

Higher Education in the News



Africa

North-South partnerships are not the answer

Government cuts in research and development (R&D) funding for higher education institutions have compelled public universities in Sub-Saharan Africa to establish extensive partnerships with universities, technology and research centres in the North. Part survival strategy and part response to the globalization of higher education, these partnerships also coincide with the increasing dominance of external donor funding of R&D in the region.

SOURCE: SciDev.Net
Posted to the web 24 November 2011
<http://www.scidev.net/en/opinions/north-south-partnerships-are-not-the-answer-1.html>

University Education Should Be a Ladder Out of Poverty, World Bank Vice President Says

The World Bank called Monday on African governments to expand access to and to ensure that both the quality and relevance of tertiary education serves as a ladder for Africans to climb out of poverty. "Universities need to pay more attention to quality and relevance of higher education to economic growth and competitiveness," World Bank Vice President for the Africa Region Obiageli Ezekwesili told a two-day conference which opened Monday at the University of Ghana, Legon.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 14 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111150150.html>

Universities rethink internationalization

The African Network for Internationalisation of Education, [ANIE](#), held its third annual conference recently in Abuja, Nigeria. Among the trends identified were growing collaboration between African universities, which is driving far greater mobility of students and staff across the continent, and increased use of information and communication technologies. A strong message from the conference was that universities needed to first focus on internationalisation within Africa and then through this develop a common framework for engaging with higher education systems beyond Africa.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 20 November 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20111120095222860>

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Open Doors Report Provides Snapshot of International Students

Want to know how many international students are attending U.S. colleges and where they come from? Consult the Open Doors Report, issued annually by the Institute of International Education. The report also reveals which countries are hosting Americans studying abroad, and much more.

According to the Open Doors Report, the number of international students in the United States increased to a record high of 723,277 for the 2010/2011 academic year.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 20 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111171221.html>

World's largest gathering of Africa experts

More than 1,000 scholars and researchers from around the globe converged on Washington DC on Thursday for what the US African Studies Association said was the world's largest gatherings of experts on Africa. The conference invited proposals to reflect on the many achievements, challenges and disappointments the past five decades have heralded. The non-profit organisation's 54th annual meeting - celebrated "50 Years of African Liberation".

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 20 November 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20111118194638251>

Universities in Africa strengthen democracy

Higher education strengthens political development and democratisation in Africa in various ways, as three research projects by HERANA (Higher Education Research and Advocacy Network in Africa) have found. While the results of the studies are ambiguous, they reveal opportunities through sustained research to both improve the quality of higher education and support the development of democracy on the continent.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 25 November 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20111123211806940>

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Science and Technology

COP 17 - New climate research

Two of South Africa's top universities have launched high profile, multidisciplinary climate change research initiatives ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP 17, which kicks off in Durban, South Africa, on Monday. Together with other institutions the universities of Cape Town and the Witwatersrand are using the event - which brings together about 20,000 delegates representing the world's governments, international organisations and civil society - to showcase local research and expertise on climate change and sustainability.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 25 November 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20111125091058544>

Campaign to support SKA bid

Minister of Science and Technology Naledi Pandor this week launched a national campaign to drum up support for the bid to host the Square Kilometre Array in South Africa. The campaign, aimed at stimulating interest and showcasing Africa as an emerging global astronomy hub, comes in the months leading up to the international announcement of the bid winner in the first half of 2012. South Africa, with eight other African countries (Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia) as partners, and Australia (with New Zealand), have been shortlisted as possible sites to build the Square Kilometre Array (SKA).

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 20 November 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20111118210452486>

Angola

Ministry to Prioritise Training and Equipping of Laboratories

Equipping of laboratories and training of university teachers are some of the challenges facing the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MESCT), said Friday in Luanda the incumbent minister, Maria Candida Teixeira. According to Cândida Teixeira, the budget for her ministry for next year is the same as that of 2011 and the sector will set as priority the equipping of laboratories of research institutions in the universities of the country.

SOURCE: Angola Press
Posted to the web 9 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111220332.html>

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Waku Kungo District Might Gain Higher Education Institution in 2012

The district of Waku-Kungo, in the central Kwanza Sul Province, in 2012 might benefit from some higher education courses such as Pedagogy, Biology and Food Engineering, through the Katiavala Bwila University. So far the process is on the right track, so that in 2012 higher education in Waku Kungo can start, but there are certain details to be analysed, said the official. The Katiavala Bwila University covers the provinces of Benguela and Kwanza Sul and currently has 1.586 students.

SOURCE: Angola Press
Posted to the web 20 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111150940.html>

Committed to Improvement of Educational Management

José Eduardo dos Santos University (UJES) continues developing efforts towards the improvement of education management in its different faculties and higher institutes. The vice-chancellor for Academic Affairs of José Eduardo dos Santos University (UJES), Mário José Rodrigues, reaffirmed Monday this commitment in the capital city of the central Huambo province.

SOURCE: Angola Press
Posted to the web 14 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111150531.html>

Botswana

Steven Howell is the acting BIUST vice chancellor

The Minister of Education and Skills Development (MOESD), Pelonomi Venson- Moitoi has appointed Professor Steven Howell as the acting vice chancellor of the Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) until a substantive vice chancellor has been recruited. Howell has been serving as Provost (Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs) since the beginning of 2010.

SOURCE: The Botswana Gazette
Posted to the web 23 November 2011
<http://www.gazettebw.com/index.php?option=com>

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Madagascar

Student unrest, and research unused

Unrest has erupted again in universities in Madagascar, with a new strike and demonstrations at Ankatso campus in Antananarivo and three students arrested at the University of Maninday Toliara in protests against non-payment of grants. Meanwhile, an official of the Academy of Sciences for Developing Countries has claimed that much Madagascan academic research "remains in drawers" and is wasted because the state does not make use of it.

SOURCE: University World News

Posted to the web 28 November 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20111118205054691>

Seychelles

Seychelles' science shines at scientific symposium

As Seychelles develops a knowledge-based society, recent exciting activities proved that science and technology are advancing rapidly in our small country. The seventh scientific symposium of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) held recently in Mombasa, Kenya, witnessed scientific presentations – both oral and posters – by nine Seychellois and Seychelles-based scientists from several institutions.

SOURCE: Seychelles Nation

Posted to the web 21 November 2011

<http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=25705>

Namibia

More access needed

Greater access to higher education is a "critical" challenge that needs to be addressed. Furthermore, the lack of a national policy on internships – for private- and public-sector students alike – is a concern which requires urgent attention. This was said by the Deputy Minister of Education, David Namwandi, on Tuesday. Namwandi was speaking at the end-of-term function of the second National Council for Higher Education (NCHE).

SOURCE: The Namibian

Posted to the web 25 November 2011

<http://www.namibian.com.na/news-articles/national/full-story/archive/2011/november/article/more-access-needed/>

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Learning Capability as a Precondition for Development

The idea of engagement was advanced by the Association of Commonwealth Universities in their publication of 2003. The publication asserted: "Engagement, implies strenuous, thoughtful, argumentative interaction with non-university world in at least four spheres". These four spheres were identified as (a) setting universities' aims, purposes and priorities; (b) relating teaching and learning to the wider world; (c) the back-and forth dialogue between researchers and practitioners; and (d) higher education institutions taking on wider responsibilities as neighbours and citizens.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 22 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111220539.html>

South Africa

University of Limpopo Offers Degree in Accounting Science

The University of Limpopo recently hosted an event in celebration of having attained accreditation for the University's Bachelor of Accounting Science (BAccSc) degree under the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA). With this accreditation, the University of Limpopo's School of Accountancy will be able to provide the BAccSc degree independently from its previous partners, which will allow students to pursue their honours degree directly.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 23 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111231136.html>

Health, Education in for Some Changes

In its last meeting for the year, Cabinet on Thursday approved several developments which will play a big role in improving South Africa's health and education landscape. On the education front, Cabinet approved the publication of the Green Paper on Higher Education and Training for public comment and consultation. The Green Paper maps the vision for the post-school Education and Training system, which seeks to make education accessible to all.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 23 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111241130.html>

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Harnessing Africa's Scientific, Engineering and Technology Innovations for Sustainable Development: The Role of Universities

The Durban University of Technology is co-hosting COVIDSET 2011, the fourth in a series of conferences which aims to provide a platform for Vice Chancellors, Deans, Heads of Departments, the Private Sector and Development Partners in Africa and the Diaspora to exchange ideas, experiences and share good practices. It also aims to sensitise university leaders on new and emerging trends in science, engineering and technology.

SOURCE: Durban University of Technology
Posted to the web 22 November 2011
<http://www.dut.ac.za/DealerNews/newsdetails.asp?newsitem=6295>

Tanzania

Produce Quality Graduates

Providing the youth of Tanzanians with good education is not an option but a must if the country is benefit from its membership of East African Community, more so as the region gears into a federation. About 25,000 students in Kenya and 17,000 in Uganda graduate from higher learning institutions, while Tanzania produces only 9,150 graduates annually.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 21 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111170813.html>

Why heavy investment in higher education pays

Higher learning education is useful component in the enhancement of sustainable economic development of countries, including Tanzania. The current knowledge-led economy, the central role of higher education is in "generation, application and dissemination of knowledge and training high skill labour force. A forum organized in Dar es Salaam recently by the Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) and the Ford Foundation International Fellowship Programme (IFP)-Tanzania under-scored the importance of higher learning education in the production of human resource for the country's sustainable development.

SOURCE: IPP Media
Posted to the web 21 November 2011
<http://www.ipppmedia.com/frontend/index.php?l=35643>

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Zambia

Teachers' College Gets Affiliated to CBU

Immaculata Visitation Teacher's College has been accepted as an affiliate institution of CBU through the directorate of distance education and open learning to offer a diploma in education of CBU and the university shall oversee the programme and undertake visitations as stipulated by the MOU. Speaking at the signing ceremony Copperbelt University (CBU) Deputy Vice Chancellor Juvenalis Tembo said it had been established that IVTC is a strong and well managed institution that meets all the senate requirements for affiliation with CBU.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 14 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111140981.html>

Zimbabwe

Universities - Workforce Development Challenges

Universities in Sub-Saharan Africa such as the National University of Science and Technology (Nust), which recently held its graduation ceremony marking 21 years of existence, are buffeted by various challenges and these were succinctly captured in a recent paper co-authored by Dr Frannie Léautier of the Africa Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) entitled "Enhancing Institutional Leadership in African Universities: Lessons from ACBF's Interventions" (2011).

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 21 November 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201111180677.html>

Prioritise technical skills training

ZIMBABWE has been encouraged to prioritise technical training in view of the limited formal employment opportunities in the economy. Although there has been some modicum of stability in terms of the country's macro-economic fundamentals, as indicated by the low inflation and Gross Domestic Product growth since the adoption of the multi-currencies in 2009, this growth and stability has not translated to meaningful job creation.

SOURCE: The Herald online
Posted to the web 24 November 2011
<http://www.herald.co.zw/index.php?option=com>