



# Higher Education in the News

## Africa

### [SARUA: Building The Capacity Of Higher Education To Enhance Regional Development](#)

SARUA

Posted to the web 24 February 2012

**On 14 March 2012**, SARUA will host the first part of a two part Leadership dialogue at the University of Johannesburg. The dialogue engages regional university leaders in discussing the challenges that southern African universities face in growing the Academy entitled **“Growing the Academy: Forging strategies for quality teaching and scholarship in southern African universities”**. On **15-16 March 2012** the second and related international workshop entitled **“Doctoral education, leadership and knowledge societies: Redefining global relationships”** will be hosted by SARUA in partnership with the Co-operation in Doctoral Education between Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe project (CODOC, [www.codoc-project.eu](http://www.codoc-project.eu)).

### [Pan-African University campus to open in September](#)

SOURCE: University World News

Posted to the web 19 February 2012

Algeria is to open a campus of the Pan-African University (PAU) in September specialising in renewable energy sciences and climate change research. The campus will accommodate about 450 doctoral students from across Africa. The opening of the campus was announced by Mokhtar Sellami, Algeria's deputy director of scientific research and technological development in the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, during a national conference.

### [Valuing knowledge through a culture of sharing](#)

SOURCE: The Herald online

Posted to the web 13 February 2012

South Africa's State of the Nation Address for 2012 was delivered, on the 9th of February 2012, under the theme "Knowledge Economy and Development Opportunities". The theme is in line with that of the 20th Anniversary of the continental institution, the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) "The Future of Africa is Now! The Critical Role of Capacity Development", this draws the attention of the continent's leadership to the challenges of capacity and the importance of adopting innovative solutions.

### [Africa: Brain Drains in Context](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 10 February 2012

Topics linked to migration, such as remittances and brain drains, have attracted increasing attention in discussions of development. Such specific issues should be considered in the wider context of the goal of reducing the grossly unjust levels of inequality between nations. The brain drain of medical personnel, for example, cannot be solved simply by looking at migration flows, but by focusing on how to provide the human and financial resources needed for equitably assuring the right of health to all.



### [Experts Tackling Education in Africa](#)

SOURCE: Zimbabwe Star  
Posted to the web 17 February 2012

How do you fix education in Africa, where students have far fewer opportunities than their counterparts in other parts of the world? There are two schools of thought on the subject: do you invest bottom up? Or top down? The statistics are hard to ignore. Sub-Saharan Africa is the lowest-ranked region in the world on the United Nations' education development index.

## Science and Technology

### [Africa 'needs better policies on renewable energy'](#)

SOURCE: SciDev.Net  
Posted to the web 23 February 2012

Inadequate policies and regulations, rather than a lack of funding, is the main reason for Africa's failure to exploit its huge renewable energy potential, according to Adnan Amin, director-general of the International Renewable Energy Agency. The report, 'Financing Renewable Energy in Developing Countries: Drivers and Barriers for Private Finance in Sub-Saharan Africa', discusses how to tackle the obstacles preventing Africa from scaling up its [renewable energy](#) production.

### [Processing of data 'the next growth industry'](#)

SOURCE: Business Live  
Posted to the web 13 February 2012

Data processing and information creation would become prominent new industries in future because of the amount of information being created by various technologies, Square Kilometre Array (SKA) SA director Bernie Fanaroff said last week. The MeerKAT telescope and the SKA are expected to develop skills relevant to the analysis and visualisation of large volumes of data, which would require highly specialised personnel to sift through to make sense for various industries and the government.

### [Africa Analysis: Collaborating too far from home](#)

SOURCE: SciDev.Net  
Posted to the web 2 February 2012

Collaboration was a time-consuming affair for the pioneers of scientific discovery. It took nineteenth century naturalists months to receive replies to their correspondence. Today, such missives are sent with the click of a button. Months of waiting have shrunk to seconds, and telephones and video linkups have made real-time interaction a cinch. It is not surprising, then, that the 'average collaboration distance' between scientists working together on projects has skyrocketed in the past thirty years — from 334 kilometres in 1980 to more than 1,500 kilometres in 2009.



## Angola

### [Angola: Locals Attend Master's, Doctorate Studies in Paraguay](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)  
Posted to the web 22 February 2011

50 Angolan students will be attending Master's and Doctorate studies in Paraguay said the chairman of the Association of Angolan Students in Paraguay, Leonel Martins. He said that the number of Angolan students in Paraguay may increase this year, as that country offers attracting conditions for studies and financial costs. Most of the Angolan students in Brazil travel to Paraguay for further education, after their university graduation.

### [Angola: Inabe Releases 6,000 Domestic Scholarships](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)  
Posted to the web 22 February 2011

A total of 6,000 internal scholarships has been made available for the 2012 school year by the National Institute of Scholarship. The information was released by INABE director, Jesus Baptista, during a meeting with State-run and privately-owned university principals. According to the official, priority goes to courses of Science (1,500 places), Engineering (1,500), Technology (1,200), Social Science (900), Arts (300) and Humanity (600).

## DRC

### [European collaboration in Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo](#)

SOURCE: University World News  
Posted to the web 19 February 2011

The Swiss Scientific Research Centre of Côte d'Ivoire is calling for local and other West African researchers to take part in a project to develop scientific cooperation, while Belgium's University of Liège and the Kinshasa business school ISC Gombe have entered an agreement to develop postgraduate studies in company management and law. The institutions are collaborating in setting up a doctorate programme in company management at ISC Gombe.

## Malawi

### [Bank boosts S&T learning in tertiary education](#)

SOURCE: University World News  
Posted to the web 19 February 2012

The African Development Bank has launched a project to assist in revamping science and technology learning at seven tertiary institutions in Malawi, focusing on increasing access, quality and relevance. Three universities and four polytechnics, plus vocational training centres, will be the beneficiaries of the Higher Education, Science and Technology project. It will also include technical, entrepreneurial and vocational education and training (TEVET).



## South Africa

### [2<sup>nd</sup> QS-MAPLE 3-4 May 2012](#)

SOURCE: SARUA

Posted to the web 24 February 2012

QS-MAPLE (Middle East and Africa Professional Leaders in Education) serves as a platform to promote the development of higher education in the Middle East and Africa in the global context. QS-MAPLE is ideal for engaging university leaders, academics and senior administrators. Participants have the opportunity to network, explore partnership opportunities and learn about the rapidly changing shape of higher education in the region. Come and join our keynote speaker HE Professor Olugbemi Jegede, Secretary General and CEO of the Association of African Universities and other prominent speakers.

### [South Africa: Big Spend On Education](#)

SOURCE: BUA News

Posted to the web 22 February 2012

South Africa's spending on education continues to grow with Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan today announcing an allocation of R207 billion to the sector with projections that this may rise to up to R236 billion over the next three years. Delivering his Budget Speech in Parliament, Gordhan said provincial education spending was expected to grow by 5.9% over the next three years from R169.9 billion this year to R183.8 billion in 2015.

### [South Africa: NSFAS Earmarks R3.6 Billion to Varsities](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 16 February 2012

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) projects it will allocate over R3.6 billion to universities this year, up from R3.4 billion in 2011. It has also earmarked more than R1.7 billion for Further Education Training (FET) colleges for 2012 compared to R1.2 billion allocated last year in the same period. Addressing MPs on Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Higher Education on Wednesday, NSFAS's new chief executive Nkosinathi Khena said that when allocating funds, their criteria, among others, took note of historically disadvantaged institutions, as well as how money had been spent in the previous year.

### [New research chairs for varsities](#)

SOURCE: BUA News

Posted to the web 13 Februar 2012

Science and Technology Minister Naledi Pandor has announced that a total of 60 new Research Chairs will be awarded to various institutions of higher learning across South Africa during the 2011/12 and 2013/14 Medium Term Expenditure Framework. This, according to the department, increases the number of Research Chairs in South Africa to 154. The South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) is a flagship initiative of government, designed to attract and retain excellence in research and innovation in the South African science field.

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

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

Vol 5: Issue 3: 24 February 2012



### [Blade appoints governance assessor to VUT](#)

SOURCE: Mail and Guardian  
Posted to the web 15 February 2011

Higher Education and Training Minister Blade Nzimande has appointed an assessor to investigate governance, financial management and procurement practices at the crisis-ridden Vaal University of Technology (VUT). His move spotlights yet again the pervasively shaky, and sometimes corrupt, management at several South African universities -- three of which Nzimande has placed under administration in the past year alone.

## **Tanzania**

### [Chinese firms start constructing of UDSM buildings](#)

SOURCE: IPP Media  
Posted to the web 16 February 2012

Three Chinese companies have started constructing seven proposed buildings at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) under a special World Bank programme to improve higher education infrastructure in the country. The programme, which will cost 65bn/-, is meant for learning theatres at the UDSM campuses in Dar es Salaam, training of lecturers and buying of laboratory equipment and books.

## **Zambia**

### [Impact of high university fees on economy](#)

SOURCE: Daily Mail  
Posted to the web 17 February 2012

THERE is no doubt that having an education, especially tertiary education, is important and many people in impoverished circumstances know that the only way out of their poverty is through getting a qualification from an institution of higher learning. It is also believed that countries with higher skill levels are better-equipped to face new challenges in the development of new technologies that in turn benefit individual citizens. Although the importance and need for a university education cannot be over-emphasised, many people, especially in developing countries, fail to acquire tertiary education due to lack of funds.

## **Zimbabwe**

### [Every lecturer to have a PhD by 2015](#)

SOURCE: University World News  
Posted to the web 20 February 2012

Zimbabwe has outlined plans for every university lecturer to be in possession of a PHD by 2015, and is reconsidering salary discrepancies between university and college lecturers. And the country's higher education regulator has cracked down on state-run and foreign universities deemed to be offering sub-standard programmes. The Minister added that government was planning to raise the bar in terms of lecturer qualifications.