

Higher Education in the News



Africa

Crisis Remains Despite Money

Despite the amount of money and effort that countries pump into education, there remains a global crisis in education. This was said by Ruth Kagia, the World Bank country director. Kagia said the solution of the crisis is not money but how the money is used. "It's not necessarily more money, but the more efficient utilisation of resources." According to Kagia, "the promise of education has never been more tantalising than it is today".

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 1 July 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110603183942793>

Youth Education And Employment Key to Progress in Africa

The United Nations today urged African countries to empower the continent's youth through schooling and jobs, stressing that the foundation for peace and development lay in giving young people opportunities to build better lives for themselves. Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro told heads of State at the annual African Union (AU) summit, which is being held in Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea, and whose theme is youth empowerment for sustainable development.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 11 June 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201107010951.html>

Southern Africa Conference on Volunteer Action for Development

This conference is an initiative of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme in partnership with Volunteer and Service Enquiry Southern Africa (VOSESA) and the following conference partners active in the region: Canada World Youth (CWY), the European Commission, FirstRand Volunteers Programme, FK Norway, loveLife, Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA), and VSO-RAISA. The conference is also supported by a Steering Committee of twenty organisations that promote volunteering and civic service in the region.

SOURCE: VOSESA
Page last accessed 7 July 2011
<http://www.vosesa.org.za/sadconference/>

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Science and Technology

Africa Analysis: Regional climate plan deserves support

A new southern African climate plan is impressive, but needs more funding if it is to plug the continent's data gap, writes Linda Nordling. Africa's rain-fed agriculture and high poverty levels mean it can't roll with the punches of an unpredictable climate. But detailed studies on how climate change might affect areas of Africa are often thwarted by a lack of climate data.

SOURCE: SciDev.Net

Posted to the web 7 July 2011

<http://www.scidev.net/en/opinions/africa-analysis-regional-climate-plan-deserves-support-1.html>

Africa needs its own indicators of scientific innovation

Evidence-based indicators in science, technology and innovation (STI) help governments across the world to formulate policies and identify opportunities for development. The second round of a survey designed to capture such indicators across Africa, a project sponsored by SIDA, was recently launched in Ethiopia. But if STI indicators are to contribute effectively to a sustainable path towards social and technological transformation, they need to be sensitive to the African context.

SOURCE: SciDev.Net

Posted to the web 6 July 2011

<http://www.scidev.net/en/opinions/africa-needs-its-own-indicators-of-scientific-innovation.html>

Angola

Education Minister Reiterates Commitment to Millennium Goals

The Minister of Education, Mpinda Simon, said on Tuesday in Geneva in Switzerland that the Angolan government is committed to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the targets set in Dakar on education for all, being engaged in the 11 commitments toward to the child. The minister said that the Angolan government adopted a strategy that lead to the success of this field.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 5 July 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201107060953.html>

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Namibia

Decentralise Education and Skills

Academic and higher education authority, Dr Gerhard Töttemeyer, last week informed the National Education Conference that an efficient educational system that will have a positive impact on national development can be attained once education and skills are decentralised. Decentralised education, he said, can only be successful when it is related to the needs, desires and expectations of the community, adding that the voice of those directly affected by decisions should not be excluded.

SOURCE: New Era
Posted to the web 5 July 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201107061370.html>

UNAM Signs MoU With NAMAS

The University of Namibia last week signed a memorandum of understanding with a Norwegian organisation, Namas, to assist with the pre-service development of entrepreneurship teachers. Teacher training now falls under the University of Namibia since the merger of teacher training colleges into Unam early this year. The Association of Norway (Namas has been a development partner of Namibia since before independence.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 5 July 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201107061279.html>

South Africa

SOUTH AFRICA: Dilemma of the humanities

The humanities in South Africa are caught between a rock and a hard place. The rock is that of a global higher education policy template which increasingly favours applied science to all other forms of knowledge, enquiry and training, while the hard place is a local one: the hard place of what we might call applied nationalism. The reality of the rock, and the difficulty humanist educators have in getting round it, can be evidenced by a single anecdote.

SOURCE: The Businessday
Posted to the web 3 July 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110701153332745>

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NMMU to launch solar vehicle project funded by the VW Group

In a boost to the metro's research capability into renewable energy, the Advanced Mechatronic Technology Centre (AMTC) and the Volkswagen Group/DAAD International Chair in the School of Engineering at NMMU, have initiated a solar vehicle project at the university. The project will entail the design and development of a solar powered vehicle that will expose students across a range of study fields to conduct research into an exploding renewable energy market and build on the base of accumulated learning.

SOURCE: Get News
Page Last Accessed 8 July 2011
<http://www.getnews.co.za/story?id=253>

UJ to erect R120m solar panel plant

The University of Johannesburg's (UJ) intellectual property company, PTIP, is to erect a R120m semi-commercial plant to manufacture the revolutionary thin-film solar electricity panel developed by its Professor Vivian Alberts. For some years the university negotiated with Sasol, Venfin and government to build a R1 billion plant at Paarl to make the panels. The panels, as thin as a human hair, are easier to make and are cheaper and more efficient than competing silicon equivalents.

SOURCE: The Citizen
Posted to the web 16 June 2011
<http://www.citizen.co.za/citizenUJ-to-erect-R120m-solar-panel-plant->

62 NEW RESEARCH CHAIRS

The Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor has approved funding in the Departmental 2011/12 Medium Term Expenditure Framework for the awarding of 62 additional Research Chairs to expand the South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI). The Research Chairs Initiative was established in 2006 as a strategic intervention of the South African government to reverse brain drain in the public academic and research sector.

SOURCE: NRF
Page Last Accessed 7 July 2011
http://hicd.nrf.ac.za/sarchi/call_2011.html

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Swaziland

First school of medicine to be built

The Kingdom of Swaziland will soon have its first medical school as the country moves to strengthen its capacity to respond to a devastating HIV-Aids epidemic. The private medical institution is being set up by South Korean investors. Swaziland, with a population estimated to be a little over one million people, relies heavily on expatriate doctors. Currently, Swazis who want to train as medical doctors go to other countries within the region, such as Zimbabwe and South Africa, or further abroad.

SOURCE: University
Posted to the web 27 June 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110701161600103>

Tanzania

A New Test for Ailing Education

The World Bank early this year launched the Education Strategy 2020 - a 10-year plan through which it will roll out millions of dollars to help transform education systems across the globe to meet emerging global challenges. Strategies for the bank are very influential to national policies, Tanzania is one of the major beneficiaries of the Bank in the developing world. The country has benefited from loans and grants from previous sector strategies, notably the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty, known as Mkukuta (2005-2010)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 27 June 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201106280429.html>