2011-06-10>

Compiled and distributed by the **Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA)**

Also available on the world wide web at <http://www.sarua.org>

Vol 4: Issue 11: 24 June 2011

# Higher Education in the News



## **SADC an investor haven, says Pohamba**

President Hifikepunye Pohamba on Wednesday officially opened the Commonwealth Business Council/Africa Business Forum on the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in London, assuring investors of the buying power of the region. The forum, which is being attended by more than 300 businessmen and members of the diplomatic corps from the SADC region and the UK, was officially opened under the theme: 'Regional Integration and Drivers of Growth'.

SOURCE: The Namibian

Posted to the web 24 June 2011

<http://www.namibian.com.na/news/full-story/archive/2011/june/article/sadc-an-investor-haven-says-pohamba/>

## **Science and Technology**

### **Women in science: still an untapped resource**

Developing countries will benefit from creating more opportunities that allow women to make full use of their scientific capabilities. One reason frequently cited for the low level of scientific activity in the developing world is a lack of resources. Yet there is a readily available resource that, for a complex web of social and cultural reasons, is still too often neglected in these regions: the brainpower of their women.

SOURCE: SciDev.Net

Posted to the web 5 June 2011

<http://www.scidev.net/en/editorials/women-in-science-still-an-untapped-resource-1.html>

### **South African universities to get fast broadband**

Major public universities in South Africa can expect to be running top-class broadband connectivity to the high-speed South African National Research Network (Sanren) by the end of this year. The Sanren project is designed to give local students and researchers access to global research networks, but will also provide internet connectivity.

SOURCE: Media club South Africa

Posted to the web 10 June 2011

<http://www.medioclubsouthafrica.com>

# Higher Education in the News



## Botswana

### Media tour UB

Professor Thabo Fako, last Friday invited media representatives to tour the development projects that are currently under construction at the University. Prof Fako expressed the need to build a good relationship with the media. The major construction projects taking place include the Faculties of Engineering and Technology; Health Sciences; multipurpose buildings for classrooms; computer labs and offices.

SOURCE: The Botswana Gazette  
Posted to the web 4 June 2011  
<http://www.gazettebw.com>

### UB adjusts entry point for lecturers

The University of Botswana UB Vice Chancellor, Professor Thabo Fako, has confirmed that the UB Council has adjusted the entry point of academic lecturing staff from PhD to Masters Degree level in different departments. Professor Fako stated that the UB Senate took the decision after observing that they were closing outside many Masters Degree holders who could do the job.

SOURCE: The Sunday Standard  
Posted to the web 23 June 2011  
<http://www.sundaystandard.info/article.php?NewsID=11107&GroupID=1>

## Mauritius

### Mauritius a unique springboard to Africa

In that context, two memoranda of understanding have been signed during the State Visit of the President of Singapore, Mr. S. R. Nathan, accompanied by a business delegation. The Singapore Business Federation signed the first MOU with the Board of Investment whilst the second one was signed with the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It is just the first step, said President SR Nathan, who was present at the signing ceremony, reiterating his support for closer economic ties. Mauritius is looking beyond its traditional markets in the EU, and into emerging markets in Africa

SOURCE: Le Defi Media  
Posted to the web 11 June 2011  
<http://www.defimedia.info/articles/5821/1/Financial-news--Mauritius-a-unique-springboard-to-Africa/Page1.html>

# Higher Education in the News



## Mozambique

### Government to Inspect Higher Education Institutions

The Council of Ministers (Cabinet) on Tuesday approved a decree under which public and private institutions of higher education will now be subject to inspection by the educational authorities in Mozambique. According to the government spokesperson, Deputy Justice Minister Alberto Nkutumula, the Education Minister Zeferino Martins has been tasked with appointing a committee to oversee the inspections.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)  
Posted to the web 10 June 2011  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201106100318.html>

## Namibia

### UNAM strengthens regional ties to enhance research

As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen, stimulate research activities and enhance interaction with policy makers at various levels; the Scholarly Communication in Africa Programme (SCAP), was launched at the University of Namibia in Windhoek this week. The programme, which is developed in partnership with the University of Cape Town as well as several other Southern African universities, is aimed at mapping the status of research dissemination at the participating institutions.

SOURCE: Namibia Economist  
Posted to the web 16 June 2011  
<http://www.economist.com.na>

### Unam Accommodation Spruced Up

CONSTRUCTION on a N\$160 million hostel complex for Unam will start soon after the groundbreaking ceremony yesterday. The complex, at the back of the Unam campus along Hendrik Witbooi Avenue, will accommodate 800 students. Slightly more than 1 000 of the 10 000 students on the main campus live in the university's hostels. The rest of the student population commutes from home and the majority whose parents are not Windhoek-based live in often cramped conditions.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)  
Posted to the web 16 June 2011  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201106160194.html>

# Higher Education in the News



## Seychelles

### Seychelles backs single integrated market initiative

The Seychelles government has signed a declaration to launch negotiations for the setting up of a single integrated market for the 26 countries of the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (Comesa), East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The signing followed the conclusion of the 2nd Comesa-EAC-SADC tripartite summit held on June 12 in Johannesburg, South Africa, under the theme 'Deepening Regional Integration'.

SOURCE: Seychelles Nation Online  
Posted to the web 16 June 2011  
<http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=23844>

## South Africa

### Africa's regional integration 'will boost SA'

Political and business leaders agreed yesterday that the regional integration of Africa was vitally necessary if South African companies were to expand their markets and take advantage of the vast opportunities available on the continent. South African companies too needed to expand into Africa, which was an obvious, natural export market for them, but Business Leadership SA CEO Michael Spicer said during one of the forum's panel discussions that this would not be possible unless there was greater regional integration.

SOURCE: The Businessday  
Posted to the web 16 June 2011  
<http://www.businessday.co.za/Articles/Content.aspx?id=113114>

### Where low technology solutions have value

Rather than focusing exclusively on high-level technologies, Free State-based Central University of Technology in South Africa also uses low-level technologies to deliver appropriate solutions to meet regional challenges, Thandwa Mthembu, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the university, said on Monday in New York. In a paper titled "Developing capacity through partnerships", he said the university employed a strategic mix of partnerships, academic projects and foundation/transformation to implement demand-driven programmes addressing community needs.

SOURCE: University World News  
Posted to the web 21 June 2011  
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110621105343781>

# Higher Education in the News



## DST, Microsoft Partner in Fast-Tracking Development

The Department of Science and Technology and Microsoft South Africa today signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will see the two fast-tracking high-performance computing, human capital and enterprise development. The department's Director-General, Dr Phil Mjwara, signed on behalf of the department while Managing Director Mteto Nyati signed on behalf of Microsoft South Africa. The signing of the memorandum is expected to pave the way for foreign direct investment in research and development and harness existing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills programmes to support knowledge-generating capacity.

SOURCE: The Businessday  
Posted to the web 16 June 2011  
<http://www.businessday.co.za/Articles/Content.aspx?id=113114>

## South Africa must attract more women to science

A policy to encourage women graduates in South Africa has worked. Now we must support women scientists, says science minister Naledi Pandor. South Africa's policy of expanding access to higher education institutions has been successful in attracting first-generation black and female students. In just over a decade, it has led to a remarkable gender reversal: in 1995 there were more male than female graduates; by 2008 there were more female than male graduates.

SOURCE: SciDev.Net  
Posted to the web 22 June 2011  
<http://www.scidev.net/en/opinions/south-africa-must-attract-more-women-to-science-1.html>

## Swaziland

### SPTC sponsorship largest UNISWA Foundation has ever seen

THE E5.6 million internet bandwidth sponsorship to the University of Swaziland by the Swaziland Post and Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) represents the largest single donation the UNISWA Foundation has received since its inception. Chairman of the board of trustees Dr Vincent Mhlanga said despite the country's economic challenges SPTC was still committed to continuing with the foundation hence the multi-million emalangenzi sponsorship.

SOURCE: Swazi Observer  
Posted to the web 10 June 2011  
<http://www.observer.org.sz/index.php?news=25877>

# Higher Education in the News



## First Science Policy Starts to Take Shape

A wide range of stakeholders has been meeting in Swaziland to help the country develop its first science and technology policy. The meetings have brought together the government, state-owned companies, the private sector, higher-education institutions, science and technology associations and both houses of parliament. The first draft of the policy is expected to be ready later this year.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)  
Posted to the web 22 June 2011  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201106221323.html>

## Tanzania

### AfDB seals 800bn/- deal for Tanzania

THE African Development Bank's (AfDB) Board of Executive Directors has approved a new five year Country Strategy Paper (CSP) for Tanzania, for the next five years. The main thrust of Bank Group's 2011-2015 Strategy is to complement the assistance of other partners through two inter-dependent pillars, namely: Infrastructure development and building an enabling institutional and business environment.

SOURCE: Daily News  
Posted to the web 16 June 2011  
<http://www.dailynews.co.tz/home/?n=20997&cat=home>

### UDSM assesses implementation of its mission

THE University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) is currently assessing its performance in implementing the varsity's vision and mission for the betterment of the future. The University's Vice- Chancellor, Prof Rwekaza Mukandala, said in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday when launching a programme of Master of Arts in Mass Communication at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication (SJMC) that the assessment will give a clear picture.

SOURCE: Daily News  
Posted to the web 22 June 2011  
<http://www.dailynews.co.tz/home/?n=21010>