

Higher Education in the News



Africa News

Connecting higher education and development

The Higher Education Research and Advocacy Network in Africa, HERANA, has gathered the most comprehensive and systematic data on a group of Sub-Saharan African universities ever compiled. Research over three years in eight countries uncovered urgent needs for a 'pact' on the important role of higher education in development, strengthening the 'academic core' in universities, and greater coordination among higher education actors.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web 27 February 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110227082137660>

New plan for graduate employment

Higher education leaders meeting in Ghana last month agreed that Africa needs to enhance the employability of graduates by supporting students in their attempts to prepare themselves for the labour market. The 150 delegates from 14 African countries produced a draft 10-point plan aimed at ensuring industry absorbs the growing numbers of graduates on the continent.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web 27 February 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=2011022520492840>

African countries urged to strengthen research ties

African academics are backing a drive to establish closer research and higher-education ties between countries on the continent to boost its development. The vision is set out in a document finalised last month (January) by the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) — with the support of the African Union and the African Academy of Sciences (AAS)

SOURCE: SCIDEV.Net
Posted to the web 28 February 2011
<http://www.scidev.net/en/news/african-countries-urged-to-strengthen-research-ties.html>

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SADC mulls infrastructure fund, as it finalises master plan and embraces PPPs

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) secretariat has started work on an 'infrastructure development master plan' to deal with an estimated \$100-billion deficit in the region's roads, railways, ports and inland waterways, power, communications and water infrastructure. Deputy executive secretary for regional integration **João Caholo** reported last week that the plan – the finalisation of which was being accelerated, following the inaugural meeting of the SADC's infrastructure Ministers in Zimbabwe last year – would seek to leverage private-sector funding and partnerships to alleviate public financing constraints.

SOURCE: Engineering News

Posted to the web 25 February 2011

<http://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/sadc-infrastructure-master-plan>

Science and Technology

Study probes media reporting of science

A new study is underway in nine African countries to improve the dissemination of scientific knowledge on the continent by establishing the status and quality of media reporting on science and technology. The project, sponsored by Unesco, is being spearheaded by the department of journalism and communication at Uganda's Makerere University. The research involves analysing the science and technology content of major newspapers in the selected countries.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews

Posted to the web 27 February 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110225224832453>

Experts to make input on energy supply plan

THE Academy of Science of SA has assembled a panel of experts to develop a report on the draft second integrated resource plan (IRP2). According to the academy's CEO, Roseanne Diab, the report will be an input to the IRP2, which is a plan that will help direct the expansion of electricity supply and demand initiatives in SA over 20 years. The plan aims to give an indication of the country's electricity demand, how the demand will be supplied, and what it will cost.

SOURCE: The Business Day

Posted to the web 23 February 2011

<http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=135100>

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Angola

CESPU to Open Integrated Master Degree Courses

Cooperative of higher education, polytechnic and university (CESPU) announced that it will open next June integrated master degree courses in the specialities of clinical psychology, education and management in central Huambo province. The courses will be run by foreign professors, mostly Portuguese.

SOURCE: AngolP
Posted to the web 22 February 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201102230058.html>

Higher Education Minister Meets Unesco Director

The minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Candida Teixeira, met the director general of (UNESCO) Irina Bokova, and submitted an application for the establishment in Angola, next November, of a Centre of Excellence for Training in Earth Science and Sustainability in Africa. Scientific research that is currently absorbed by the developed countries will be transferred to the outputs of academic skills centre in Angola.

SOURCE: AngolP
Posted to the web 20 February 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201102210265.html>

Botswana

T.E.C to host Botswana Tertiary Education Fair 2011

This year's Botswana's Tertiary Education Fair which is the second of its kind will take place from the 23rd to 26th March 2011 under the theme, "*The Tertiary Education: Shaping your Future*". *skilled and competent graduates*". Asserts Faith Rapuleng. The Fair exhibitors will include Tertiary Education Institutions (TEIs), financial institutions which are increasingly called upon to introduce student financial aid schemes, private businesses, parastatal organizations and relevant government departments.

SOURCE: The Botswana Gazette
Posted to the web on 18 February 2011
<http://www.gazettebw.com/index.php?option=com>

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Malawi

UNIMA to increase intake to 15 000

The University of Malawi plans to increase its intake from about 2000 to 15000 students by 2016 to cater for the increasing number of Malawians in need of Tertiary Education. The Plan is in the University of Malawi proposed Strategic plan that was unveiled at a consultative meeting in Lilongwe.

SOURCE: The Nation
Posted to the web 25 February 2011
http://www.mwnation.com/index.php?option=com_content

Namibia

ICT centre of excellence launched

The gap between academia and industry in Namibia's telecommunications, information and technology sector looks set to be narrowed with the establishment of a centre of excellence at the University of Namibia by telecommunications giant Telecom Namibia. The two parties signed a memorandum of understanding in July 2009, in terms of which Telecom committed to setting up the information and communications technology centre of excellence at the country's national university.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 27 February 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110225225413990>

South Africa

Boost for FET Colleges

Government will spend an additional R1.4 billion on Further Education and Training over the next three years, bringing the total allocation to the sector to R14.3 billion over the period. To improve access to universities for poor students, about R3.6 billion has been allocated to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS), bringing the scheme's available funds for bursaries and loans to R9.7 billion.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to web on 22 February 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201102230883.html>

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USB Pioneers Development Finance Education

The recent \$3.75-billion loan from the World Bank to Eskom has highlighted the importance of development finance to Africa. Despite the success of this [business](#) model and the proliferation of development finance institutions that have emerged in recent years, the University of Stellenbosch Business School (USB) is still the only South African university to offer a Masters Degree in Development Finance (MDevF).

SOURCE: Cape Business News
Posted to the web 3 March 2011
http://www.cbn.co.za/index.php?Page=daily&daily_id=4637

PETER VALE AND JOHN HIGGINS: What is the real value of higher education?

An article by Peter Vale a Professor of Humanities at the University of Johannesburg and John Higgins a Professor of English at the University of Cape Town. - A PROMINENT South African was recently introduced to a gifted postgraduate student in the humanities. After the initial pleasantries, the prominent asked the gifted: "Will your degree get you a job?"

At the heart of this exchange lies the most important debates on the future of higher education: relevance versus (what some writers call) gradueness — the employability potential of graduates in the 21st century.

SOURCE: The Businessday
Posted to the web 3 March 2011
<http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=136103>

Tanzania

Strive to Become University, Minister Challenges Institute

The Institute of Science and Technology (IST) in Iyunga, Mbeya, has been urged to get rid of obstacles stopping it from attaining the status of a fully-fledged university. Speaking when officiating at the institute's 5th graduation ceremony, the minister for Communication, Science and Technology (CST), Prof Makame Mbarawa, said the government was eager to see it becoming a "university of science".

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to web on 25 February 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201102280235.html>

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Meet Donor Demand in National Interest

Tanzania's long-standing goodwill among donors has seen the country become one of the leading recipients of foreign aid in Africa. This financial year alone, over 80 per cent of the government's Sh3.82 trillion development budget will be sourced from donors. But it's not that smooth sailing. The donors generally want to see more happen on the ground to justify that privilege. Endemic poverty, corruption and unemployment are some of the issues that occupy centre stage in discussions of future engagements.

SOURCE: The Citizen
Posted to web on 25 February 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201102250151.html>

Zambia

Govt to Build K30 Billion Teachers' University in Chinsali

THE Government will soon start construction of the K30 billion state-of-the-art university for teachers in Chinsali in Northern Province. Education Minister Dora Siliya said the university which would be built for teachers of mathematics and science was aimed at improving the academic competencies of teachers of the two subjects.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to web on 19 February 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201102210356.html>

Universities call for improved connectivity

Zambia's three public universities have put proposals before government for the installation of a framework to improve internet access and inter-connectivity between local and regional universities. They are also lobbying for a review of ICT policies that would among other things facilitate research and access to US and European library and digitised resources. Last month the universities of Zambia, Copperbelt and Mulungushi used the Zambia Research and Education Network, or Zamren, an organisation they had formed, to submit their proposals to the authorities.

SOURCE: University WorldNews
Posted to web on 27 February 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110225225249808>