

MODERN Conference Announcement

“Assuring the quality of internationalisation”

Amsterdam, 7 May 2010

The MODERN conference “Assuring the quality of internationalisation” is the third in a series of five conferences organised by the **MODERN European platform in higher education modernisation**.

MODERN is a **three-year EU-funded structural network project** in the **EU Lifelong Learning Programme**, developed under the leadership of ESMU, in a consortium with 9 core partners, 28 associate partner European associations and academic providers of higher education management (HEM) training programmes.

For further information on the MODERN platform and the online registration for the conference, please consult the MODERN website: www.highereducationmanagement.eu

As internationalisation grows in importance in higher education and takes on a more mainstream role, there is a growing expectation for universities to be able to define the added value of the international dimension and measure the impact of internationalisation on the institutional mission. Quality remains a controversial concept with a range of definitions and purposes – whether it is equated with excellence, fitness for purpose, value for money or the ability to transform.

The challenge lies in balancing the need for trustworthy quality control that creates a “bottom line” in terms of accountability along with the need for a creative assessment structure that encourages initiative and stimulates institutional learning and improvement. Quality assurance in internationalisation should be able to provide reliable information on institutional performance while taking into account the diversity of institutional missions and profiles.

The conference will be based on an executive **report** on the **state of the art of internationalisation** in European higher education institutions, produced by CHEPS – the Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies at the University of Twente; MODERN project partner. The report will be made available to all registered participants prior to the conference.

The conference will start with a **networking dinner on 6 May**. On 7 May the conference will commence with an overview of the understandings of quality in internationalisation and examine three different initiatives for quality assurance that have been developed in recent years. Participants will be given the opportunity to engage with case studies in a workshop setting that will enable them to gain better understanding of how the tools might be used in their own institution. The conference will conclude with a reflection on the day's outcomes and consider what developments are likely to occur in the field in the coming years.

In connection with the conference the MODERN peer learning workshop 'From Strategy to Quality - Internationalisation as an element of QA-systems in HEIs,' developed and organised by CHE (Centre for Higher Education Development, Germany), will be held on 6 May. Main topics will be: Planning of an internationalisation strategy, measuring the quality of internationalisation by indicators and practising a self-assessment of a QA-System with a specific IT software. Participants registering for both events will receive a discount! For more information see:

www.highereducationmanagement.eu

Conference Programme

"Assuring the quality of internationalisation"

Thursday 6 May 2010

19.30 Networking dinner
 Venue to be announced

Friday 7 May 2010

09.00-16.00 MODERN conference 'Assuring the quality of internationalisation'

Venue: NH Barbizon Palace
Prins Hendrikkade 59-72
1012 AD Amsterdam

Conference Chair: Fiona Hunter, Immediate Past President, EAIE-European Association for International Education

08.30-09.00 Registration

09.00-09.05 **Opening and welcome**, Fiona Hunter, EAIE Immediate Past President (Italy)

09.05-09.15 **Welcome address and introduction:** The MODERN platform – A key instrument for the modernisation of higher education management, Nadine Burquel, Secretary-General, ESMU-European Centre for Strategic Management of Universities (Belgium)

09.15-09.45 **Presentation of key points on MODERN report on internationalisation and quality assurance**, Hans Vossensteyn, CHEPS-Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies, University of Twente (The Netherlands)

09.45-10.15 **Issues of quality and internationalisation**, Hans de Wit, Hogeschool van Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

10.15-10.30 Questions & Answers

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.30 **Quality assurance initiatives for internationalisation:**

- **Quality assurance through mapping internationalisation: two examples of national and European mapping projects**, Adinda van Gaalen, Nuffic-The Netherlands Organisation for International Cooperation in Higher Education (The Netherlands)
- **Quality assurance in the ERASMUS mobility scheme, Interim results of the EMQT project**, Uwe Brandenburg, CHE-Centre for Higher Education Development (Germany)
- **Demonstrated impact of internationalisation on student learning outcomes/graduate competences: a distinctive (European) quality feature**, Frederik de Decker, University Association Ghent (Belgium)

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30–15.00 **Workshops** based on case studies that will enable participants to gain greater understanding on how the different initiatives might be applied in practice.

15.00–15.20 Coffee break

15.20–16.00 **Conclusions: Workshop outcomes and the way forward**

15.20–15.45 Rapporteurs present findings from workshops

15.45–16.00 **The way forward**, Fiona Hunter, EAIE Immediate Past President